The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, May 11, 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 Meeting held on April 27, 2004 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Mike Quayle, 1700 Mildred Avenue, Marquette, MI, distributed to Commissioners a NACo Code of Ethics for County Officials. He also questioned why his labor market request was not on the agenda. He spoke briefly regarding the Pioneer Square Lease and the closeout of the 2003 budget.

Carol Pelkola, Chocolay Township, asked the County Board to make the public aware of events happening at the Marquette County Road Commission.

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

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 9) Information regarding the Big Bay Relay and Item 10) Labor Market Survey Discussion.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period April 30, 2004 through May 6, 2004 in the amount of $764,378.58 be approved.

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Joseph and unanimously carried by voice vote (7 Ayes to 0 Nays - Absent: Comm. Cihak and Comm. Nordeen) that following public disclosure last week at the May 4, 2004 County Board Meeting regarding the personal interest of James Cihak, Check No. 50938 in the amount of $426.84 be approved. (Notice of Disclosure follows):

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE
PURSUANT TO MCL 15.323(2)(a)(ii)

James Cihak, a Marquette County Commissioner, hereby makes this financial disclosure at this May 4, 2004, public meeting of the Marquette County Board of Commissioners Committee of the Whole, pursuant to the provisions of MCL 15.323 (2)(ii);

1. The Final Disbursement List to be considered at this meeting includes Check No. 050938 dated April 30, 2004, payable to James Cihak in the amount of $426.84, in payment for Circuit Court investigative services re: Dominic Bliznakoff Prison Case;
2. I hereby disclose that I have a personal financial interest in that I am the sole proprietor of Cihak Investigative Services, and in that capacity I performed the work for which this payment is being made;
3. I hereby certify that any direct benefit I personally will receive from this payment to James Cihak may be more than $250.00, and may be more than 5% of the total payment of $426.84;
4. I understand that having made this disclosure at this public meeting, a vote on approval of this payment may not be held until a subsequent public meeting of this body to be held not less than seven (7) days following today’s date.

Dated this 4th day of May, 2004

James Cihak
Marquette County Commissioner
The Committee considered computer bid awards from Brent Nault, Information Systems Manager. Central Dispatch recently received a grant in the amount of $12,500 for the purchase of Geographical Information System (GIS) Equipment and Software. The implementation of GIS at Central Dispatch will augment the County's enhanced 911 capabilities. Also, GIS has been an invaluable tool for law enforcement and emergency services. One of the two network servers will replace the Account/Prosecutor's server that is scheduled to be replaced in 2004. The second server is required, and budgeted, to implement the new Tax Administration System.

Three vendors submitted bids for the purchase of network servers. Computer Associates of Marquette is the low bidder in the amount of $9,156 per server. Three vendors submitted bids for a GI Workstation. Northern Networking of Gladstone is the low bidder in the amount of $5,462. Three vendors submitted bids for a Large Format Inkjet Printer. Northern Networking of Gladstone is the low bidder in the amount of $3,077.

The GIS Workstation and the Designjet Printer will be funded through a grant received by Central Dispatch. One of the network servers is budgeted through the Copy/Computer Fund and is replacing an existing server. The second server is budgeted in the PIF Fund and part of the hardware requirements for the Tax Administration System. Steve Powers, County Administrator, recommends approval.

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 purchase two network servers from Computer Associates of Marquette in the amount of $18,312, purchase one GIS Workstation from Northern Networking of Gladstone in the amount of $5,462, and purchase one HP Designjet Printer from Northern Networking in the amount of $3,077.

The Committee considered an amendment to MDOT Contract 2002-0537 from Hal Pawley, SIABC Director. An AIP Grant in the amount of $970,300 for replacement of cracked runway slabs; replacement of failing taxiway shoulders; relocation of airport beacon lights; and installation of directional airfield signage was received in July of 2002. In February of 2003 an additional $718,500 AIP Grant for the purchase of a front-end loader and two snowplow trucks. An amendment to the BOA Agreement that incorporated this additional grant funding was also approved at that time. This is the second amendment to the BOA Agreement. The projects are all completed and the total cost was $78,432 greater than the budgeted funds. This amendment increases federal grant funding by $70,589; increases State BOA funding by $21,685; and decreases the County's local share by $13,842. Mr. Pawley recommends approval.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Amendment to MDOT Contract 2002-0537 and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Agreement and Resolution.

The Committee considered House Bill 5745/County Liquor Tax Appropriations. HB 5745 amends 1985 PA 106 legislation to read "may be used for substance abuse treatment within the taxing unit" rather than shall. Bruce Guardini, Executive Director, Great Lakes Recovery Centers, was present and explained that amending this legislation would have serious and drastic consequences for people in the State of Michigan that have been diagnosed with a substance abuse problem or chemical addiction. He explained that as the largest provider of outpatient and residential care in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, and prevention services in the Western U.P., this amended legislation would result in layoffs of personnel, drastic program cuts and prevention services to schools, possible loss of two recent pilot drug courts, a reduction in outpatient services and residential care, as well as detox and jail services. He requested the County Board oppose this legislation.

Merrielee Keller, Prevention Services Manager, Pathways Substance Abuse Services, also addressed the County Board regarding her serious concerns over the possible passing of House Bill 5745. She explained she currently subcontracts State, Federal, and County funding to substance abuse prevention services in Marquette County. She explained that every single prevention program has County Liquor Tax as part of their funding stream. It would be extremely harmful for these programs to deliver their much needed services at the current level without that funding. She also asked the County Board not to support the passage of this Bill.
It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Coyne, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board send a letter to our Governor and Legislators opposing the passage of House Bill 5745.

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It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the communication from Pam Clark, Big Bay Relay Race Director, informing the County Board of plans for the annual run from Marquette to Big Bay be placed on file.

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The Committee considered a request from Mike Quayle, 1700 Mildred Avenue, Marquette, Michigan, to conduct a labor market survey. Commissioners and Staff engaged in a discussion regarding past labor market surveys, purpose and cost.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that Marquette County has conducted two labor market surveys in the past. The Rye Study and the Morley Study. These labor market surveys were conducted for wage compensation and job classification purposes.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board direct Steve Powers, County Administrator, to meet with Mike Quayle to discuss Mr. Quayle's request for a labor market survey.

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Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Bill LaBelle, Marquette County Road Commission, AFSCME 2724 Union President, spoke regarding the Road Commission Task Force Report.

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Corkin announced that Dave Hollister, Director MEDC, Labor and Career Development Department, toured businesses at KI Sawyer that MEDC participated in. Mr. Hollister was very impressed how the County used State monies at Sawyer. They also met with a company from China interested in the Sage Building.

Comm. Coyne discussed a letter from Stacy Welling, Northern Michigan Representative for the Governor's Office, regarding promoting regional collaboration. Comm. Coyne is very interested in a Regional Recreation Authority. She briefly explained the situation regarding the City of Marquette and their recreational issues. She stated that all people in all units of government would benefit. Comm. Coyne encourages regional collaboration and would like to work with the partnership to establish a Recreation Authority.

There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole the meeting adjourned at 6:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie M. Branam
Marquette County Clerk
1. ROLL CALL.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
6. Computer Bid Award.
7. Amendment to MDOT Contract 2002-0537.
9. 
10. 
11. 
12. PUBLIC COMMENT.
13. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
14. ADJOURNMENT.