

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 5, 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. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Coyne, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Nordeen, Comm. Tuominen, Comm. Wallace and Comm. Corkin. Absent: None

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

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting held on September 21, 2004 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Bob Struck, Director, U.P. EMS, gave a brief report on the Annual U.P. EMS Conference held September 30 through October 3, 2004. He thanked Comm. Wallace and Theresa Schwalbach, Emergency Services Director, for attending.

Vikki Kulju, Executive Director, and Partners of Telkite, Inc. were present and presented the County Board with a check for \$1 million. They invited Chairperson Corkin on behalf of the Board of Commissioners to accept the check. Telkite, Inc. is very excited about the future of Telkite Technology Park. Ms. Kulju on behalf of Telkite, Inc. thanked the County Board for their hard work over the past several years, their commitment to the project, and the vision to not only move the County Airport, but other major decisions that have been made over the past seven years.

Jeff Paul, Range Telecommunications, requested to address Item 10g) Central Dispatch Radio System Reconfiguration Project.

Joe Pietro, Gwinn, Michigan, commended the County Board for their tolerance in waiting for the Telkite payment.

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

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period September 24, 2004 through September 30, 2004 in the amount of \$185,984.41 and bi-weekly payroll for the period ending October 1, 2004 in the amount of \$551,661.75 be approved.

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

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

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

- a. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Air Quality Division's Pending New Source Review Application Report.
- b. Announcement regarding West Branch Township Community Center Grand Opening.
- c. Thank You from Greg Seppanen, Chocolay Township Supervisor, for the Opportunity to be Involved in the Review of Any Development of the Honor Camp Property in Sands Township.
- d. Communication regarding School Inspection Authority.
- e. Invitation to Join the Blues' Walk with Hall of Fame Broadcaster Ernie Harwell.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

It was moved by Comm. Nordeen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Action Item 10a, 10b, 10c, 10d, 10e, and 10f be approved as follows:

10a) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to award the Printer Bid for the new Tax Administration System to Precision Data Products in an amount not to exceed \$26,500.

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the implementation of the 3-year Rental Car Fee Increases and approve the \$1.50 per contract, per day, Airport Facility fee to help offset the increase for Thrifty Car Rental.

10c) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to award the Janitorial Services Bid for the TSA Building 731 to SCI Cleaning & Maintenance in the amount of \$195/week or \$10,140 annually beginning November 1, 2004 provided all insurance certificates meet County requirements.

10d) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the 2005 Medical Support Enforcement Agreement and authorize execution by the Board Chair.

10e) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Partial Discharge of Mortgage from Tammy Barry and authorize the Board Chair to sign the appropriate documents.

10f) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Little Lake Tower Lease between Anderson Rentals and the County of Marquette.

**ACTION ITEMS (cont.)**

10g) It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, to approve a Committee of the Whole Recommendation to award the Central Dispatch Radio System Reconfiguration Project to All Around Tower Services, Inc., Hudsonville, Michigan, in the amount of \$50,905.52.

Jeff Paul, Range Telecommunications, was present and addressed the County Board. He explained that there was a misunderstanding regarding the insurance provision. Their insurance provider sent a memo meant to outline certain questions they had with the insurance provision. Their insurance agent, Iron Range Agency, assured Range Telecommunications that they would be able to meet the County requirement. Range Telecommunications is asking the County Board to reconsider their proposal in its original form saving the County over \$7,000.

Comm. Nordeen questioned whether or not Range now meets the requirement?

Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that Range does comply as of the October 4<sup>th</sup> letter.

Joe Van Oosterhout, Central Dispatch Manager, stated that when the Committee reviewed the bids they checked the Range bid and contacted Steve Powers and Harley Andrews who stated it was a significant departure from the RFQ. Mr. Van Oosterhout further stated he does not recommend re-bidding the project.

Comm. Joseph withdrew his motion.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that on September 17, 2004 proposals for the project were due with vendors having until September 21<sup>st</sup> to provide any additional information requested by a review committee. On September 16<sup>th</sup> Range Telecommunications notified the County that it was unable to meet the insurance specification. On September 28<sup>th</sup>, the Committee of the Whole recommended that the contract be awarded to All Around Towers (whose proposal met the insurance requirement) as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. On October 4<sup>th</sup>, the Iron Range Agency notified the County that Range Telecommunications had understood the insurance requirement and that that the insurance requirement could in fact be met by Range.

The Central Dispatch Committee met on September 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> to review the proposals. The Committee did not review the Range bid in detail due to Civil Counsel's advise that the bid was defective based on the insurance issue. The consultant has since looked at the bid and has noted a potential conflict with State equipment specification in Range's bid.

