The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, June 4, 2002, 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 May 21, 2002 be approved.

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

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Moore, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period May 24, 2002 through May 30, 2002 in the amount of $89,402.63 be approved.

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following late additions: Item 11a) Letter to President Bush regarding Proposed Cuts in Federal Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT), and 11b) Letter to Sands Township regarding Zoning.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

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

a. Michigan DEQ Notice of Tilden Mine Permit Application to Install Coke Breeze as a Fuel to Grate Kilns 1 and 2.
c. Acknowledgement from State Sen. Don Koivisto of County Board Resolution regarding Equitable Distribution of Additional Diesel Fuel Tax.
d. Notice that Michigan Association of Counties Will Produce the MAC Employee and Benefits Survey.
e. MarqTran Announcement of Free Summer Transportation for Kids Age 18 and Under – June, July, August.
g. Negaunee Township Letter of Concern regarding Bridge Replacement Over Carp River on County Road JAD.

**ACTION ITEMS**

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Action Items 10b, 10c, 10d, 10f, and 10g be approved as follows:

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation that the County Board revise the Emergency Management Resolution to have the Central Dispatch Department administer Marquette County’s Emergency Management Program.

10c) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to contract with Sands, Forsyth, West Branch, and Skandia Township for backup fire protection at Sawyer International Airport, recommended payment is $2,000 plus the actual cost of responding to an incident within the Airport operating area.

10d) Committee of the Whole Recommendation that the County Board modify the Service Center’s IRP Loan to include payments of interest only for a total of nine months, beginning March 15, 2002 and ending November 15, 2002; also requiring the business to receive financial guidance/monitoring for a period of six months, beginning June, 2002.
10f) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to follow the recommendation made by Civil Counsel during the Closed Session regarding a confidential attorney/client communication.

10g) The County Board accepted the nomination of the following applicants to mid-year vacancies on various County Boards and Commissions and will keep the nomination period open until June 18, 2002, the date the mid-year appointments will be made at a Regular County Board meeting. Nominations as follow:

MARQUETTE COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
Regular 3-year Term Expiring July 1, 2005
Carr Baldwin – Ishpeming City

MARQUETTE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
Partial Term Expiring 12/31/03
Lewis Peters – Marquette
Patty Stevens – Marquette
Jeff Thornton – Marquette

CENTRAL DISPATCH POLICY BOARD
One Vacancy Expiring 12/31/03
Must be nominated by the Medical Control Authority, nomination forthcoming.

ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED
10a) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole Recommendation regarding the Sawyer Housing Proposals. The County Board noted once a detailed agreement has been negotiated with the Pesola Group it must come back to the County Board for final approval.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Joseph and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve a Committee of the Whole Recommendation to accept the Sawyer Housing Proposal as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee from the Pesola Group (SLP) and direct staff and Civil Counsel to negotiate a detailed agreement incorporating its terms and provisions, to be reviewed by the County Board at a future meeting.

10e) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole Recommendation to install a new telephone system at the Sawyer International Airport Business Center. Steve Powers, County Administrator, noted should this particular building be sold the phone system will still be useable.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Wallace and carried by voice vote 7 Ayes to 1 Nay (Comm. Joseph) that the County Board approve a Committee of the Whole Recommendation for a proposal from Northgate Communications for the new SIABC Telephone System at a cost of $8,720.

LATE ADDITIONS
The County Board considered a memo from John Howard, NACo Western Interstate Regional President, Commissioner from Union County Oregon, regarding urgent action needed on federal payment in lieu of taxes. The letter notes that President Bush’s proposed budget provides a $45 million cut to the PILT Program for FY 2003 which will result in the reduction of about 20% to PILT receipts for all counties in the United States. Mr. Howard urges drafting a letter to President Bush and sending it to the NACo Office in Washington D.C. by June 10, 2002.

Chairperson Corkin read Marquette County’s proposed PILT letter to President Bush. We have the Hiawatha National Forest and the Ottawa National Forest in Marquette County. The proposed $45 million cut to PILT is a tax shift to private property owners because local taxpayers have to make up the difference to provide the public services to our citizens and visitors of public lands.

Commissioners noted that Payment in Lieu of Taxes from the Federal Government was inadequate before the President’s proposed cuts to PILT funding, this should be pointed out in the letter.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Marquette County send a letter to President Bush regarding his proposal to cut PILT funding, with wording added to point out that PILT funding was inadequate even before the proposed cuts, and further that this letter will be sent to our U.S. Senators and Congressmen.
11b) The County Board considered a letter to Sands Township regarding its proposal to
discontinue zoning and administering the Land Division Act within the certain described areas of
Sands Township that were formerly KI Sawyer.

