The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 16, 2001, 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 October 2, 2001 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin read the following proclamation:

**MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**
**HEREBY ISSUE THIS EXECUTIVE DECLARATION**
**IN OBSERVANCE OF**
**NOVEMBER 2001**
**AS**
**ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, Alzheimer’s Disease is a progressive, degenerative disorder that attacks the brain and results in impaired memory, thinking and behavior, ultimately leaving its victims totally incapable of caring for themselves; and

WHEREAS, the fourth leading cause of death in adults, Alzheimer’s Disease claims more than 100,000 lives annually, affecting males and females, ethnic and socioeconomic groups equally; and

WHEREAS, currently, there are over four million adults in the United States with Alzheimer’s Disease, including over 166,000 people in Michigan alone; and

WHEREAS, many encouraging drug treatments have been introduced which significantly delay the onset of disease symptoms, improving the quality of life for those afflicted and reducing the strain on caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Marquette County in the State of Michigan is pleased to join with the Alzheimer’s Association Michigan State Council in observing a month to address the need for information and assistance in dealing with and eventually eradicating this disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Marquette County Commission does hereby declare the month of November 2001 as ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH in Michigan.

Adopted this 16th day of October, 2001
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

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

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period October 5, 2001 through October 11, 2001 in the amount of $369,444.27 be approved.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following late additions: 11a) Sale of KI Sawyer Property to the Marquette County EDC, 11b) Roof Replacement Agreement Change Order for Building 643, and 11c) Letter to Governor Engler on Senate Bill 516 Sponsored by Senator Koivisto Which Provides for $1 Single Business Tax Credit per ton of hematite pellets.
CONTINUATION OF ANNUAL MEETING

The County Board considered the certification of millage levies for the various taxing units. No further information was forthcoming at this meeting. The millage levies for Chocolay Township, Tilden Township, Turin Township, West Branch Township, and Ishpeming Schools, and also the new millage passed on October 9th in Michigamme Township have yet to be certified by the County Board. Chairperson Corkin declared the Annual Meeting recessed until 6:00 P.M., Tuesday, October 23, 2001.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Moore, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following informational items be accepted and placed on file:

a. Notice of Amended Child Care Fund Expenditures Approved for State Reimbursement.
b. America United Campaign.
c. Thank You from Evelyn Valente, Assistant Manager, U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame, for Chairperson Corkin’s Participation in Hall of Fame Weekend Activities.
d. List of Vacancies for Various County Boards and Commissions.

ACTION ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Action Items 10a and 10b approved as follows:

10a) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the 2001/2002 Snow Plowing Contract with Bob’s Snow Removal in the amount of $16,800.

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to authorize the Chairperson to sign and forward a letter to James Haveman, Director of the Michigan Department of Community Health, urging them to formulate its promise of $124,600 in Tobacco Settlement Funds for Marquette County as soon as possible.

ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED

10c) The County Board considered the sale of Sawyer Building 1249 to George and Debbie DeVries. Vikki Kulp, SIA Marketing, explained that this building is located in a residential area on approximately 648 acres. The building is 2,093 sq. ft. and the proposed sale price is $12,000. The building is run down with no heating system is an eyesore to the community and was earmarked for demolition.

George and Debbie DeVries would like to purchase the property and intend to renovate the building and utilize it as a Day Care Center and/or a Video Store. Staff believes the $12,000 to be a fair price. The property is less than one acre and the building requires substantial work. Ms. Kulp noted the County Board is just approving the sale of the property. The use of the building has been approved through the Township zoning process.

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the sale of Sawyer Building 1249 to George and Debbie DeVries for $12,000.

10d) The County Board considered appointment of two members to the Marquette County Board of Canvassers. Dave Roberts, County Clerk, explained that election law requires the County Board to fill two vacancies, one republican and one democrat, within 10 days of their Annual Meeting. The Board of Canvassers consists of four members, two republicans and two democrats, who are appointed to 4-year terms.

Each political party must nominate three people from which the County Board makes the appointment. The Republican Party submitted three nominees and indicated they prefer Barbara Fosmire, Chocolay Township. Clerk Roberts spoke with Ms. Fosmire who indicated she has the time and interest to serve.

The Democratic Party has indicated they are satisfied with the reappointment of Norene Filizetti, Gwinn.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board appoint Barbara Fosmire and Norene Filizetti to the Marquette County Board of Canvassers for a 4-year term expiring November 1, 2005.
LATE ADDITIONS

11a) The County Board considered the sale of the Medix Building, the AFBCA Building, the KI Sawyer Business Center, Building 501, Building 502, and four acres of land to the Marquette County Economic Development Corporation for $550,000. Vikki Kulju, SIABC Marketing Director, was present and indicated the estimated cost to relocate the Development Office is to be $230,000. About $200,000 of that is to make the new location accessible under the American Disabilities Act. The Lake Superior Community Partnership/Marquette County EDC will be paid a commission of $33,000 from sale proceeds. Ms. Kulju credited Mike Gokey, EDC Director, who worked diligently on this project representing the EDC and the Lake Superior Community Partnership.

Mike Gokey, EDC Director, explained that Engineering Machine Products (EMP) is starting a robotics operation. This has been a cooperative effort with O'Devero Development, EMP, and Marquette County. EMP is a fast growing company with operations in Escanaba and Indiana with employment projections for Sawyer at 50 jobs by May 1, 2002 with an additional 50 jobs within the two following years.

Selling this property is consistent with the Sawyer Exit Strategy. The buildings would require an estimated $559,000 in improvements and this sale would dramatically reduce the County's building improvement requirements and generate a positive cash flow in that the County would be selling the property rather than developing the property.

