

Minutes are Subject to Correction and Approval

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, February 9, 2010, at 6:00 P.M., in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, 234 W. Baraga Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.

Chairperson Corkin called the meeting to order. Present: Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Pellow, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace, and Chairperson Corkin. Absent and Excused: Comm. Bergdahl and Comm. Cihak.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Pellow, and unanimously carried by a voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on January 12, 2010 be approved.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following addition and change: add Item 15) Marquette County Support of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority Emergency Solutions Grant Program; and moved Item 14) Aircraft Emergency Response Agreement to 6a).

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Mike Quayle, 1700 Mildred Ave., Marquette, spoke regarding MERS. He also requested information relating to the 2004 contract.

Mike Jakubowski, Forsyth Township Supervisor, thanked the Board for moving Item 14) forward, and will answer questions if needed. He also announced that he supports the Marquette County Recreation Plan Amendment.

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

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Struck, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period January 29, 2010 through February 4, 2010, in the amount of \$525,161.21, be approved.

Joe VanOosterhout, Central Dispatch Manager, was present to give an Update on the U.P. 911 Authority. He also provided a brief history of the U.P. 911 Authority. In the fall of 2007, the Regional Homeland Security Board of the Upper Peninsula applied for, and was successful, in receiving a competitive grant under the Public Safety Interoperable Communications Program (PSIC). The purpose of the \$2 million grant was to link the 911 Centers in the U.P. together to share equipment, resources, and personnel. By the end of 2008, all 15 U.P. Counties had joined the Authority. The first meeting was held in January of 2009.

Mr. VanOosterhout also explained the need for County Commissioners to be involved. He commended Chairperson for his leadership among the U.P. Counties in bringing forth to the discussions political and other aspects beyond the technical aspects involved.

It was noted that the original PSIC grant was scheduled to expire this year, however Congressman Stupak was instrumental in obtaining a two year extension. He also noted that interest has been expressed from Northern Downstate Counties (the CCE Dispatch Center: Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet) to join the Authority. Mr. VanOosterhout announced a move by the State to take over 911. He emphasized the need to follow 911 statewide.

Comm. Struck and Chairperson Corkin commended Joe VanOosterhout for his leadership with 911. He has done and continues to do a tremendous job for Marquette County.

The Committee considered an Aircraft Emergency Response Agreement and Public Safety Building Lease Recommendation. The Aircraft Emergency Response Agreement and the Public Safety Building Lease with Forsyth Township have expired. Scott Erbsch, Sawyer Operations Manager, explained that he has met with the Forsyth Township Supervisor, and advised that Forsyth Township would like to continue to operate out of the Sawyer Public Safety building and would like to continue the Aircraft Emergency Response Agreement. Staff has also discussed terms for the continuation of the agreements which are presented in the recommendations below:

Public Safety Building Lease Recommendation - Approve entering into a one-year lease with Forsyth Township for the continued use of the Sawyer Public Safety building (Parcel B1-S). Other than the term of the agreement, there are no recommended changes to the agreement. Some of the highlights of the agreement include, but are not limited to, the following:

- One-year lease retroactive to January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010.
- Annual rent of \$1.00.

Forsyth Township Responsibilities:

- Forsyth Township to be responsible for all utilities, snow removal, mowing, custodial, and building maintenance.
- As may be necessary, Forsyth Township will be responsible for all snow removal for fire hydrants to allow for clear access.
- Continued use of firefighting equipment provided by the lessor.
- Provide required insurance for Worker's Disability Compensation Insurance and any other insurance that may be required by Risk Management.

Marquette County Responsibilities:

- Will provide appropriate insurance coverage for the building.
- Will assist with heavy equipment in the relocation of large snow piles in the parking area so long as it does not interfere with normal operations of equipment and staff.
- Will allow Forsyth firefighting personnel access and use of the airport oxygen filling station.

Aircraft Emergency Response Agreement Recommendation - Approve entering into a one-year Aircraft Emergency Response Agreement.