Commissioners noted Sands Township and Forsyth Township are involved in a discussion and
possible arrangements whereby this property would be detached from Sands Township and annexed by
Forsyth Township thereby transferring to Forsyth Township the responsibility for zoning and
administering the Land Division Act.

James Kippola, Manager of Planning, was present and noted the Sands Township Proposal is
inconsistent with County-wide zoning policy. Marquette County helped Sands Township develop its
Zoning Ordinance when the County discontinued zoning a number of years ago. The Chocolay
Planning Commission will be meeting tomorrow night, Wednesday, June 5th to discuss this matter.
On June 17th the Sands Township Board will be considering the proposal.

Commissioners had questions: Would a Zoning Compliance Permit be required before
obtaining Building Permits? Does the County have to comply with the Land Division Act and
Township Zoning?

Civil Counsel Harley Andrews noted this matter has been reviewed. The County does not have
to comply with the Land Division Act or Township zoning requirements. Also, should there be there
is no zoning for this particular property area then no zoning compliance permit would be required,
however building code requirements would still have to be met.

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried
by voice vote that the County Board table its letter to Sands Township until after the Planning
Commission has had an opportunity to review the matter.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Karen Anderson, Sawyer
Community Association, thanked the County Board for its efforts and decision for the Pesola Group
Housing Proposal at Sawyer. This demonstrates Marquette County’s commitment to quality housing
at KI Sawyer. She has been assured that Marquette County will continue to market Sawyer in the best
interests of the community.

There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steve Powers, County Administrator, distributed a summary of the Upper Peninsula Project
for the State’s Link Michigan Regional Telecommunications Planning Program. Upper Great Lakes
Technologies, Inc. has developed a UP-wide consortium of partners to try to expand high speed
telecommunications infrastructure in the U.P. and use this infrastructure as a platform for economic
growth. Based on a Notice of Intent to apply for a Planning Grant the Michigan EDC has awarded
$271,500 to Marquette County on behalf of the consortium.

Administrator Powers recommends Marquette County serve as the grant recipient and grant
administrator and he further recommends that Brent Nault be Marquette County’s designee for the
planning project. UGLETI will be doing almost all of the grant related work.

Chairperson Corkin noted he had the opportunity, along with other County Elected Officials,
to meet with Jennifer Granholm, Michigan’s Attorney General and candidate for Governor, on
Monday, June 3rd. Jennifer Granholm would be good for the Upper Peninsula.

Comm. Wallace noted he will be out of town next week to attend a National Health
Conference in Washington D.C.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, June 4, 2002, 7:00 P.M.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex
Marquette, Michigan 49855

1. CALL TO ORDER - SALUTE TO THE FLAG - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
3. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.
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:
9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
   a. Michigan DEQ Notice of Tilden Mine Permit Application to Install Coke Breeze as a Fuel to Grate Kilns 1 and 2.
   c. Acknowledgement from State Sen. Don Koivisto of County Board Resolution regarding Equitable Distribution of Additional Diesel Fuel Tax.
   d. Notice that Michigan Association of Counties Will Produce the MAC Employee and Benefits Survey.
   e. MarqTran Announcement of Free Summer Transportation for Kids Age 18 and Under – June, July, August.
   g. Negaunee Township Letter of Concern regarding Bridge Replacement Over Carp River on County Road JAD.
10. ACTION ITEMS:
    a. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Accept the Proposal from the Pesola Group for Sawyer Housing and Direct Staff to Negotiate a Detailed Agreement.
    b. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Revise the Emergency Management Resolution to have Central Dispatch Administer the Emergency Management Program.
    c. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Contract with Sands, Forsyth, West Branch, and Skandia Township for Backup Fire Protection at Sawyer International Airport.
    d. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Modify the Sawyer Service Center’s IRP Loan.
    e. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve a Proposal from Northgate Communication for the New SIABC Telephone System.
    f. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve a Recommendation Made by Civil Counsel regarding Confidential Attorney/Client Communication.
    g. Nominations Mid-Year Vacancies on Various County Boards and Commissions.
11. LATE ADDITIONS:
    a. Letter to Sands Township
    b. Letter to Sands Township
    c.
12. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
14. ADJOURNMENT.