

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, April 13, 2004, 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. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Coyne, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Nordeen, Comm. Tuominen, Comm. Wallace, and Chairperson Corkin. Absent: None.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on March 23, 2004 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Mike Quayle, 1700 Mildred Avenue, Marquette, addressed the Committee with several points regarding the Ishpeming District Court.

Debbie Pellow, Tilden Township Supervisor, commented on Comm. Tuominen's remarks regarding the Marquette County Road Commission Task Force Report.

Bill Birch, 455 E. Ridge Street, Marquette, spoke in support of Option IV and the tough decision to be made regarding the Ishpeming District Court.

Gary P. Nelson, Ishpeming City Mayor, spoke in support of continuing a full service Ishpeming District Court.

Carol Pelkola, Cherry Creek Road, Marquette, addressed the Committee regarding the Marquette County Road Commission.

Angelo Bosio, Ishpeming City Councilman, spoke in support of the Ishpeming District Court in the West end.

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

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the addition of: Item 12) Jail/Annex Water Mixing Valve Change Order; Item 13) Training Grant with MDOT-Bureau of Aeronautics; and Item 14 Help America Vote Act Grant Application Authorization.

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period April 2, 2004 through April 8, 2004 in the amount of \$358,858.07 be approved.

The Committee considered a proposed Marquette County Ordinance to allow off road vehicles (ORV) use of County Road rights-of-way (ROW). The County-wide ORV Ordinance was approved and submitted by the Marquette County Townships Association.

Tom Myers, UP North Country ATV Riders Association, was present and addressed the County Board in support of the ORV Ordinance.

Commissioners along with Jim Iwanicki, Marquette County Road Commission, Doreen Takalo, West Branch Township Clerk, Debbie Pellow, Tilden Township Supervisor, and Paul Argall, engaged in a discussion regarding the ordinance.

Paul Argall, UP North Country ATV Riders Association, stated that the Marquette County Visitors and Convention Bureau will provide the maps that indicate all roads that are designated for ORV use.

Debbie Pellow, Marquette County Townships Association, stated no signage would be required. She stated that the townships with ORV ordinances would rescind the ordinances.

Civil Counsel Harley Andrews noted he has provided in writing to the Board the reasons why he believes the County should not adopt an ORV ordinance, but indicated that if the Board does intend to adopt an ordinance, he would like to meet with the group to suggest some editorial changes to the text.

Comm. Coyne suggested the County not hurry the decision, perhaps those who wrote the ordinance discuss with Civil Counsel the suggested editorial changes to the text.

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It was moved by Comm. Nordeen, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and carried on a roll call vote 8 Ayes to 1 Nay (Comm. Coyne) that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board accept the ORV Ordinance as written and consider language changes as recommended by Civil Counsel.

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The Committee of the Whole discussed the Ishpeming District Court. Judge Dennis Girard and Court Administrator, Jennifer Bennon, were present to discuss and answer questions. Judge Girard explained that the Judges are in support of a full-service court in Ishpeming. They are in favor of a reduced in size facility to save money, but not a reduced in service facility. Judge Girard pointed out that if the County Board commits to have a court in Ishpeming, they must also commit to the funding. Another concern they have is court security.

Chairperson Corkin read the following letters into the record in favor of a full service court in Ishpeming:

April 12, 2004

*Gerald O. Corkin
108 Woodland
Negaunee, MI 49866*

RE: Ishpeming Area District Court

Dear Mr. Corkin:

Please accept this letter from the Ishpeming Township Board showing our support in keeping the Ishpeming Area District Court operating in the capacity that it is now.

*Sincerely,
James Nankervis
Ishpeming Township Supervisor*

April 12, 2004

*Marquette County Board of Commissioners
County Courthouse
Marquette, MI 49855*

ATT: Ken Tuominen

Dear Mr. Tuominen:

Ely Township is in favor of Marquette County continuing to operate the District Court in Ishpeming. It has functioned in Ishpeming for decades and should continue. Moving the District Court to Marquette would add to travel time for Western Marquette County residents and cause more parking congestion around the Marquette County Courthouse as parking is already limited.

Please consider continuing to operate the District Court in Ishpeming.

Thank you.

*Sincerely,
Ted A. Pepin
Supervisor*

April 13, 2004

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MEMO FOR: Mr. Gerald Corkin, Chairman
Marquette County Board

Dear Mr. Corkin: I am unable to attend the meeting of the Marquette County Board, but wish to express my personal feelings regarding the Ishpeming District Court.

