

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, July 6, 2004, at 7:00 P.M., in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, 234 West Baraga Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.

Chairperson Corkin called the meeting to order. Present: Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Coyne, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Tuominen, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin. Absent and excused: Comm. Bergdahl and Comm. Nordeen.

A Salute to the Flag was given followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting held on June 15, 2004 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Mike Quayle, 1700 Mildred Avenue, Marquette, expressed concern regarding two agenda items. 10d) Committee of the Whole Recommendation regarding the Proposed Reserve Policy for Sawyer International Airport and 10c) Committee of the Whole Recommendation regarding Rental Concession and Lease Agreements at Sawyer International Airport.

Vikki Kulju, Telkite, Inc., requested to update Commissioners regarding the Telkite progress.

Patty Stevens, Stevens Realty and Consulting, requested to speak regarding Action Item 10g) Sale of Building 501 to Telkite.

Sharon Dunn, Thrifty Car Rental, 225 Airport Road, Gwinn, spoke regarding negotiations with the Rental Concession and Lease Agreements at Sawyer International Airport and Business Center.

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

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period June 18, 2004 through July 1, 2004 in the amount of \$675,480.53 and bi-weekly payroll for the period ending June 19, 2004 in the amount of \$583,088.84 be approved.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the addition of Privileged Comment: Telkite Update.

PRIVILEGED COMMENT

Vikki Kulju, Executive Director, Telkite, Inc., addressed the County Board and introduced members of USA Funding, B-3 Computers, and Telkite, Inc. Ms. Kulju explained that Telkite has entered into a Purchase Agreement with B-3 Computers for the sale of the Sage Building to B-3 Computers. B-3 Computers has received a Letter of Intent from Business Loan Express to finance the purchase. She explained the lender has visited the building, met with B-3, and toured Marquette County. The appraisal and environmental reports have been ordered. USA Funding anticipates closing to occur by the second week in August. Telkite is requesting that an Assignment of Proceeds Agreement be entered into between the County and Telkite. This Agreement would become part of the B-3 closing documents. At time of closing, \$1 million would be distributed directly from the lender to the County. Ms. Kulju also explained that Telkite has spent \$500,000 in salaries, contractors, Sage Building operations and utilities, prospect travel, and marketing.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Board direct Staff to review all information from Telkite and report back to the Committee of the Whole meeting on July 13, 2004.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Coyne, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following informational items be accepted and placed on file:

- a. Community Forestry Grant Applications Available.
- b. Marquette County's National Night Out.
- c. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division's Pending New Source Review Application Report.
- d. Communication from Lake Superior Community Partnership regarding Free Interactive Television Workshop Entitled, "Gateway Communities: Keys to Success."
- e. Communication from Congressman Bart Stupak regarding HR3743, the "Rural Transportation Act."

ACTION ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Action Items 10a, 10b, 10c, 10e, 10f, and 10h be approved as follows:

10a) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Agreement with the City of Marquette to provide assessing services by Dwight Sunday, Equalization Director.

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation that the County Board thank and support the Courthouse Centennial Committee for the work they are planning in honor of the Courthouse Centennial Celebration.

10c) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to direct Staff to renegotiate with the car rental agencies at Sawyer International Airport and Business Center to come up with a proposal that is more gradual in implementation.

10e) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the submission of the Community Corrections 2005 Grant Application in the amount of \$129,637.

10f) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Purchase and Sale Agreement and Bill of Sale with the Upper Peninsula Association for Rural Health Service, Inc. for the sale of dental equipment in the amount of \$21,376.

10h) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to accept SBC Ameritech's \$245,000 purchase offer and authorize Staff to finalize the sale.

ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED

10d) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole Recommendation regarding a proposed Reserves Policy for sale proceeds and Sawyer International Airport and Business Center. The recommended policy establishes a reserve fund, similar to the County's Budget Stabilization Fund. Sale proceeds will be placed in the fund and used for the purposes listed in the policy. The policy's purpose is to maintain a protected source of funding for the Airport. Future sales proceeds will be placed in the fund.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the proposed Reserve Policy for Sawyer International Airport with the addition of *with County Board approval* as follows:

(Amend County Policy 224)

RESERVE POLICY – SAWYER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The County of Marquette will maintain an Airport Stabilization fund. Proceeds received for the sale of property at Sawyer will be placed in the fund and will be restricted for the following purposes, in order of priority:

- 1. Funding any deficit in the Airport Operating Fund with County Board approval;*
- 2. Capital expenditures for properties located within the ALP;*
- 3. Establishment of an initial capital reserve of \$100,000 for County owned water and sanitary sewer system at Sawyer.*

In addition to sales proceeds, the fund may also be maintained through transfers of development revenues.

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10g) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the sale of Building 501 to Telkite, Inc. for \$109,000.

