Minutes are Subject to Correction and Approval
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  COUNTY OF MARQUETTE  OCTOBER 28, 2003

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, October 28, 2003, 6:00 P.M., in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis 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 October 14, 2003 be approved with the following correction: Page 3, the motion regarding Sheriff’s Road Patrol, be corrected to read "It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Tuominen..."

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.
George LaBlonde Jr., Secretary, Superior Extrusion, Inc., spoke regarding Item 13) Superior Extrusion Expansion.
There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the addition of Item 15) Agreements with Great Lakes Recovery Centers, and Item 16) Discussion regarding Ishpeming District Court.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period October 17, 2003 through October 23, 2003 in the amount of $1,080,800.62 be approved.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Sawyer Passenger and Financial Reports be accepted and placed on file.

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The Committee considered the County Remonumentation Representative Appointment. Larry Bussone has served as the Marquette County Remonumentation Representative since the position was created in 1993. The Contract expires October 31, 2003. Mr. Bussone is requesting support to renew this position for another 3-year contract. He is very pleased with this position and feels with his proven record he would be the County’s best choice as Marquette County Representative.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board reappoint Larry Bussone as Marquette County Remonumentation Representative for another 3-year contract.

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The Committee considered the State’s budget shortfall. Governor Granholm will soon be preparing and presenting an executive order to eliminate the State’s $898 million budget shortfall. In the past several years, State Elected Officials have consistently balanced the budget by cutting funding to their home towns. Hundreds of millions of dollars have been taken away from Counties, Cities, and Townships. As a result, the ability of local governments to provide public safety, roads, courts, health, and other core community services is in jeopardy.

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners recently adopted a 2004 budget with significant reductions to law enforcement. Since 2001 Marquette County has had an ongoing effort to reduce costs in all departments. Marquette County will continue to strive to maintain services by reducing costs when possible, but every local step is offset by reductions in State Revenue Sharing.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board send a letter to Governor Granholm, our Legislature, and the Mining Journal asking to remove the local communities’ portion of the sales tax revenue from the appropriation process. The State’s Budget should be balanced by reducing State expenditures or increasing State revenues.

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The Committee considered Perkins Park Phase III Development. Since adoption of the Perkins Park Master Plan in 1994, Staff has pursued various funding opportunities to implement the Plan’s recommendations. Phase I, awarded in 1996, included the construction of a new boat launch, ADA fishing pier, and fish cleaning solution, shoreline bank stabilization and parking lot improvements. Phase II, was awarded in 2000 and...
provided funding assistance for the construction of a new restroom/shower facility, rehabilitation of the existing restroom, and conversion of the existing bathhouse to incorporate a pavilion.

In March of 2002, the County Board approved the submittal of a Recreation Grant Application to the Department of Natural Resources for Perkins Park Development Project Phase III. Improvements proposed in this Grant include the construction of pull through sites with water, sewer and electrical connections, the development of rustic camping sites, the separation of day use from campers with landscaping, relocating the picnic area, shore and bank stabilization, and the construction of an ADA Trail and Nature Observation Area. In July of 2003 Marquette County was awarded a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant for Perkins Park Phase III. The award will require a 50% match of $131,625 as previously approved. This match is provided from the Forest Recreation Fund. Staff recommends the County Board approve Perkins Park Phase III development.

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 approve Perkins Park Phase III development, designate Jim Kippola, Manager of Planning, as the County’s representative with the day to day authority for the project, authorize the Board Chair to execute the Agreement and approve the resolution for terms of the agreement between the Department of Natural Resources and Marquette County for Perkins Park Phase III.