The Committee of the Whole's recommendation to award the Radio System Reconfiguration work to All Around Tower Services meets County policy. All Around Tower Services is the lowest responsive and responsible bid.

Mr. Powers further explained that Commissioners can choose to reject the insurance specification or consider Range's insurance to be a minor irregularity. He explained that Staff recommends the County Board do neither. The insurance specification is an essential safeguard of the County's financial resources. If the failure of Range to meet the insurance specification when the bids and follow-up information were due is considered a minor irregularity, Staff believes the same questions should be considered for Anderson Communication's bid.

Anderson Communications misunderstood an equipment specification in the Request for Proposals. When this discrepancy was brought to Anderson's attention, and the information corrected before the deadline, Anderson's revised bid remained the low bid. If Range Telecommunications is given an opportunity to correct a misunderstanding and become responsive after the bid deadline, the same opportunity should be given to Anderson Communications.

After a lengthy discussion, Comm. Arsenault suggested an Ad Hoc Committee be appointed to again review the bids to ensure that everyone is treated fairly.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Tuominen and carried on a roll call vote 6 Ayes (Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Nordeen, Comm. Tuominen, and Comm. Corkin) to 3 Nays (Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Coyne, and Comm. Wallace) that the County Board appoint an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of two Commissioners, Mr. Gravedoni, Chair of the Dispatch Policy Board, and Joe Van Oosterhout, Central Dispatch Manager, to review the bids once again and bring a recommendation back to the next meeting.

Harley Andrews, Chief Civil Counsel, stated that the Ad Hoc Committee should pay special attention to the insurance requirement.

10h) The County Board considered a Michigan Community Service Commission Grant between the State of Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth and the Central U.P. (Marquette County) Citizen Corps Council.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the Grant between the Department of Labor and Economic Growth and Marquette County for the Citizen Corps Council.

10i) The County Board considered the Fuel Farm Expansion Contract Award. Hal Pawley, Director, Sawyer International Airport and Business Center, explained that the FY 2003 MAP Grant included funding for expansion of the Aviation Fuel Farm with the addition of two 20,000 gallon jet fuel storage tanks. Bids were opened for the Project on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Two bids were received. The Consultant, URS, recommends contract award to the low bidder, Sparling Corp., in the amount of \$505,680. The Michigan Bureau of Aeronautics Project Engineer concurs with the recommended contract award. There is approximately \$750,000 remaining in the MAP Grant, so there is adequate funding available to award the contract. The 10% local share is budgeted for payment from sales proceeds of the former Marquette County Airport.

It was moved by Comm. Coyne, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board award the Fuel Farm Expansion Project to the low bidder, Sparling Corp., in the amount of \$505,680 and authorize the Board Chair to sign.

10j) Harley Andrews, Chief Civil Counsel, updated Commissioners regarding the West Branch Township Full Faith and Credit Issue. Mr. Andrews explained that West Branch Township did indeed make contact with an Attorney in Grand Rapids who is experienced in municipal financing. As a result, he has prepared documentation and is in the process as to how to pledge the Full Faith and Credit for the payment of the proposed IRP Loan. The West Branch Township Board met in Special Session on Monday and approved a Resolution which does meet the Full Faith and Credit requirement that was imposed on the loan. Additional documentation which needs to be done should be in place within the next week or so.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board direct Staff to proceed as recommended by Mr. Andrews.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

David Savolainen, President, Range Telecommunications, and David Savolainen Jr., addressed the County Board regarding comments made during the discussion on the Central Dispatch Radio System Reconfiguration Project Bids.

Doreen Takalo, West Branch Township Clerk, thanked the County Board on behalf of West Branch Township for their efforts regarding the Fitness Center.

Fred Anderson and Pete Milakovich, Anderson Communications, addressed the County Board regarding the Central Dispatch Radio System Reconfiguration Project Bids.

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

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairperson Corkin stated that Central Dispatch has great people. He explained that no one is favoring any vendor but looking into the issues.

Comm. Nordeen commented regarding the Central Dispatch Tower bids. He stated that over time many things change. Marquette County has great companies and feels local companies should be used whenever possible.

Comm. Coyne wished West Branch Township much success with the Fitness Center. She stated that it is great for their community.

Comm. Arsenault spoke in defense of comments made regarding Mr. Van Oosterhout, Central Dispatch Manager.

Comm. Cihak announced that October is Domestic Violence Awareness month.

Comm. Joseph requested the snowplowing issue at Sawyer be placed on an upcoming agenda.

Comm. Wallace announced that the closure on the sale of the Pathways Building, Phase II of the Telkite Agreement, and the West Branch Township Fitness Center accomplishments are good news for Marquette County.

There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie M. Branam  
Marquette County Clerk