MARCH 27, 2001

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, March 27, 2001, 6:00 P.M., Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Courthouse Annex, 234 W. Baraga Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on March 13, 2001 and the minutes of the Strategic Goal Setting Workshop held on March 16 and 17, 2001 be approved.

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

It was moved by Comm. Moore, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following changes: Remove Item 10) Bid Award for Emergency Services Vehicle, and add Items 12) Raney Creek Drainage District Transfer to the City of Marquette and Item 13) Resolution Calling for Caution Lights at the Intersections of US 41 and M-94.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period March 16, 2001 through March 22, 2001 in the amount of $512,547.20 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin presented a plaque with the following resolution to Nicole Perrier:

MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION
HONORING NICOLE PERRIER

WHEREAS, Prudential annually recognizes the best of America’s youth who volunteer their services to help others without expectation of reward, and

WHEREAS, Nicole Perrier, a Senior at Marquette Senior High School, has matched 160 incoming freshmen and transferees with older students by establishing a Peer Mentors Program, and

WHEREAS, Nicole Perrier, was named one of Michigan’s top honorees in the Prudential Spirit of Community Award Program sponsored by Prudential and the National Association of Secondary School Principals,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners recognizes Nicole Perrier as our Prudential Spirit of Community Award Honoree, and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED that Nicole Perrier be commended for her example of volunteer community service and being a role model to other youth as well as all Marquette County citizens.

Adopted this 27th day of March, 2001
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

The Committee considered a request from the City of Negaunee for a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application. The City of Negaunee’s five year plan includes improvements to the current parks and recreation facilities and new trail development to provide access to the Al Quaal Trail System, inland lakes, and other trail systems. Phase I of the project would include the acquisition of approximately 50 acres of leased and private lands to be used to upgrade the park and recreation sites in the City of Negaunee. These lands include Jackson Park in the southwest part of town, the land upon which the football field and tennis courts are located, the American Legion ball field, little league ball field, and also the LaCombe softball field.

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board provide a letter of support for the City of Negaunee’s grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for the acquisition of land for parks and recreation purposes.

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The Committee considered the request to the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community for support of County programs and services from 2% gaming revenue distributions.
Steve Powers, County Administrator, noted that this letter of request includes DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) - $122,000, Road Patrol - $51,000, Dental Clinic - $30,000, Medical Care Access Coalition, Inc. - $20,000, and the South County YMCA - $25,000. Administrator Powers noted that the Medical Care Access Coalition, Inc. is a new request to the KBIC, however all other funding requests have received previous support from the KBIC.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board forward its request to the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community for support of various County programs and services from distributions of the 2% gaming revenue.

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The Committee considered a recommendation from Larry Gould, Facilities Manager, to contract with Swales Plumbing & Heating for Courthouse Annex water repairs. Larry Gould was present to discuss the recommendation and answer questions. The Annex water is safe to drink, however discoloration and sedimentation has caused numerous complaints from employees and tenants. Also, the iron sedimentation is causing difficulties with the computer room air conditioning system.

Mr. Gould noted that bids for the project were advertised in the newspaper. Four contractors looked at the project and two bid, with Swales Plumbing & Heating being the low bidder at $13,600. Swales Plumbing & Heating has met all project specifications and it is recommended they be awarded the contract.

It was moved by Comm. Moore, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Courthouse Annex Water System Repair Contract with Swales Plumbing & Heating for $13,600.

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The Committee considered terms and conditions of accepting Airport Improvement Grants and MAP funding from the Federal Aviation Administration. Hal Pawley, Airport Manager, was present and noted that Marquette County has received over $11 million in grants for 24 projects. These funds are being used for planning, construction, and major maintenance at Sawyer International Airport.

In a continuing process to refine and consolidate the grant agreement process, the FAA Great Lakes Region has combined several previous separate submittal procedures into one document. Previously each AIP Grant required several separate certifications, however the County will no longer be required to certify compliance each time a grant is received. The requirements and certifications are not new, however the Board of Commissioners must approve the document before the FAA will provide further grant funds.

Hal Pawley further noted the requested 2001 projects include: The Wildlife Management Plan, replacement of security equipment, property plan, airport loading bridges, new navigational aids, replace nose dock hangar doors, constructing hangars, and snow removal equipment. Plans for 2002 include: Pavement repairs, taxi shoulder improvements, sand storage building, snow removal equipment, control tower equipment, and runway visual equipment.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, noted that Marquette County has never been cited, warned, or advised or any problems, deficiencies or difficulties in complying with the 27 pages of certifications, laws, and requirements. Civil Counsel and Risk Management Staff have reviewed the document.

Chairperson Corkin commended Hal Pawley for acquiring over $11 million in AIP and MAP grant funds for Marquette County.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Moore, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the terms and conditions of accepting Airport Improvement Program Grants and MAP Grants from the Federal Aviation Administration.

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The Committee considered the transfer of the Raney Creek Drainage District to the City of Marquette. Mike Farrell, Marquette County Drain Commissioner, was present and noted that the Raney Creek District is located near the Peninsula Medical Center and is completely within the Marquette City limits. Section 280.395 of the Drain Code provides for the transfer of drainage districts and its related funds. Marquette City paid up front for the drainage district. After it was completed there was a surplus of funds which was put into a maintenance fund which has been accruing interest for the past six or seven years and now amounts to slightly over $100,000.

Marquette City now has a storm water management program and the Raney Creek Drainage District is a part of their whole system. This transfer has been planned by the City of Marquette for several years and it is the appropriate thing to do.
It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the transfer of the Raney Creek Drainage District and the account balance to the City of Marquette contingent upon the receipt of the required resolution from the City of Marquette.

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The Committee considered a request to the Michigan Department of Transportation for the installation of yellow flashing caution lights at various County intersections. Comm. Bergdahl noted that Marquette County had recently requested a yellow flashing light at the intersection of M-553 and Kelly Johnson Memorial Drive. He pointed out that M-94 intersects with US 41 in two locations, approximately a mile apart, and there have been many accidents over the years at these intersections. He suggested the County Board request MDOT install yellow flashing caution lights at both the south and north intersection of M-94 with US 41.

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board send a letter requesting yellow flashing caution lights to be installed at both intersections of M-94 and US 41 and further that this request be forwarded to our State Legislators.

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Bergdahl suggested the next Committee Meeting Agenda (April 10, 2001) include a request to the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians for financial support at Sawyer.

Hal Pawley, Airport Manager, reported on the Kelly Johnson Memorial Drive repairs. The test boring samples were done last week but no report as of yet. Payne & Dolan have patched the potholes.

Harley Andrews, Chief Civil Counsel, noted that he and Jim Kippola, Planning Manager, will be attending the Marquette County Townships Association meeting Wednesday night (March 28, 2001) at the Neguane Township Hall to make a presentation regarding the Land Division Act and also to provide some general information on the progress of development at KI Sawyer.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, March 27, 2001, 6:00 P.M.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MEETING HELD ON MARCH 13, 2001 AND THE MINUTES OF THE STRATEGIC
GOAL SETTING WORKSHOP HELD ON MARCH 16 & 17, 2001.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
7. Support for City of Negaunee Grant Application to Purchase Leased Land for Recreational Use.
8. Marquette County Request for Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Gaming Revenue Distributions.
10. Bid Award for Emergency Services Vehicle (bids to be opened Monday, March 26th, information forthcoming at meeting).
11. FAA Terms and Conditions of Accepting AIP and MAP Grants.
12. Rainy Creek Drainage District Transfer
13. Penn Canoe
14. 
15. PUBLIC COMMENT.
16. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
17. ADJOURNMENT.