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The Committee considered a communication from Steven Schenden, Project Manager, SIABC, regarding Caretaker Funded Engineering Services for Roof Evaluation and Repair. The lowest response was from Northern Design Works of Negaunee for $8,225. Northern Design Works meets the requirements set forth in the RFP. The roofs on Buildings 426, 428, and 850 have been leaking and identified by the Public Works Department as requiring major repair or replacement. Northern Design Works is preparing the contract which should be completed, reviewed by Risk Management and Civil Counsel, and ready for signature at the November 4th full Board meeting. Staff recommends Northern Design Works be awarded the Contract for roof evaluation and repair contingent upon approval of Civil Counsel and Risk Management.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board award the Contract for Caretaker Funded Engineering Services for Roof Evaluation and Repair contingent upon approval of Civil Counsel and Risk Management.

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The Committee considered a communication from Hal Pawley, SIABC Director, regarding acceptance of playground equipment for the Passenger Terminal. The Marquette Breakfast Rotary Club has offered to purchase and donate playground equipment for children in the Airport Passenger Terminal. This equipment was selected because it is made of plastic material without sharp edges, and is not too tall if a child should fall off. There will be a gym pad placed under the equipment to cushion any fall. The equipment would be located in the northwest corner of the passenger waiting area. The furniture will be used to enclose the play area to keep children away from the baggage carousel.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board accept the donation of playground equipment from the Marquette Breakfast Rotary Club and execute a release of liability format which was prepared by Civil Counsel Harley Andrews.

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The Committee considered approval of MDOT Agreement (Bureau of Aeronautics) from Keith Kaspari, Airport Manager. Sawyer International Airport was programmed in the Fourth Quarter of FY 2003 to receive $5,109,917 in AIP discretionary funding for the construction of an Airport Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) and snow removal equipment (SRE) storage and maintenance facility. The Michigan Bureau of Aeronautics (BOA) provides project administration services for AIP funded projects. In addition to the FAA’s funding level at 90%, MDOT will provide a 5% match in addition to Marquette County providing a like 5% match which will be funded through the use of Passenger Facility Charges.

Staff recommends that the two MDOT agreements and the proposed resolution be presented to the County Board for approval. Comm. Tuominen requested Mr. Kaspari explain the need for another facility over and above what we currently have. Mr. Kaspari stated that due to the FAA’s compliance criteria with responding to air carrier incidents, there is a response time of three minutes from the time the air traffic controller picks up the crash phone or notifies airport firefighters. The distance from the existing fire station to the mid point of the runway would be stretching our resources. This building will allow airport staff to house, maintain and deploy firefighting equipment as well as snow removal equipment from one centrally located facility on the air field, which will then allow us to meet our three minute response time.
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 the MDOT Agreement (Bureau of Aeronautics) and authorize full execution of the Agreement and proposed resolution.

The Committee considered the Superior Extrusion Inc. Expansion. George LaBlonde, Superior Extrusion, is requesting the County of Marquette apply for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for infrastructure improvements. Superior Extrusion is also requesting the County contribute the required 10% match for the project. The 10% CDBG match would not exceed $45,000; however this process may require other County expenses before any grant approval. There is over $170,000 of uncommitted money remaining in the original Superior Extrusion CDBG funds that may be available for this project. If the County agrees to apply for the CDBG funding, the following steps will be required:

1) Hire an engineering firm;
2) Submit the Notice of Intent;
3) Submit the CDBG Application;
4) Complete construction drawings.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Girard, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board authorize Staff to work with Superior Extrusion for submittal of the CDBG Pre-application and Application and agree to contribute the 10% match, not to exceed $45,000. Other engineering and consulting fees not to exceed $10,000. Project funding to come from the original Superior Extrusion CDBG funds.

The Committee considered County Depository Policy 230. The existing policy is outdated. Statute requires Boards of Commissioners to designate the proportion and manner for depositing in one or more financial institutions public money coming into the possession of County Treasurers. The Policy specifies County deposits may be made with any state or nationally chartered savings and loan, savings bank, bank, or credit union that maintains a principal office or branch office within Marquette County and whose deposits are insured by an agency of the United States Government. The recommended policy does not name specific financial institutions. The policy will allow the County Treasurer to choose depositories that meet the criteria.

