The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, March 6, 2001, at 7:00 P.M. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, 234 W. Baraga Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.


A salute to the flag was given followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, Seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 27, 2001 be approved with the following corrections: On Page 2 Budget Amendment No. 16 and Page 9 Budget Amendment No. 17 add an Aye vote for Comm. Tuominen; and on Page 11 Paragraph 3, sentence 4, change the word insurance to identification, and add the word uncompensated between provide and services. Sentence 6 change the word retired to volunteer.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. None was forthcoming.

It was moved by Comm. Nordeen, seconded by Comm. Moore, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period February 23, 2001 through March 1, 2001 be approved in the amount of $913,635.10 be approved.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following deletion and changes: Delete Item 7b under Public Hearings; and add 11a) Change Order – Aircraft Maintenance Facility; 11b) Lease Agreement with Pike Distributing; and 11c) Central Dispatch Grant Application.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Chairperson Corkin opened the public hearing and explained that the purpose of the hearing is to allow the public an opportunity to comment on the project. This is a Closeout Hearing for CDBG Funding for Improvements to Sawyer Buildings 608, 627, 664, and 665 for use by AMR Eagle for a Regional Aircraft Maintenance Center. Marquette County has received funding from the Michigan Renaissance Fund (Community Development Block Grant) consisting of a grant in the amount of $1,465,000 to be used to construct improvements to these buildings at the former K.I.Sawyer Air Force Base near Gwinn. Construction of CDBG-funded improvements is nearly complete.

Linda Howlett, Central Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Regional Commission, was present and explained that the grant agreement between the County and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation require a public hearing prior to the MEDC closing the grants. Total grant amount is $1,465,000; Local Funds $869,000; and Private Funds $270,535. She further stated that building renovations and improvements are complete. AMR RAMCI is fully operational and is maintaining regional jets and turboprop aircraft. AMR RAMCI has 235 actual jobs as of October 31, 2001. Of that total, low and moderate-income persons hold 42 jobs. The grant agreement includes 234 anticipated jobs.

There being no further comment, Chairperson Corkin closed the public hearing. A copy of the advertisement and minutes from the hearing will be submitted to MEDC.

 PRIVILEGED COMMENT

Chairperson Corkin read the following County of Marquette 2000 Accomplishments:

Through the policy leadership of the Board of Commissioners and the diligent effort of elected officials, employees, and volunteers, Marquette County completed numerous projects in 2000. Many of the accomplishments were only possible because of cooperation with non-profit agencies, townships, cities, state of Michigan, and the federal government.
The accomplishments are selected highlights from 2000. In addition, the daily tasks and responsibilities of the County were performed quietly and competently. Disappointments and delays in 2000 are lessons learned for better performance in 2001.

A full report on County activity is available in the 2000 Annual Report.

USE TECHNOLOGY TO INFORM

- New cellular phone systems acquired to allow the inspectors to communicate with the customers and each other more effectively.
- Restored the Dead River Tower back to service after it was struck by an airplane on 9/1/99
- Resolved 9-1-1 ANI/ALI Data “glitches”
- Amended final 9-1-1 plan
- Central Dispatch mileage approved
- The Michigan Childhood Immunization Registry (MCIR) reached full operational status in Marquette County during 2000. As a computerized immunization record for Michigan’s children, MCIR can provide up-to-date immunization records for participating physicians, day care centers, schools and camps.
- Expanded and improved access to the computer-based County Law Library
- Completed conversion of the computerized Financial System
- Installed 56 new and replacement P.C. s throughout the County
- Completed an automated telephone directory on our telephone system
- Geographic Information System – The Commission monitored and implemented the GIS plan. A digital zoning layer was completed in accordance with the Coastal Management Grant and a county-wide Community Information System with GIS capabilities is being developed.
- Cameras were added to the jail kitchen to improve security and decrease liability for the department
- Substantially completed parcel layer digital mapping in eleven townships

