The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, October 11, 2005, at 6:30 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. Pellow, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole Departmental Budget Hearing minutes held on August 29, 30, and September 6, 2005, and the Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes held on September 27, 2005 be approved.

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

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Agenda be approved as presented.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period September 30, 2005 through October 6, 2005 in the amount of $2,462,608.92 be approved.

The Committee considered a B-3 IRP Loan Modification Request. Scott Erbisch, Operations Manager, Sawyer International Airport and Business Center, explained that the IRP Loan Committee met on October 6, 2005 and recommends that the County Board approve a request from B-3 Computers to modify their IRP Loan. B-3 Computers is a privately-held firm. The Company manufactures and provides services for a full range of computer equipment, including desktops, servers, notebooks, workstations, peripherals, and a variety of other products to deliver a complete solution.

In March of 2004, the County Board approved an IRP Loan to B-3 in the amount of $250,000. The loan was for six years with monthly payments of interest only for the first twelve months and payments of principal and interest for the remaining five years. Beginning April 2005, B-3 began paying principal and interest payments.

B-3 Computers is seeking interest only payments for the next twelve months and then interest and principal payments for the remainder of the loan. CEO Bill Carr advised that the loan modification request is to help manage B-3’s cash flow needs caused by the move to a new facility. The IRP Loan Committee recommends approval of the request.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the loan modification
request to pay interest only for the next twelve months beginning November, 2005, and then interest and principal payments for the remainder of the loan. This request does not extend the loan; all other loan terms and requirements remain the same; and further, that this recommendation be forwarded to the Annual Meeting which follows the Committee of the Whole.

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The Committee considered a memo from Cheryl Cox, Dev. and Mktg. Assistant, Sawyer International Airport and Business Center, regarding a Recommendation to Adjust Rental Rates on T-Hangars. Ms. Cox explained that 30 "single" t-hangars 15 "twin" t-hangars are owned by the County of Marquette. Fifteen singles are located in the North row, 10 twins in the Center row and another 15 singles make up the Southern most row. In addition, there 6 total "storage" units – which are basically located on each end of the hangar rows.

Eleven of the 15 single t-hangars located in the North row are currently occupied – as well as both storage units. The single t-hangars lease for $135 per month – storage units lease for $50 per month; Five of the 10 t-hangars located in the Center row are currently occupied – as well as both storage units. The twin t-hangars lease for $180 per month; and eight of the single t-hangars located in the South row are occupied – as well as one storage unit. e

The 14 available t-hangars are located on the northern-most, less desirable, side of the hangar rows as they are subject to a larger amount of snow and ice build-up. She explained that staff is recommending that the rental rate be lowered – specifically for t-hangars located on the northern-most side. This would apply to current leases as well. Staff recommends an adjusted lease rate of $100 per month for the single t-hangars, and $135 per month for the twin t-hangars.

Comm. Pellow questioned if there is any loss of revenue. Comm. Heikkila explained that this proposal makes sense, by lowering the rental rate it should increase occupancy.

It was moved by Comm. Struck, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the recommendation to lower rental rate on t-hangars to an adjusted lease rate of $100 per month for the single t-hangars, and $135 per month for the twin t-hangars.

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The Committee considered Design and Engineering Services for FAA funded airport projects. Keith Kaspari, Airport Manager, explained that URS Contract Amendments 4 and 5 are for work associated with Sawyer’s airfield improvements.

Contract Amendment No. 4 refers to the changes in the heating system to include the boiler system for American Eagle’s Hangar 664. This is one of three projects under the Fiscal Year 2004 MAP Program. Approximate increase to original scope of work is $9,000 and will be covered under the available funding for this project.
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Minutes are Subject to Correction and Approval

Contract Amendment No. 5 refers to the following six projects: 1) Design Services for electrical and insulation work for the seven large hangars for the FY 2005 and FY 2006 MAP Projects at $38,000; 2) Construction Administration for FY 2005 MAP Project oversight for American Eagle’s Hangar 665 (new door installation) at $11,000; 3) Design Services for specifications and administration for the FY 2005 AIP Sweeper Project at $3,000; 4) Design Services for specifications and administration for the FY 2004 MAP Tail Dock Project at $3,000; 5) Design Services for the FY 2005 MAP Water Study Project at $50,000; and 6) Design Services for the FY 2005 AIP Project for General Aviation Terminal access door at $3,000. Total for Contract Amendment No. 5 is approximately $108,000.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that years ago, with a recommendation from Staff, URS was selected for the engineering and design work for projects at Sawyer International Airport with FAA funding. The Michigan Department of Transportation advises airport sponsors (Marquette County is the sponsor for Sawyer International Airport) to select and engineer/architect firm for all Airport Projects. Contracts for engineering and design costs are submitted for review and approval by the Airport Sponsor and the Michigan Department of Transportation, Multi-Modal Transportation Services Bureau (formerly referred to the as the Bureau of Aeronautics) to ensure that the consultant’s costs are reasonable. The FAA does not require nor approve contract agreements between the consultant and the airport sponsor. Depending on the funding source for projects at Sawyer, the FAA and MDOT funds 95 to 97.5 percent of all projects to include the professional services by the engineering consultant. MDOT will not approve nor process an amendment to an Engineering Services Contract until after the bids are received for the work. This is standard MDOT procedure. For each contract agreement, MDOT performs an independent cost analysis and found the cost to be reasonable for the services to be provided.

Mr. Powers further explained that Contract Amendments 4 and 5 total $117,000. Of this amount, Marquette County’s share is approximately $2,925 and is included and budgeted for within the overall costs of the projects. For projects using Sawyer’s annual FAA AIP Entitlements or Discretionary funds, Marquette County’s share is funded by Passenger Facility Charges. For projects using only FAA MAP funding, Marquette County’s share is funded with former County Airport sales proceeds.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Struck, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve Design and Engineering Services for FAA Funded Airport Projects Contract Amendments 4 and 5 with URS.

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Pellow requested a report regarding the fuel prices at Sawyer. Comm. Struck stated that lowering fuel prices for Sawyer was a good move. Comm. Corkin stated a report will be given at the end of the year.
Chairperson Corkin reported on the U.P. County Commissioners meeting held in Escanaba, MI on Friday, October 7th and Saturday October 8th. He explained it was an informative session regarding Sulfide Mining. Discussion included representatives from Kennecott, the DEQ, and others.

There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Connie M. Brnam
Marquette County Clerk
ROLL CALL.


PUBLIC COMMENT.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Review of Claims and Accounts.

B-3 Loan Request.

Recommendation to Adjust Rental Rates on T-Hangars

Design and Engineering Services for FAA – Funded Airport Projects.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ADJOURNMENT.