The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, October 12, 2004, at 6:00 P.M., in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, 234 W. Baraga Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Budget Work Sessions held on August 30, 2004 and September 7, 2004 and the Committee of the Whole Regular Meeting held on September 28, 2004 be approved.

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

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the addition of Item 13) Communication Tower Lease/ Wisconsin Power Electric, and Item 14) Response to Builder’s Association Request.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts be approved for the period October 1, 2004 through October 7, 2004 in the amount of $2,062,646.45 minus Check #55745 in the amount of $75.00 made payable to Josephs.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Cihak and carried by voice vote 5 Ayes to 1 Abstention (Comm. Joseph) that Check #55745 in the amount of $75.00 made payable to Josephs be approved. Affidavit of Disclosure Follows:

**AFFIDAVIT OF DISCLOSURE**
**Pursuant to MCL 15.323(2)(a)**

COUNTY OF MARQUETTE )
STATE OF MICHIGAN )

Nick Joseph, a Marquette County Commissioner, being duly sworn, hereby submits this Affidavit pursuant to the provisions of MCL 15.323(2)(a):

1. The Final Disbursement List submitted for approval at the October 12, 2004, meeting of the County Board of Commissioners Committee of the Whole includes Check No. 055745, dated October 8, 2004, payable to Joseph’s in the amount of $75.00, in payment for Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Relief Commission Payment for Veteran Gary Karrarinen;
2. I hereby disclose that I have a personal financial interest in Joseph’s Foodland Inc., d/b/a Joseph’s Super Valu, which is as follows:

   Sole Shareholder

3. I hereby certify that any direct benefit I personally will receive from this payment to Joseph’s will be less than $250.00, and will be less than 5% of the total payment of $75.00.

Dated this 12th day of October, 2004.

/S/

Nick Joseph

The Committee of the Whole considered the Central Dispatch Radio Tower. An Ad Hoc Committee was appointed to review all bids. Comm. Arsenault reported that the Ad Hoc Committee met and reviewed all eight quotations for the Tower work. The consensus of the workgroup was to award a contract to
Anderson Communications for an amount not to exceed $37,912.68. The group believed Anderson Communications can perform the work and provided the best overall value to Marquette County. Comm. Arsenault further pointed out that the Central Dispatch Staff, along with the Ad Hoc Committee and the Central Dispatch Committee did an excellent job. They were very thorough and did the job that was requested.

David Savolainen, Jr., was present and addressed the Committee. Fred Anderson, Anderson Communications, was also present and addressed the Committee.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board award the Contract to Anderson Communications for an amount not to exceed $37,912.68 and further recommends that the Board direct Staff to negotiate a contract consistent with the Request for Quotations.

The Committee considered a Michigan Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics, Contract Agreement No. 2004-0581. The Contract includes the construction of Phase 2 of the ARFF/SRE Building and the design-only work for the FY 2005 Projects for improvements to the runway 1/19 Runway Safety Area or RSA. Funding for Phase 1 and 2 of the ARFF/SRE Building will be a multi-year grant covering Federal Fiscal Years 2003, 2004, and 2005 utilizing Sawyer’s annual entitlement funds. Additional discretionary funding has also been received to fund the project to completion. The local sponsor match will be derived with the use of Passenger Facility Charges or PFC’s.

It was moved by Comm. Chiak, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Michigan Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics, Contract Agreement No: 2004-0581 for the Phase 2 construction of the ARFF/SRE Building at Sawyer International Airport and to allow for the design-only work to begin for improvements to the Runway 1/19 Runway Safety Area.

The Committee considered a Michigan Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics, Contract Agreement No. 2004-0582. The work will include the continued improvements to the Nose-Dock Hangars under the Military Airports Program (MAP) to include upgrade and heating system to Hangar 664; replace the door on Hangar 665; and install insulated exterior paneling on Hangar 667, for Fiscal Year 2004. For Fiscal Year 2005 it allows for design-only work to proceed for the interior insulation and electrical system analysis and improvements to Hangar 661-667. Sponsor match funding for the above projects will be with the use of the sales proceeds of the former Marquette County Airport in Negasse. Design work and future improvements to the runway safety areas will be funded through the use of both State funds and FFC’s.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Michigan Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics, Contract Agreement No: 2004-0582 for work associated with improvements to Hangar 664, 665, and 667 and design-only work for the electrical and interior insulation improvements to Hangar 661-667 at Sawyer International Airport.

The Committee considered Sawyer Street Snowplowing. Scott Erbisch, Sawyer Operations Manager, explained that as a part of the Caretaker Program, the Sawyer Department of Public Works (DPW) plowed the streets at Sawyer. Over the years, the number of streets plowed was reduced as the County Road Commission took over their maintenance. The last two winter the County entered into an agreement with the Road Commission to plow 4.03 miles of roads in the commercial and industrial section of Sawyer. It is Staff’s opinion that these roads were not receiving a high enough priority or frequency of plowing from the Road Commission for a commercial/industrial setting. For the winter of 2004 and 2005, the Sawyer International Airport would like to continue to plow 1.4 miles of roadways that are important to Airport operations. The overall miles of streets plowed by the Airport will be much less than that plowed by the DPW since there will not be any Caretaker streets or Wastewater Plant responsibilities. These roads include the access roads to and from the Airport, the Control Tower, the General Aviation Terminal, the Crash/Fire/Rescue Building, and American Eagle. Mr. Erbisch further explained by entering into this Agreement, the County will receive $1.282.40 per mile of road for a total of $1,800.25.
Minutes are Subject to Correction and Approval

No additional Airport Staff will be needed since the Airport hires over-hires each winter. The estimated time to plow these roads is about an hour. Staff recommends the County enter into this Agreement.