PREPARE AND ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE

- The Marquette County Health Department obtained a $497,000 state grant to expand availability of dental care to Medicaid recipients. Funds were used to:
  a) Develop a new and expanded Marquette Dental Clinic (increase from 3 to 6 operatories)
  b) Equip a fifth operatory at Sawyer Dental Clinic
  c) Add dental staff
  d) Establish a clinical training site for University of Michigan dental students and residents
- The Marquette County Health Department was instrumental in obtaining two large grants to improve the health of county residents: a $123,000 grant designed to reduce child abuse & neglect and improve the health status of children ages zero to three; and, a $200,000 state Rural Health Grant to reduce the incidence of cardiovascular disease.
- Health Department Environmental Health staff prepared for and implemented the new state Food Code which went into effect on November 8, 2000. The new code adopted new food-handling procedures requiring significant education of staff and food-service operators.
- Began food service at Sawyer International Airport cafe (D & J Deli II).
- Comprehensive Planning - The Commission drafted and moved to adopt a new Airport Zoning Plan and Ordinance for Sawyer International Airport. Substantial work was completed on the Housing Plan, Forest Management Plan, and Trails Plan.

COUNTY OF MARQUETTE

- Recreation – One city recreation plan was reviewed by the Commission as well as one amendment to an existing plan. A Perkins Park Phase III grant application was submitted. Project design was completed and a construction bid award made regarding a successful Phase II application.
- Housing Rehabilitation Program - Approved the third round of houses to be rehabilitated within the year.
The Planning Commission reviewed two railroad abandonments and commented on environmental permitting for both the Empire and Tilden mines. They also evaluated a land acquisition proposal for the Honor Camp.

Forest Management – Completed inventory of Timber Resources in County Forest.

Through the Lake Superior Community Partnership and the State of Michigan, completed an analysis of the passenger air service for the community. The study concluded there is good air service for a community of this size, but many local air travelers desire service to Chicago’s O’Hare Airport, a major hub in the Midwest.

An updated airport zoning ordinance was instituted to control development at and adjacent to the airport, and to protect the approaches and airspace at the airport to preclude adverse effects on aviation users.

Two resident deputies began living and working at K.I. Sawyer. They have worked with various community groups and have been very well received by the residents. They also began a bike patrol program, which has increased their interaction with youth in particular.

**PRESEERVE AND ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE (Cont’d)**

Marquette County’s National Night Out, America’s Night Out Against Crime celebration, received national honors for Outstanding Participation for the second year in a row. The number of parties grew from 14 to more than 50.

Emergency Management held a simulated disaster exercise at the new K.I. Sawyer International Airport. It was the first at the new facility and prepared responders should an emergency ever arise.

Started Tuesdays in the Park. Deputies met with children to have lunch and play skill-building games and improved police/youth relations in these areas. Inquiries were made in other townships about getting the program started there.

The cross-age mentoring program proved to be so successful in Negawee that the program was initiated in Ishpeming as well. At-risk middle school students are paired with high school juniors to help them prepare for the transition to high school. High achieving middle school students were also added to the program to improve the positive peer pressure for those at-risk students.

Broke ground for Alzheimer’s unit at Marquette County Medical Care Facility.

**PARTNERSHIPS**

The creation of two new positions as Chief Inspectors, one in Electrical, and one in Plumbing/Mechanical disciplines. Senior inspectors within the Department filled these positions. The new positions have helped to solve code issues and create a more friendly, efficient process within those disciplines.

The Marquette County Health Department (and several members of both the Board of Commissioners and Board of Health) participated in the establishment of the Medical Care Access Coalition, a private nonprofit corporation formed to ensure that all Marquette County residents will have access with dignity to quality, affordable health care.

The Marquette County Health Department was one of five local health departments in Michigan to be awarded one-time demonstration project funds from the state to test the feasibility of providing diagnostic evaluation of PAP smear abnormalities for Family Planning clients under age 40 through the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control program (BCCCP). As the project was successful, these services will continue to be offered at least through 2001 as a result of additional funding from the federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Completed a Wide Area Network linking the City of Marquette, County Courthouse Complex, and KI Sawyer computer systems.