The primary purpose of the agreement is to provide firefighting and rescue capabilities supplemental to those that can be provided by Sawyer Airport personnel in aircraft emergencies. The only changes recommended in this agreement are the term and the annual expense to Forsyth Township.

- One-year lease retroactive to January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010.
- Annual payment from Marquette County of \$12,000 (\$3,000 to be paid each quarter). (Please note that the annual payment has been reduced by \$2,000).
- Reimburse Forsyth Township for its actual documented costs of expendable materials and supplies consumed in responding to aircraft emergencies.
- Forsyth Township to respond with appropriate personnel and equipment to aircraft emergencies.

It was moved by Comm. Struck, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve entering into a one-year lease with Forsyth Township for the continued use of the Sawyer Public Safety Building (Parcel B1-S); and approve entering into a one-year Aircraft Emergency Response Agreement, as outlined above.

The Committee considered FEMA 2009 Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Agreement for Pre-Disaster Mitigation Programs. Carl Lindquist, Executive Director, Superior Watershed Partnership & Land Trust, was present and explained that the County of Marquette is the designated Subgrantee in the respective agreements. As Subgrantee, the County will have various reporting and monitoring obligations, a requirement to provide non-federal funds, and an obligation to provide maintenance appropriate for the life of the projects. The reporting and monitoring obligations for both projects will be the responsibility of the Superior Watershed Partnership.

C.R. 510 Flood Mitigation Project – The project involves the removal of an existing corrugated metal culvert and replace it with a larger precast concrete arch culvert of dimensions 5’ x 3’ x 56’ to pass the 100-year flood event and stabilizing adjacent stream bank and side slopes. The Marquette County Drain Commissioner will perform any long-term maintenance. Activity Cost Estimate: \$207,131. – Grant Amount: \$155,161. – Non-Federal Share: \$51,970. (Superior Watershed Partnership: \$11,970; - Marquette County Road Commission: \$40,000).

Lake Superior Dune Restoration Project – The project involves the planting of native species of vegetation (grass, shrubs, and trees) and filling of large gullies with clean sand fill to control severe erosion and create wind breaks to prevent blowing sand and snow that threatens public safety and infrastructure along two sections of State Highway M-28 immediately adjacent to Lake Superior. The Superior Watershed Partnership and MDOT agree to assume obligation for long-term maintenance of the project once completed. Activity Cost Estimate: \$132,863. – Grant Amount: \$ 99,596. – Non-Federal Share: \$ 33,267. (Superior Watershed Partnership).

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and unanimously carried by voice that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the C.R. 510 Flood Mitigation Project and the Lake Superior Dune Restoration Project.

The Committee considered a Contract between CUPPAD and the County of Marquette US-41/M-28 Comprehensive Corridor and Access Management Plan. The US-41/M-28 corridor that runs through a significant portion of Marquette County has long been recognized as a vital component of the transportation infrastructure here in the County and beyond. Rapid development along this corridor has caused much concern regarding diminishing ability to carry traffic and, in some locations, safety. In recognition of these problems a coalition of “stake holders” was formed in 1999. The US-41/M-28 Corridor Advisory Group. The group consists of Chocolay, Ely, Ishpeming, Marquette and Negaunee Townships, the Cities of Ishpeming, Marquette, and Negaunee as well as Marquette County. MDOT, the Marquette County Road Commission, law enforcement agencies, Marq-Tran and others round out the group.

In 2004, the Advisory Group, facilitated by MDOT, commissioned the preparation of the US-41/M-28 Comprehensive Corridor and Access Management Plan. This planning initiative performed an extensive analysis of roadways, access points, crash statistics, local zoning and land use plans and their relation to the safe, efficient movement of traffic. This Plan has served as a guideline for reviews and advice from the Advisory Group regarding the Corridor.

As one of the most rapidly changing areas in the County, the Advisory Group believes an update of the Plan is in order. In last years' work plan development, the Marquette County Planning Commission had already reached this conclusion and had assigned staff a project updating some components of the existing corridor study as part of the county Comprehensive Plan Transportation chapter update.