Patty Stevens, Stevens Realty and Consulting, 1305 N. Vandenoorn, Marquette, addressed Commissioners stating she read the article in the Mining Journal regarding the sale of Building 501 to Telkite. She feels the County Board should wait before making a decision due to the fact that the financing and appraisal documents are not ready. She also explained that one of her clients had a meeting with some of the people at Sawyer looking at the same building. She also explained there is another building similar to Building 501 which needs no approval from the County Board. She stated that Telkite is welcome to bid on that property as well.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained he was updated by Vikki Kulju, Executive Director of Telkite, that the sale of Building 501 which was anticipated will not occur.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole Recommendation be placed on file.

10i) The County Board considered a MERS Resolution. John Greenberg, Human Resources/Risk Manager, explained that at a recent MERS Regional Meeting in Marquette it was strongly suggested by the

MERS Client Support Staff that employers adopt a formal resolution defining service credit calculations for employees who move from a part-time to a full-time position. Under the current formula for calculating defined benefit monthly pension amounts an employee moving from part-time to full-time is given credit for service time as if he/she had worked full-time throughout their county career, with the county funding the windfall. With this resolution, the formula would prorate the part-time service credit into the equivalent full-time months or years.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board adopt the following MERS Resolution:

*UNIFORM RESOLUTION DEFINING HOURS PER MONTH FOR PART-TIME
EMPLOYEES AND SERVICE CREDIT CONVERSION UPON
PROMOTION TO FULL-TIME STATUS
(Approved by Retirement Board on September 30, 2003)*

1. *In accordance with Section 3(1) and 4(6) of the MERS Plan Document, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Marquette does hereby certify that all part-time employees working at least 80 hours each month shall accrue one (1)-month's MERS service credit for each month worked. Full-time employees work 160 hours per month.*
2. *Upon promotion from part-time to full-time employment, all part-time service credit shall be converted to full-time service at the ration that of part-time hours to full-time work hours. For example, where part-time service is defined as 80-hours per month, and full-time as 160 hours per month, then upon promotion to full-time, all part-time service is credited at the ration of 80/160, or 50% (each 2 years part-time converted into 1 full-time year). Under this Resolution, all months and years of part-time service shall be credited at the full-time equivalent based on the employee's actual part-time service hours that are specified in Section 1.*
3. *Vesting and retirement eligibility shall be based on date of original hire without adjustment for conversion.*
4. *Upon promotion of an employee occurring after adoption of this Resolution, it is understood and agreed that it is the responsibility of this participating municipality to advise MERS. Vesting shall be deemed satisfied based on date of original hire.*
5. *At the time of any promotion to full-time, each part-time employee that is subject to this Resolution, shall be advised by the employer of this Resolution and its effect upon the employee's accrued benefits.*
6. *This Resolution has MERS-wide application, and it is expressly agreed and understood that MERS will not administer or recognize any alteration or modification of its language or terms.*

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a Resolution adopted at the meeting of the governing body held on July 6, 2004.

*Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

10j) The County Board considered a request from the American Indian Coordinating Council for Big Bay Pow Wow. The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is providing 2% funds for a Pow Wow in Big Bay. The American Indian Coordinating Council has agreed to accept the funds on behalf of the Pow Wow organizing committee. The Committee and Council need a local government to accept the funds (Powell Township declined). The Board of Commissioners may choose to accept 2% revenues for services, programs, and purposes that counties are legally able to fund. Civil Counsel has reviewed the proposed use and determined the County may fund activities or projects that advance the historical interest of the County. The Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians is not required to distribute casino revenues in Marquette County. The Board of Commissioners can choose how the 2% funds will be spent, but a future consequence of such a decision would likely be less funding from the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. The Tribal Council has chosen to use 2% funds to help support community services and programs in Marquette County.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the request from the American Indian Coordinating Council for the Big Bay Pow Wow and authorize agreement.

10k) The County Board considered the Perkins Park Boat Concession Agreement. The Perkins Park Boat Concession Agreement is between Big Bay Outfitters and Marquette County for the Outfitters to keep a rental boat on the shoreline at Perkins Park. Kim Bourgois, Perkins Park Manager, was present and explained that she has made the necessary determinations required in the Park Concession Policy. The Big Bay Outfitters main office is located in Big Bay and they operate the rental business from there. To date, no other business has requested space for commercial rentals. The Agreement will make camping more attractive at the Park by providing a service many campers take advantage of. It will also provide for additional revenue generation at the Park.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Perkins Park Boat Concession Agreement.

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steve Powers, County Administrator, announced that the Courthouse Centennial Float received the Best Overall Float in the Fourth of July Parade and will be entered again in the Negaunee Pioneer Day Parade.

There being no further business to come before the County Board the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie M. Branam
Marquette County Clerk