Continued work on the Local Intergovernmental Access Association that is building a community web site and a centralized GIS database.

Solid Waste – The Solid Waste Management Plan was approved by the Department of Environmental Quality.
PARTNERSHIPS (Cont'd)

- Local Community Assistance text and zoning map amendments to local ordinances were reviewed and recommendations forwarded.
- Continued, with federal grant funds, to improve the domestic violence program. These funds have enabled the Prosecutor's office to dedicate more staff time to domestic violence cases and to improve the procedures for obtaining Personal Protection Orders. Numerous agencies throughout the county have collaborated in these efforts to improve case handling, services, and safety for victims of domestic violence.
- The airport received FY2000 grant funding through the FAA consisting of $909,000 of Airport Improvement Program (AIP) entitlements, and $2,454,600 of Military Airports Program (MAP) grant funding. The Michigan Bureau of Aeronautics provided $138,000 of grant funds for the state share of the FAA funded projects. Also, another grant for $1,213,000 was received from the Economic Development Administration for airport development projects.
- Construction started in August on a new access road to the passenger terminal across the north end of the runway and connecting with state highway 555. The new access road reduces the driving distance from the north to the terminal by more than six miles, and because of the higher allowable driving speed reduces the travel time by at least ten minutes. Only the first course of asphalt pavement was completed before the onset of winter; the road construction will be completed in 2001.
- Federally funded airport improvement projects completed or under construction during the year 2000:
  - Installation of two 20,000-gallon jet fuel storage tanks at the fuel farm;
  - Renovation of four bays and the administrative center section of hangar 400;
  - Renovation of building 600 for airport equipment storage and maintenance and renovation of building 600 for airport equipment storage and maintenance staff work areas;
  - Repair taxiways on the south half of the airfield, and construction of taxistreets for future T-hangars;
  - Replace taxiway lighting on the north half of the airfield;
  - Renovation of hangars 662 and 666 including replacement of aged, deteriorated sliding doors with new, vertical lift aircraft access doors.
- An agreement was reached with the State Police to make the delivery of law enforcement services in the county more efficient and effective. Shift Collaboration has saved both agencies money and improved the overall police coverage for residents.
- Law enforcement presence was increased in rapidly growing Marquette Township, as their township board contracted for a second deputy.
- Success of Soil Conservation District watershed programs
- Initiated survey work at K.I. Sawyer with Road Commission
- Obtained legislation guaranteeing state revenue sharing payments in 2001
- Started defined contribution retirement plan
- Joined with cities and townships in creating Northern Michigan Public Service Academy for training

EFFICIENCY AND MANAGEMENT OF SERVICES

- Implemented a system for departments and lessees to request maintenance and projects. This provides for prioritization and accountability.
- Changed parking assignments to provide better public access to the courthouse Complex.
- Completed the relocation of the computer room (Information Systems) and renovated the old computer room into offices. Eliminated the water-cooled HVAC system that eliminated one of the major water uses in the Annex.
- Completed renovation of District Court, which included countertops, partitions and new offices.
- The Health Department was able to pay off the remainder ($46,140) of the loan received from the County to offset the 1998 fund balance deficit resulting from discontinuation of the Home Health Program in May of 1998. In addition, the Department paid off the remainder ($68,867) of the loan received from the County in 1999 for renovations and equipment needed to establish the new Dental Clinic at Sawyer. With these actions, the Department is now free of all long-term debt.
- Successful year 2000 rollover. All computers and telephone systems functioned properly.
- New Vector truck for Wastewater Treatment Plant
- The MAP grant funded project for replacement of taxiway lighting included installation of a grounding system for the entire airfield lighting systems. Previously, we had been experiencing continuing costly damage to these systems by lightning strikes. There has not been any damage caused by lightning since the grounding system was installed.
- Millage renewals for public safety dispatching, senior services, medical care facility operations, search and rescue, accepted by voters
- Successful audit
- Reduction of non-metered utility costs at K.I. Sawyer
- Cost of Services Study completed and used as resource
- Business Plan for K.I. Sawyer updated
- Converted accounting and financial system