MDOT has contracted with CUPPAD to perform the Corridor Plan update. CUPPAD desires to "team up" with Marquette County Planning staff in doing the revision. This is not only an opportunity to update this important planning document but also have an outside funding source (MDOT) facilitate the initiative.

Planning Staff recommends support of this important planning initiative and partnership with CUPPAD.

Al Feldhauser, Senior Planner, was present to answer questions. Comm. Pellow requested that the Corridor be extended to include Humboldt Township and those Townships affected by the Kennecott Project at the West-end of Marquette County. Mr. Feldhauser will pass the request on to the Planning Commission.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Pellow, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the contractual agreement and direct the Board Chair or Staff (as appropriate) to sign the contract and relevant documents.

The Committee considered Proposed Natural Features & Resources of the County Comprehensive Plan. In accordance with the adoption requirements of Public Act 33 of 2008 (Michigan Planning Enabling Act), the Marquette County Planning Commission is submitting the proposed Natural Features and Resources chapter of the *County Comprehensive Plan* to the County Board for review, comment, and approval for the distribution of the document.

The Natural Features and Resources chapter currently under review represents an update to an existing section of the Comprehensive Plan. It is a chapter that provides background information about Marquette County. For the most part, the geology of Marquette County has not changed since the original chapter was written. What has changed is the availability of data and therefore the mapping elements and related text are new.

The Michigan Planning Enabling Act requires the legislative body to approve the distribution of a proposed planning document. Subsequent to the approval of distribution, the process of adoption can proceed and the public review period can begin. The Act requires a minimum review period of 42 days followed by a public hearing to allow for further comment. After the public hearing, the Planning Commission can consider adoption of the Natural Features and Resources chapter. The County Board may submit comments as well during this review period.

Al Feldhauser, Senior Planner, was present to answer questions.

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 the distribution of the Proposed Natural Features & Resources of the County Comprehensive Plan.

The Committee considered the Marquette County Recreation Plan Amendment. The Marquette County Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on February 3, 2010, to solicit comments on a proposed amendment to the Marquette County Recreation Plan. The proposed plan amendment would include Little Trout Lake Park as a Marquette County owned and operated recreation facility.

This would allow County planning staff to plan for needed improvements through capital outlay and recreation grants and continue to provide a recreational facility for the nearly three thousand residents on Sawyer. The proposed plan amendment includes Little Trout Lake Park in Chapter 4 – Administrative Structure, Recreation Budget and Funding Sources, Chapter 6 - Recreation Inventory, Chapter 7 – Strategy and Chapter 8 – Capital Improvement Schedule.

County Planning staff reviewed the purpose for the proposal and described how Little Trout Lake Park has been a park since K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base was established. At that time it was heavily utilized by military personnel and their families. The park contains a pavilion, restrooms, beachfront and swimming area, grills for picnics, benches, a concession stand, basket ball courts, volleyball courts, and playground equipment.

After the Air Force Base closed, the park's ownership transferred from the Air Force to the County of Marquette. The County had a memorandum of agreement with Forsyth Township to allow them to manage Little Trout Lake Park until the County could legally turn the park's ownership over to the township. The Township eventually determined that they did not want to manage or own the park so ownership remained with the County

Many of the residents that live at or near Sawyer enjoy the park but the park is in very poor condition because of vandalism and lack of investment. If let go for much longer there will be a point when it is no longer feasible to bring it back to a desirable state.

During the summer of 2009 the Michigan Works! Earn While You Learn Youth Summer Program conducted an assessment of Little Trout Lake. The assessment included a list of completed tasks such as removing trash, raking, scraping paint, repainting playground equipment and basketball court lines, and landscaping the beachfront to name a few. In addition, the assessment included a list of recommended park improvements and a community survey.

Public Comment - Several members of the public were present and expressed the need for a safe place for the local children to play and described the park as an asset to the community. They discussed their previous volunteer efforts to maintain the park as best they could and their willingness to continue with future volunteer initiatives. Further discussions ensued about what has been done to make sure the park is currently safe with the appropriate signage where needed and the removal of unsafe playground equipment.