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 enter into the Snowplowing Agreement with the Road Commission for the Winter of 2004/2005 and that the County Board authorize the County Chair to sign the Agreement.

The Committee considered Financial Management Assistance to the Road Commission. Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that the County Board has allowed the Road Commission to use Anne Giroux’s services over the last six months. The Road Commission is requesting Ms. Giroux for an additional 12 months. The primary concern, and a concern shared by Ms. Giroux, is that the financial management needs of Sawyer International Airport and Business Center are met. Mr. Powers believes Ms. Giroux can continue to provide the high level of management and assistance to the County management team and the Board of Commissioners while providing help to the Road Commission. The Road Commission will avoid the cost of hiring a full-time finance director. With Ms. Giroux’s assistance, and by increasing a part-time employee’s hours, the Road Commission believes its financial management and administrative needs will be met. As with the current agreement, either Marquette County or the Road Commission could terminate the arrangement. The current arrangement will be specified in the Agreement between the Board of Commissioners and the Road Commission. Rather than Ms. Giroux being a part-time employee of the County and a part-time employee of the Road Commission, she will continue her full-time County position. The Road Commission will compensate the County. Mr. Powers recommends the County Board contract with the Road Commissioners to provide financial management assistance to the Marquette County Road Commission.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board contract with the Marquette County Road Commission to provide financial management assistance to the Marquette County Road Commission.

The Committee considered the sale of personal property at KI Sawyer. Four auctions were held at KI Sawyer in the spring and fall of 2001, providing for the assignment and disposal of surplus personal property formerly owned by the Air Force. Most of the furnishings from the Upper Dorms were auctioned at that time. In accordance with the KI Sawyer Personal Property Disposal Policy, the remaining items are to be sold on a first come, first-serve basis prior to being declared as scrap. Mr. Howard Fissette offered the highest and best offer at hand. The only other offer is a standing offer by Mr. Eric Willman of Marquette Bottled Water, to acquire the personal property at no cost (free).

County policy for the disposal of surplus property requires Board of Commissioner approval for items with an estimated value of over $7,500. The public opportunity to purchase the property has been satisfied through the four auctions and the standing availability to purchase the personal property. In 2003, the Board approved the sale of personal property to Business Development Consulting Services (Mr. Howard Fissette) who coordinated the removal, mold remediation, and distribution of all furnishings in the lower dormitories on behalf of St. Vincent DePaul, Marquette County Habitat for Humanity, Bay Cliff Health Camp, and the Salvation Army. This endeavor benefited five non-profits by putting the furniture to good use, alleviating any continuing deterioration, and eliminating a substantial cost burden to the County.

It was moved by Comm. Coyne, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board sell the remaining personal property (bed frames/headboards, dressers, cabinets/desk combination, refrigerators, and night stands) located in the upper dormitories at KI Sawyer to Mr. Howard Fissette in the amount of $6,250, and approve the transaction by preparing a formal Bill of Sale.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Committee of the Whole Recommendations 6) Central Dispatch Radio Tower, 7) Michigan Department of Transportation Bureau of Aeronautics Contract No. 2004-2581, 8) Michigan Department of Transportation Bureau of Aeronautics Contract No. 2004-2582 and 11) Sale of Personal Property be moved to the Annual Meeting following the Committee of the Whole Meeting for approval.
The Committee of the Whole considered the 2005 Budget Recommendations. Steve Powers, County Administrator, and Sue Vercoe, Finance Manager presented the 2005 General Fund Budget Adjustments and Recommendations.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the 2005 budget adjustments and recommendations presented by Steve Powers and Sue Vercoe be forwarded to the Annual Meeting for approval as recommended.

The Committee considered a Communication Tower Lease Agreement. The Lease Agreement is between Wisconsin Electric Power Company, a Wisconsin Corporation, d/b/a WE Energies, in Marquette County. Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that this Agreement would allow the County reuse of a tower located in Wells Township. The Draft Agreement has been reviewed by Civil Counsel and Risk Management. Mr. Powers recommends approval.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Coyne, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Lease Agreement between Wisconsin Electric Power Company, WE Energies, and the County of Marquette, and authorize the Chairperson to sign the Agreement subject to final review by Civil Counsel and Risk Management.

The Committee considered a response to a request from the Upper Peninsula Builders’ Association. The Upper Peninsula Builder’s Association is requesting assistance regarding the Marquette County Construction Codes Department. The Builder’s Association feels that the Marquette County Construction Codes Department needs to be upgraded to deal with the overloaded inspection schedules during peak construction times. The inspection time lag primarily during peak construction season is of major concern as it causes delays resulting in increased costs.

Lynn Swadley, U.P. Builder’s Association, was present and explained to the County Board that the hiring of part-time inspectors, either directly or contract services, would greatly decrease time lags between the request and the actual job site visits.

The Upper Peninsula Builder’s Association requests immediate action on issues which will no doubt save all concerned parties considerable time and expense.

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board direct Staff to meet with the Resource Management/Development Department and schedule the issue for the October 26, 2004 Committee of the Whole Meeting agenda.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Jeff Paul, Range Telecommunications, was present and addressed the Committee regarding the Central Dispatch Towers. He stated that Range is still the best company to do the job, but is happy it is going to a local business.

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

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

Chairperson Corkin appreciated all the work from local bidders on the Central Dispatch Tower Project. He stated it was difficult to make a decision. The Staff and the County Board try to be fair and do what is in the best interest of Marquette County.

There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie M. Brannan
Marquette County Clerk

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ROLL CALL.


PUBLIC COMMENT.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Review of Claims and Accounts.

Central Dispatch Radio Tower.


Sawyer Snowplowing.

Financial Management Assistance to the Road Commission.

Sale of Personal Property Request.

2005 Budget Recommendations.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ADJOURNMENT.