**HUMAN RESOURCES AND TECHNOLOGY**

- Established Internet access for all networked County computers in conjunction with the City of Marquette and Charter Communications.
- Enhanced user communication through interoffice e-mail capabilities.
- Conducted employee training on Internet access and office tools.
- Airport marketing materials were selected for awards by the National Association of Installation Developers.

**HUMAN RESOURCES AND TECHNOLOGY (Cont'd)**

- Jail policies were updated to ensure compliance with state standards and all employees were trained.
- Deputy Dean Rushford became the fourth member of the Marquette County Sheriff's Office to receive a life-saving award for his actions, which saved a woman from choking at a local restaurant.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- ACN lease signed, 100 persons employed
- Airport property was transferred to the County of Marquette from the Air Force by a public benefit transfer and related quit claim deed.
- A marketing program was developed and implemented to attract aviation businesses to the airport.
- Improvement projects continued to be accomplished on the four facilities leased by AMR/RAMCI for their aircraft maintenance base activities. This work included roof repairs and replacement on their large hangar and a maintenance shop, and other improvements for their maintenance activities. Funding for these projects is provided from a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- The following new leases went into effect during the year 2000:
  a. A moving and storage company (Frank the Mover) moved into building 420.
  b. Wills Excavation moved in building 112 after it was vacated by the Sheriff's Department Special Operations.
- Delphi Automotive lease building 104 and 108 acres of adjacent land in the former SAC Alert Area in the southwest corner of the airfield. Delphi will be using this area for winter testing of automobile systems.
- Acquired personal property from Air Force and adopted reuse policy

**INVESTMENT IN ROADS**

- Provided $78,500 to Road Commission for facility improvements
INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following Informational Items be accepted for file:


c. Acknowledgement from State Senator Don Koivisto of Receipt of County Board Resolution Calling for Investigation into Illegal Steel Dumping.

d. March is Parenting Awareness Month.

ACTION ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Actions Items 10(a), 10(b), 10(e), 10(d), and 10(e), be approved as follows:

10a) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the lease terms presented by Staff with CANUSA for Sawyer Building 431 including Marquette County foregoing the first two months rent which CANUSA would apply to the code construction costs; the first year’s lease rate will be $2 per sq. ft. as compared to the $2.75 per sq. ft. originally negotiated. Assuming a start date of March 1, the Airport would now realize $17,064 in additional revenue which is currently not in the 2001 budget. The contribution by the County Airport in rent abatement would amount of $12,266 toward the $40,000 building improvements.

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve of the IRP Loan Application of $75,000 for CANUSA for renovations to Sawyer Building 431, contingent upon receipt of a letter of approval from the Marquette County EDC, however personal guarantee from Francis Fournier has not yet been received.

10c) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Marquette County Economic Development Corporation Loan Fund Plan Revision which deletes the County Board of Commissioners from final approval of RLF loans and is consistent with the current and accepted practice. By deleting the final approval requirement this makes clear to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation that the Marquette County EDC is responsible for the RLF Program. The County still maintains the right to periodically audit the RLF Program.

10d) Committee of the Recommendation to approve the Lease Agreement with Boreal Aviation for Sawyer Building 427. The lease will be effective February 2, 2001 with an initial term of three years with automatic extension of additional three year terms, however the County will have the option of terminating the lease without cause by giving the leasee written notice not less than 120 days prior to the end of each three year term. A security deposit of $1,600 is required and the leasee will pay all taxes, insurance, and utility costs. Boreal will also pay all maintenance costs, with one temporary exception and that is for roof work which was not completed by last winter utilizing EDA grant funds. The leasee will be responsible for the cost of future improvements or modifications which are subject to County Board prior approval.