It has been stated that jury pools are drawn from throughout Marquette County, not just the West End, thereby implying this should justify moving to Marquette. I believe this would support the fact since Ishpeming is located more centrally and therefore would be the logical selection.

If we want to promote the growth for the West End, which we do, then we should support the services, which are established, and not reduce them. The minimal savings, if any, will not provide enough funds for other services and relocation in fact may be a greater burden to the taxpayers.

The economy of a city such as Ishpeming benefits from those services it provides to the surrounding communities. Taking away this service will only result in an economical loss to the West End.

Sincerely,
William W. Carlson

Commissioners and staff engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding the various options, security, and funding.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Tuominen and carried on a roll call vote 5 Ayes to 4 Nays (Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Coyne, and Comm. Nordeen) that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board extend the lease with Pioneer Square LC. to 12-31-05 with the same terms and conditions as the current lease.

The Committee of the Whole considered the new EAG (formerly Emergency Operations Plan). Teresa Schwalbach, County Emergency Management Coordinator, was present and explained that as a result of the FY 2002 State Supplemental Planning Grant obtained from the State of Michigan, Marquette County was able to update their Emergency Operations Plan to a new checklist format and called Emergency Action Guidelines. This new format is currently being implemented by Emergency Management Programs all over the State. Checklist format gives the representatives responsible for their particular annex, a better understanding of what needs to be completed and guides them through the process.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the new EAG (formerly Emergency Operations Plan).

The Committee of the Whole discussed a truck purchase for the Building Codes Department. On April 5, 2004 bids were opened for the purchase of one new 2004, 4x4 Pickup Truck, which will replace a two-wheel drive pickup truck that will be traded in for the new truck. The Building Code Department received bids from four local dealerships. The Building Code Department had budgeted \$14,000 for one new vehicle in 2004. Mr. Sicotte recommends the County award the low bid of \$12,143 to Frei Chevrolet for the purchase of the 4x4 Pickup Truck which came in at \$1,875 under budget. The new vehicle will enable the Code Department to continue to improve the services to the customers by allowing the inspectors to access the construction sites with a vehicle rather than walking into the sites. The new 4x4 will help in reducing the length of time for each inspection by helping to reduce the turnaround time for inspections.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board accept Frei Chevrolet's \$12,143 bid for the four-wheel drive Colorado Pickup Truck, including a \$2,800 trade-in for the 1999 Ford Ranger Pickup Truck.

The Committee of the Whole considered a recommendation from Hal Pawley, SIABC Director, for Contract Award, Hangar Improvements. The FY 2003 MAP Grant received included \$785,700 of federal funding for improvements to hangars 423, 424, and 425. These hangars are leased to Boreal Aviation, and are used for storage of general aviation and Federal Express aircraft. The grant funding is for installation of

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exterior insulated panels, replacement of leaking roof on one hangar, and other miscellaneous improvements. Bid opening for this project was April 8, 2004. Mr. Pawley recommends award of the Construction Contract to the low bidder, Premeau Construction, in the amount of \$293,780. The available grant funding is more than adequate to cover the 90% federal share of this project. There is a 10% local share budgeted for payment from the sale proceeds of the former Marquette County Airport.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board award the Construction Contract for improvements to Hangars 423, 424, and 425 to the low bidder, Premeau Construction, in the amount of \$293,780 and authorize the Chair to sign the Contract Agreement.

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The Committee of the Whole considered a recommendation from Hal Pawley, SIABC Director, regarding Contract Award, Demolition of Hangar 668. The FY 2003 MAP Grant received included \$136,800 of federal funding for demolition of hangar 668. The poor structural condition of this building precludes use of it, and it is not economically repairable. Removal will allow the control tower to observe the aircraft operations on the general aviation ramp. Bids were opened for this project on April 8, 2004. Mr. Pawley recommends award of the construction contract to the low bidder, Associated Constructors, in the amount of \$89,000. The available grant funding is more than adequate to cover the 90% federal share of this project. The 10% local share is budgeted for payment from the sale proceeds of the former Marquette County Airport.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the award of the Construction Contract for Demolition of Hangar 668 to the low bidder Associated Constructors in the amount of \$89,000 and authorize the Chair to sign the Contract Agreement.

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The Committee of the Whole considered a recommendation from Hal Pawley, SIABC Director, for contract award, Site Work for ARFF/SRE Building. The FY 2003 AIP Discretionary Grant received was for \$5,109,917 of federal funding for construction of an Aircraft Rescue Firefighting and Snow Removal Equipment Building. Phase I of this project is for construction of the access road and utilities to the building, and site work for the building site. The estimated cost of the Phase I work is \$950,000. Bids for this project were opened April 8, 2004. Mr. Pawley recommends award of the Construction Contract to the low bidder, Associated Constructors, in the amount of \$798,400. The available grant funding is more than adequate to cover the 90% federal share of this project. The 10% local share amount will be paid from Passenger Facility Charges the County is authorized to collect.