Gary Yoder, County Treasurer, and Susan Vercoe, Finance Manager, concur with the recommendation. Civil Counsel reviewed the statute and believes the proposed policy changes comply with statute. The Board should request the County Treasurer provide periodic reports on County deposits and investments and include information such as rate of return, names of financial institutions, and types of investments.

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 recommended County Depository Policy 230, and request the County Treasurer provide periodic reports.

The Committee considered Agreements with Great Lakes Recovery Centers for Community Corrections Probation Residential Treatment Services and Cognitive Behavior Restructuring Program. The Board of Commissioners approved the Community Corrections Agreement with the State Office of Community Corrections. Included in the Agreement were services to be provided by Great Lakes Recovery Centers and State funding for the services. An agreement between the County and Great Lakes Recovery Centers, Independent Contractor is needed. The Agreement has been reviewed and approved by Risk Management, Civil Counsel, and Administration, and has been signed by Great Lakes Recovery Centers.

Probation residential services include room and board, supervision, intake and assessment, case management, referral, transportation, recreation, financial management, as well as other activities. The Cognitive Behavior Restructuring Program is a Jail-based Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Group that meets on a weekly basis. The Community Corrections Advisory Board, through its review of the Community Corrections Grant, has determined that a need exists for these services and believes the Contract with Great Lakes Recovery Centers will assist in implementing the Community Corrections Plan.
The State Office of Community Corrections, through the Community Corrections Grant, is providing up to $31,476 for the Probations Residential Treatment Services Program and up to $15,000 for the Cognitive Behavior Restructuring Program. There is no County share.

It was moved by Comm. Girard, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Agreements with Great Lakes Recovery Centers for Community Corrections Probation Residential Treatment Services and Cognitive Behavior Restructuring Program.

The Committee discussed the Ishpeming District Court. Staff explained that the current lease for Ishpeming District Court has renewed for 2004. The lease renews automatically if neither the County nor Pioneer Square opt-out 90 days prior to the December 31, 2003 expiration date. This amount is included in the 2004 budget.

A lengthy discussion between Staff and Commissioners followed regarding the Ishpeming District Court Lease and the future of an Ishpeming District Court.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and carried on a roll call vote 7 Ayes (Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Girard, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Nordeen, Comm. Tuominen, and Comm. Corkin) to 1 Nay (Comm. Wallace), and 1 Abstention (Comm. Arsenault) that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board direct County Staff and District Court Administration to investigate the options of District Court services and formulate a recommendation to the Board regarding Ishpeming District Court operations.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Mike Quayle, Marquette, Michigan, spoke in opposition regarding the Ishpeming District Court Lease renewal.

Phyllis Loonsfoot, Marquette, addressed Commissioners regarding Road Patrol cuts.

George LaBlonde, Jr., Marquette, thanked Commissioners for their support of the Superior Extrusion expansion.

James Gallant, Skandia, addressed the Committee regarding the Friend of the Court and the Citizens Advisory Committee.

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

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

Comm. Tuominen announced he attended the CUPPAD Regional Commission on behalf of Marquette County and will leave a complete report in the Administrator’s Office.

Comm. Tuominen reminded Commissioners to submit any comments on the ORV Ordinance next week.

Comm. Wallace announced that the Michigan Surgeon General will be meeting with the Board of Health next Thursday when visiting Marquette County.

Comm. Nordeen stated he believes the automatic renewal of the Ishpeming District Court is in violation of State law. He will be asking for an Attorney General Opinion.

Commissioners discussed the KI Sawyer exit plan. Chairperson Corkin explained there is an exit strategy in place and urged Commissioners to speak with Administrator Powers regarding KI Sawyer.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie M. Branam
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, October 28, 2003, 6:00 P.M.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
6. Sawyer Reports.
7. County Representative Appointment.
8. Letter to Governor and Legislators regarding State Budget.
13. Superior Exclusion, Inc. Expansion
15. Agreements with Great Lakes Recovery Centers
16. Legislative Discussion
17. 
18. PUBLIC COMMENT.
19. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
20. ADJOURNMENT.