Al Feldhauser, Senior Planner, was present to answer questions. Comm. Struck spoke in support of the plan amendment to include Little Trout Lake Park.

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 final adoption of the Recreation Plan Amendment by authorizing the Board Chair to sign the Resolution.

The Committee considered a Energy Efficiency & Conservation Multi-Purpose Block Grant. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, among other things, was intended to boost domestic spending in education, health care, and infrastructure, including the energy sector. To facilitate energy infrastructure improvements, the Federal government distributed grants to State governments. In Michigan, the Department of Energy, Labor, and Economic Growth was charged with developing a program that would efficiently and effectively distribute these funds. A competitive bidding process was implemented for energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants. Marquette County was recently notified that our proposal was accepted and that we were awarded \$274,379 pending County acceptance. There is no County match.

Proposal - The County's proposal was designed to address what is actually a part of a nationwide dilemma: U.S. dependence on foreign energy sources, pollution by-products of fossil fuel combustion and a weakened economy. With this grant we will implement energy efficiencies reducing consumption of energy and reducing emissions. By using a purchasing policy that begins with local first, Michigan, and then national, we intend to keep as much investment as possible here at home.

Our proposal has four main components:

- Implementation of an Introductory Energy Evaluation
- Contracting for Technical Energy Analysis of (7) facilities
- Equipping the County's Housing Rehabilitation Program with energy efficiency measuring tools
- Training for County Building Code officials in administering new energy codes

Al Feldhauser, Senior Planner, was present to answer questions. Comm. Pellow requested a further explanation of the four main components.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board accept the proposed grant and authorize the Board Chair to sign the grant agreement and further, to direct Staff to administer the grant.

The Committee considered a Professional Services Agreement (Mead & Hunt, Inc.) for professional engineering, consulting and planning services at Sawyer. Keith Kaspari, Airport Manager, explained that the agreement provides services for the following projects at Sawyer International Airport:

1. Phase I design-only services for the future Phase II construction (Area No:1) for the replacement of concrete pavement joint sealant material, and the design of specifications for the future re-painting of all airfield pavement markings. Cost of services is estimated at \$23,140. Estimated cost of construction: \$520,000.
2. Amendment No: 3, for Phase IV design-only services for the future construction for the continued full-depth reconstruction of concrete pavement slabs on Runway 1/19. Cost of services is approximately \$12,130. Estimated cost of construction: \$790,000.

3. Drafting of Specifications for the future purchase of a large snowblower and related attachments. Cost of services is approximately \$6,010. Estimated cost of equipment and attachments: \$840,000.
4. Phase I design-only services for the future Phase II (FY and Summer 2011) construction for the rehabilitation of the stabilized shoulders and edge lighting on Runway 1/19. Cost of services for initial design cost is approximately \$145,000, yet Staff requests an allowance for a total not to exceed amount of \$175,000. Estimated cost of future construction during FY-2011: \$2,465.000.

Costs for services under the above agreements total: \$216,280.00, with all projects except the specifications for the snowblower are expected to be paid by FAA and MDOT grant agreements.

Staff is requesting authorization to advance the cost of the specifications via Sawyer's existing FAA-approved PFC Application No: 06-08-C-00-SAW. Staff is awaiting the approval for the above agreements by MDOT's project engineer, yet is anticipated for the week of February 22nd.

It was moved by Comm. Heikkila, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board, pending approval by Sawyer's Project Manager at MDOT-Aero, approve the agreements for services on the above projects by Mead & Hunt with a not-to-exceed total of \$216,280.00, and authorize the Board Chair and County Clerk to sign.

The Committee considered a Rental Car Agreement Amendment. Keith Kaspari, Airport Manager, explained that on July 14, 2008, the County of Marquette entered into a three year agreement with SR&D Enterprises for the privilege of operating a Thrifty Car Rental concession at Sawyer International Airport.

Staff received a letter of request from Richard Dunn, owner and operator of SR&D Enterprises, to allow for a combined rental car concession to include Dollar Rent a Car, in addition to his existing car rental concession operation with Thrifty.