Chairperson Corkin noted that he and Comm. Arsenault toured EMP in Escanaba which provides 430 jobs. It is an exciting company and a well run organization employing many highly skilled and trained professionals. He commended Mike Gokey and the Lake Superior Community Partnership for working on this project.

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Girard and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the sale of the four acres of land and associated buildings to the Marquette County Economic Development Corporation for $550,000.

11b) The County Board considered a Change Order with Bell Roofing in the amount of $13,434 to replace a section of roof on Sawyer Building 643 or make temporary repairs if the weather does not permit replacement this fall.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that one-half of the cost of this project will be paid for by ACN and the County portion is available in the KI Sawyer Development Fund Budget. This building is owned by Marquette County and leased to ACN. Prior to opening the Call Center the roof was replaced except for two sections. One of these sections leaks and requires use of tarps over the employee break area. The project was advertised and faxed to local contractors, however no bids were received.

Bell Roofing was asked to provide a proposal after indicating it could complete a portion of the roof replacement if weather permits. Bell's proposal is for $13,434. Steven Shendon, Project Manager/Engineer, estimates the proposal is 10% higher than comparable jobs completed under the competitive bidding process, however ACN believes the proposal to be reasonable. Considering the proposal amount to be reasonable, the lack of bids, and time of year, Staff recommends moving forward with the project as soon as possible.

The work consists of removing, disposing (including asbestos), and replacing the section of roof over the break room. Work will include flashing. The roof will have a 5-year warranty.

It was moved by Comm. Nordeen, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board authorize the Change Order with Bell Roofing in the amount of $13,434 to replace a section of the roof on Sawyer Building 643 or make temporary repairs if the weather does not permit replacement this fall.

11c) The County Board considered a letter to Governor Engler drafted by Comm. Moore requesting action on Senate Bill 516 sponsored by State Senator Don Koivisto.

Comm. Moore explained SB 516 addresses a critical matter of retaining business in Michigan and provides for a $1 per ton single business tax credit to any steel company that consumes iron ore pellets produced from a low grade hematite iron formation, which will allow for the continuation of domestic steel and iron industries in the State of Michigan. The economic impact to the State of Michigan would be an estimated $1.5 million which would be offset by reducing the $120 million single business tax cut. This legislation would benefit Rouge Steel in Detroit by reducing their costs in the purchase of 1.5 million tons of pellets from the Tilden Mine which in turn would benefit their production. The letter urges Governor Engler to give his consent for the legislation to come out of Committee.

It was moved by Comm. Moore, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the letter to Governor Engler requesting his consent for Senate Bill 516 to come out of Committee which would provide for a $1 per ton single business tax credit to any steel company utilizing hematite pellets in Michigan, and further that this letter be sent to Michigan Counties.
Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment, none was forthcoming.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairperson Corkin, along with Commissioners Arsenault, Tuominen, and Wallace, attended the Upper Peninsula Association of County Commissioners’ Fall Conference October 12th, and 13th, in Watersmeet. Chairperson Corkin noted it was an excellent conference with two very good presentations: The first “Tribal Communities and Local Government: Opportunities, Issues and Partnerships.” The second “Juvenile Justice: County Issues and Options.” Barry Sullivan from the Marquette County Circuit Court Family Division was one of the presenters.

Also, several U.P. Legislators were at the conference including Rep. Doug Bovin and Rep. Richard Brown, along with the Aides of Congressman Stupak and U.S. Senator Stabinow.

Comm. Wallace noted he will be in Atlanta, Georgia next week to attend the American Public Health Association Annual Conference representing the Michigan Local Boards of Health.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, reported that Delphi Garage is now up to date on their payments.


Chairperson Corkin declared a recess at 7: 34 P.M. to clear commission chambers.

..............................................................CLOSING SESSION..............................................................

The County Board came back into open session at 7:59 P.M.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Joseph and carried by voice vote 7 Ayes (Comm. Arsenault, Bergdahl, Girard, Joseph, Tuominen, Wallace, and Corkin) to 2 Nays (Comm. Moore and Nordeen) that the County Board approve the Staff recommendation made during closed session regarding settlement of pending litigation contingent upon EDC collaboration.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARRIQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, October 16, 2001, 7:00 P.M.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex
Marquette, Michigan 49855

1. CALL TO ORDER - SALUTE TO THE FLAG - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
   REGULAR MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 2, 2001.
3. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.
   a. November is Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month.
4. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
5. REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS.
6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
7. PUBLIC HEARINGS.
8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT:
   a. Continuation of Annual Meeting: Certification of Millage Levies for the Various Taxing
      Units. (Information Forthcoming at Meeting).
9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
   a. Notice of Amended Child Care Fund Expenditures Approved for State Reimbursement.
   b. America United Campaign.
   c. Thank You from Evelyn Valente, Assistant Manager, U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame, for
      Chairperson Corkin's Participation in Hall of Fame Weekend Activities.
   d. List of Vacancies for Various County Boards and Commissions.
10. ACTION ITEMS:
    a. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve the Annual Snow Plowing Contract
       with Bob's Snow Removal.
    b. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Send a Letter to the Michigan Department of
       Community Health regarding Tobacco Settlement Funds for Marquette County.
    c. Sale of Sawyer Building 1249 to George and Debbie DeVries.
    d. Appointment of Two Members to the Marquette County Board of Canvassers.
11. LATE ADDITIONS:
    a. Sale Sawyer Property to EDC
    b. Roy Replacement Order
    c. S.B. 516
12. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
14. CLOSED SESSION: To Discuss Settlement of Pending Litigation – Mitan vs. County of
    Marquette and Marquette County EDC.
15. ADJOURNMENT.