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 award of the Construction Contract for Site Work for ARFF/SRE Building to the low bidder Associated Constructors in the amount of \$798,400 and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Notice of Award and Contract Agreement.

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The Committee of the Whole considered Vehicle Purchase for Central Dispatch/Emergency Management. Teresa Schwalbach, County Emergency Management Coordinator and Joseph Van Oosterhout, Central Dispatch Manager, were present to discuss the vehicle expenses. They explained the lease for the 2001 Ford Expedition that is used by Central Dispatch and Emergency Management is up April 26, 2004. As a result, there were two options that could take place. 1) Turn the vehicle in and lease a new one, or 2) Purchase the vehicle at the end of the lease.

The purchase is not budgeted. However, funds are available from Central Dispatch wireless funds, (\$4,137), funds budgeted for vehicle lease (\$3,617), and from a vehicle replacement reserve (\$4,604).

The vehicle has been shared by Central Dispatch and Emergency Management since the programs were consolidated, and the lease cost has been shared equally. The recommended purchase will be funded one-half by Central Dispatch and one-half by Emergency Management.

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It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Coyne, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board buy out the lease for the 2001 Ford Expedition for Central Dispatch/Emergency Management in the amount of \$12,358.

The Committee of the Whole discussed Jail/Annex Water Mixing Valve – Change Order. Larry Gould, Facilities Manager, explained that in the process of reviewing shop drawings, it was noted that due to changes in standards, the manufacturers of the heaters can only supply water at or above 140 degrees. This will necessitate the addition of the mixing valve on the hot water line. This will allow the Facilities Department to supply the required 110 degree water. The contractor (Dressler Mechanical, Inc.) had supplied a price quote of \$2,420 for the valve, piping, labor, and installation. Since the change order would be \$230 more than the 5 percent (\$2,190) allowed for the authorization, Mr. Gould recommends that the County Board review and authorize the change order. Funds are budgeted in the Capital Improvement Fund for this project.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Jail/Annex Water Mixing Valve Change Order in the amount of \$2,420.

The Committee of the Whole considered Training Grant with MDOT/Bureau of Aeronautics. To maintain certification compliance, the Federal Aviation Administration requires that personnel assigned to fire departments at airports with commercial airline service comply with Federal Aviation Regulation 139.319(j)(3) for an annual live fire burn. MDOT contracts with Kellogg Community College for the use of Mobile Fire Training Unit (Trailer) that is transported to airports all over the State to allow personnel to experience a semi-realistic experience for combating aircraft fires. As in past years, staff will invite fire departments from the surrounding Townships to participate in the training of with Sawyer ARFF (fire) personnel. For 2004, Sawyer will act as the host airport and will have fire personnel from the Houghton/Hancock, Iron Mountain/Kingsford, and the Ironwood Airports participating over a two-day period.

The MDOT Grant provides approximately \$4,000, not including the sponsor match which is approximately \$500 and the cost of the supplies (propane gas) estimated at approximately \$500.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Coyne, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Agreement with MDOT for the firefighting training.

The Committee discussed a request from County Clerk, Connie M. Branam, for authority to sign a Grant Application regarding HAVA funding. Ms. Branam explained that in order to meet a May 2, 2004 statutory deadline for initiating new voting equipment purchases in 2004, the Grant Application must be returned to the Department of State’s Bureau of Elections by Friday, April 23, 2004. In order to submit the Grant, Ms. Branam must have the proper authority from the Board of Commissioners to do so.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Joseph and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board authorize the Chairperson to sign the Proof of Authority authorizing Connie M. Branam, Marquette County Clerk, to execute the Grant Application.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Mike Quayle, 1700 Mildred Avenue, Marquette, addressed the Committee regarding the Ishpeming District Court.

Bill LaBelle, President, AFSCME Union, Marquette County Road Commission, addressed the Committee of the Whole regarding the Marquette County Road Commission.

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Tuominen had questions for Bill LaBelle, regarding the Marquette County Road Commission.

Comm. Nordeen announced that in the USA Today Marquette County has been chosen as one of America's Most Livable Communities. The official presentation of the "America's Most Livable Communities" Award will take place at the National Press Club on Tuesday, April 20, 2004, in Washington D.C.

There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole the meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie M. Branam
Marquette County Clerk