A request such as this is a very common occurrence in the airport community as many consolidations have occurred in recent years – and this request mirrors an existing rental care agreement the County has with the National/Alamo car rental concession at Sawyer.

All terms and conditions of the existing agreement with SR&D Enterprises remains in full effect, and the only visual changes you will see is the logo branding in the airline passenger terminal and any vehicle (space) signs in the rental car parking lot. At this time, Mr. Dunn is not requesting the lease of any additional parking lot spaces.

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 request by Richard Dunn, owner and operator of SR&D Enterprises, to allow for a combined concession of Thrifty and Dollar Car Rentals, effective March 1, 2010, for the remaining term of their three-year agreement at Sawyer International Airport, pending full execution of the agreements by the office of Civil Counsel, and authorize the Board Chair to sign.

The County Board considered Support of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority Emergency Solutions Grant Program. Chairperson Corkin read a memo from Sharon L. Kivikko, Alger/Marquette Continuum of Care Coordinator, explaining that the Alger/Marquette Continuum of Care is applying to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) for \$41,550. This grant amount will be utilized by Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc. (\$15,600), the Women's Center, Inc. (\$21,800), and Child and Family Services of the Upper Peninsula (\$4,150) to respond to the needs of homeless populations through a comprehensive community-wide planning process and implementation strategy known as a 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness.

This is a competitive grant through MSHDA which does not require a match from the non-profit organizations or any municipalities in which they are located. The grant amount can, however, be utilized as a match to leverage federal funds. Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc. will utilize their portion for a 4:1 match for federal HUD funding to support the Voices for Youth program and the Welcome Home program.

MSHDA requests the support/signature of the highest elected official of the area in which the agency's primary office is situated. Previously, the CoC has utilized the City of Marquette to fulfill this role. As the scope of the grant and individuals providing services has expanded, it has become more appropriate to request the Chair of County Commissions for approval. We are therefore requesting the County Commissions support our request for funding.

Unfortunately, there is a VERY short timeline on this grant application. The program applications were released on February 5th and the grant must be submitted by FEBRUARY 16. Therefore the CoC would appreciate quick action on this request.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Struck, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Chairperson Corkin be authorized to sign the Certification of Local Approval for Non-Profit Organizations and Local Units of Government for the Homeless Grant program funding submitted to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority by Alger/Marquette Continuum of Care.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Mike Quayle, 1700 Mildred Ave., Marquette, spoke regarding MERS and the MERS actuarial request. There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Corkin reported on a Regional Jail meeting held on February 8, 2010. At that meeting discussion was held regarding a special needs facility for the Upper Peninsula modeled after Hazelden. Chairperson Corkin will keep the Board informed. He also announced that today the DEQ issued the permits for the Humboldt Mill. Great news for Marquette County, Humboldt Township, and the entire Westend! He also announced that the Public Hearing regarding Woodland Road will be held on Wednesday night, February 10, 2010.

Comm. Pellow questioned the status of the actuarial. Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that he will have the actuarial by the end of this week. MERS rehire comments is scheduled to be on the agenda for February 16, 2010.

Comm. Heikkila announced that the City of Marquette has been designated by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as one of the 2010 Dozen Distinctive Destinations. This is a great presentation for the City and for the County. To vote for the 2010 fan favorite, visit www.PreservationNation.org. Comm. Heikkila urged everyone to log on and vote as many time as you wish!

Comm. Wallace announced that he voted four times on www.PreservationNational.org! He explained that after voting a bar graph shows a percentage of votes the twelve cities have received. Marquette is way ahead!! Keep Voting! Comm. Wallace also announced that he will be out of the Country on University business and will miss the next two meetings.

Chairperson Corkin responded to report from Northern Initiatives entitled U.P. Indicators and Marquette County. The Report compared the fifteen counties in the U.P. Marquette County was the only County not in the red!!

Comm. Pellow recommended that this information be added to the Website.

There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Connie M. Branam
Marquette County Clerk