

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, March 26, 1991 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI.

Chairperson Corkin called the meeting to order. Present: Comm. Angeli, Comm. Bays, Comm. Seppanen and Comm. Corkin. Absent and Excused: Comm. Arsenault.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on March 12, 1991 be approved.

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

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that the agenda be approved with the following changes; that item 6) Fence Problem - Lake Independence Dam be removed from the agenda (Drain Commissioner Sundberg is out of town); and in its place a memo from Sheriff, Joseph Maino, regarding P.A. 416 Secondary Road Patrol Funding; and also several additional items, item 10) a bid for a small pick up truck for the Resource Management/Development Dept.; item 11) a resolution opposing the imminent closing of the Michigan State Police Forensic Lab in Marquette; and item 12) the MUSTFA Grant Funding for the Airport Fuel Farm.

On a motion by Comm. Bays, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that Claims and Accounts for the period March 9, 1991 thru March 22, 1991, in the amount of \$936,480.91, be approved.

The Committee considered a recommendation from Sheriff Joseph I. Maino to support an Iron County Resolution which objects to the State proposed cuts to Secondary Road Patrol Funding for 1991. Sheriff Maino was present and explained that in 1978, when the first allocation for funding was authorized by the State, Marquette County received \$78,871 which funded three road patrol positions, expenses, and equipment. Since then, P.A. 416 funding has been reduced and the County has had to fund one of the road patrol positions, and also provide additional funds to cover operating costs. The FY 1991 P.A. 416 fund amount for Marquette County was \$64,934, but on February 11th the Sheriff's Dept. was informed of a 9.2% cut in the program, which would amount to a reduction of \$5,973. Sheriff Maino says his department cannot continue to absorb the State reductions without cutting services to the citizens of Marquette County. Sheriff Maino recommends the County Board adopt a similar resolution.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board adopt a similar resolution opposing State cuts in P.A. 416 Secondary Road Patrol Funding.

The Committee considered a resolution from Ingham County requesting that the Governor and the Legislature work together to reach a budget compromise. The Ingham County resolution is quite lengthy and refers to specific budget items critical to Ingham County. Chairperson Corkin informed the Committee that Administrator Aloia is working on the detailed impact of Governor Engler's proposed budget cuts, which could be incorporated in the future into a Marquette County resolution.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Bays, and unanimously carried to place the Ingham County resolution on file.

The Committee considered a resolution from the Michigan Association of Counties strongly urging Congress and President Bush to order the Office of Management and Budget to immediately release the \$131 million dollars appropriated as contingency funds to the Health Care Financing Administration for use by Medicare contractors. The Committee received a communication from Nancy DeWees, Director of the Marquette County Dept. of Social Services, and Lynn Emerick, Director of the Commission on Aging, which point out that currently some local physicians are requesting "up

front" payment from Medicare recipients. These patients and senior citizens often have limited financial resources, and suffer hardship and additional stress by a deliberate slow-down in Medicare payments. They encourage the County Board to support the MAC resolution and forward it to our Federal Legislators.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board adopt a similar resolution urging the immediate release of federal contingency funds for use by the Medicare contractors so that senior citizens are not forced to pay for services in advance with no assurance of reimbursement.

The Committee heard a presentation by Robert Shimanek, Vice President, and Emil Kaurala, President, of Capitol City Express, regarding general aviation concerns at the Marquette County Airport. They provided a historical overview of the development at the Marquette County Airport and the important role that General Aviation has played in that development. It was noted that a fixed base operator such as Capitol City Express is involved in the maintenance of aircraft, flight instructions, the rental of aircraft, the fueling of aircraft, and hanger operations. Mr. Shimanek and Mr. Kaurala want the County Board to know that General Aviation dollars help the Airport and it would like their support for improvements in the old terminal building. The pilots and executives flying into Marquette by private aircraft only see and utilize the old terminal building, not the new terminal building, which is for the commercial carriers. Mr. Shimanek estimates that \$32,000 will be needed to renovate the old terminal building and make it attractive to business. The Capitol City Express partners would like a committee formed to review and address the problems in general aviation. They feel they do not get an appropriate percentage returned for the dollars of business that they generate.

Chairperson Corkin and Comm. Bays are liaisons with the Airport Committee and agreed to schedule a meeting with the Airport Committee, representatives from General Aviation, and Airport Manager Holman, and also tour the old terminal building. This meeting will be scheduled sometime in the first week of April.

Chairperson Corkin thanked Mr. Shimanek and Mr. Kaurala, also Charles Hohman, Airport Manager, and members of the Airport Committee, James Alderton, Jack Mitchell, and Glenn Spindler, for attending the meeting.

The Committee considered the bid award for an additional Resource Management small pick up truck. Ron Koshorek, Resource Management Director, was present and explained that this is an FY 1991 capital project budgeted at \$10,200, the low bid is Choice Motors for a Dodge Dakota for \$9,925.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board accept the low bid of \$9,925 from Choice Motors for the Resource Management small pick up truck.

The Committee considered a communication from George G. Johnson, Chairperson of the Marquette County Law Enforcement Administrator's Association (MCLEAA) regarding the eminent closure of the Michigan State Police Forensic Laboratory in Marquette. Presently the Forensic Laboratory in Marquette provides services for all law enforcement agencies in the entire Upper Peninsula. It is the only Forensic Laboratory located in the Upper Peninsula, and it has been officially notified that the facility will be closed October 1, 1991, due to budget reductions by the State of Michigan.

Civil Counsel, David Payant, further explained that the Prosecutor's Office must often bring in State laboratory people to testify during court proceedings as expert witnesses for blood work, finger prints, etc. If the Marquette County Forensic Laboratory is closed, then the lab expert must come from downstate. When we consider this service is provided to all fifteen Upper Peninsula Counties, Mr. Payant cannot see how the State will save much money because of the additional transportation costs. The west

end of the Upper Peninsula will even have a more difficult time with its prosecution procedures.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board oppose the closure of the Michigan State Police Forensic Laboratory located in Marquette by adopting the resolution of support provided by the MCLEAA.

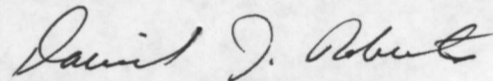
The Committee considered a package of materials from Charles Hohman, Airport Manager, regarding the MUSTFA interest subsidy loan approval. Mr. Hohman was present and explained that the County Board had already given a general consensus approval for the project, and enclosed in the materials was a legal review. The Committee did not have time to review the package of materials, but understood that Mr. Hohman would like the matter expedited. Chairperson Corkin directed Civil Counsel and Staff to review the materials before the Regular Board Meeting of April 2nd.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that the materials be sent to the Regular Board agenda on April 2nd without a Committee of the Whole recommendation, and contingent upon administrative and legal review.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk

MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, March 26, 1991, 4:30 p.m.

Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD ON MARCH 12, 1991.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
6. ~~Fence Problem - Lake Independence Dam.~~ *PR 416 Resolution*
7. Resolution from Ingham County requesting Governor Engler and Legislation to work together to reach budget compromise.
8. MAC Proposed Resolution: Medicare Reimbursement.
9. Bob Shimanek regarding Marquette County Airport Renovation.
10. *Bill on trucks*
11. *Crime Job*
12. *MustFA Grant*
12. PUBLIC COMMENT.
13. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
14. ADJOURNMENT.