10e) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the UPSET Subcontract with the Michigan State Police for 2001. The Subcontract provides reimbursement for one-half of the actual cost of the Sheriff’s Deputy assigned to the Upper Peninsula Substance Enforcement Team. The Subcontract amount is $57,499 with $30,200 provided from State reimbursement.

LATE ADDITIONS

11a) The County Board considered Change Order – Aircraft Maintenance Facility. The project is funded by the EDA I grant. The original contract with Premeau Construction for the aircraft maintenance facility building cluster was $968,148. This amount was reduced by $378,000 when AMR RAMCI decided against installing a larger paint booth. The funds are being reallocated to other needed improvements to the building cluster.

Action is recommended to meet EDA grant closeout deadlines. Relocating an office module from building 725 to building 664 is delaying demolition work in building 725. The work must be completed before the EDA I grant closeout deadline of April 30, 2001. The aircraft maintenance facility building cluster is the last remaining EDA I project.

The change order includes: Replacing bottom roller assembly on sliding hangar door building 665-$31,605; Furnishing and installing electrically operated steel insulated door at the existing paint booth in building 608-$9,677;
Renewal of contractors insurance policy-$1,783; and Relocate office module from building 725 to building 664-$20,164. The new contract sum will be $653,295.05.

Administrator Powers and Hal Pawley, Airport Manager, recommend approval.

It was moved by Comm.Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the Change Order of $63,229.05 with Premeau Construction for buildings 665, 608, 725, and 664.

11b) The County Board considered a Lease Agreement with Pike Distributing. Pike Distributing has a facility near the old airport that is about 20,000 square feet. The roof caved in due to the snow load. Pike Distributing is requesting a lease of Building 610 at Sawyer.

The following points represent the primary terms of the lease: 1. An initial lease term of three months, with an automatic renewal on a month by month bases, not to exceed one year; 2. An initial lease rate of $3.00 per sq.ft. per annum the first year. The monthly rate is $6,339 per month as the building is 25,256 sq.ft. 3. The tenant shall pay all applicable taxes, insurance on the structure, utilities cost, and all exterior and interior maintenance costs; 4. The tenant shall pay a security deposit equivalent to the first and last month’s rent. 5. Agreed upon personal property may be included in the Lease without additional cost to the tenant, except for the cost of maintenance and operation thereof, and insurance thereon. 6. The intended use of the facility will be as a distribution center. 7. The tenant will be responsible for the cost of any other improvements or modifications to the building, which shall be subject to the prior written approval of the County, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Moore, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the Lease Agreement with Pike Distributing for Building 610 at Sawyer, contingent upon review by Civil Counsel.

11c) The County Board considered a Central Dispatch Grant Application. Joseph W. VanOosterhout, Central Dispatch Manager, explained that Marquette County has applied for a Law Enforcement Block Grant from the Michigan Department of Community Health, Office of Drug Control Policy. The grant request is for $1,152,741 to purchase 800 MHz radio consoles and digital mapping equipment for Central Dispatch and 240 radios (800 MHz) for law enforcement agencies Countywide. The County is responsible for 25% of the cost. If the grant is approved, the 25% match will come from Central Dispatch funds.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the County Board approve the Central Dispatch Grant Application in the amount of $1,152,741.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment, none was forthcoming.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Corkin reported that he and Comm. Arsenault just returned from a National Association of Counties (NACo) Legislative Conference in Washington. They met with Senator Levin and Senator Stabenow regarding several issues: Steel dumping, City of Negaunee Wastewater Treatment Plant, snow emergency, Military Airport Program (MAP), KI Sawyer, and development of the former airport. Also, of major concern is the tax cuts proposed by President Bush. Commissioner consensus is to request NACo and MAC to support a resolution opposing these cuts until the public is informed what the actual effect the tax cuts will have on the federal budget. Comm. Moore will prepare a resolution for County Board consideration at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie M. Brannam
Deputy County Clerk
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