

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, October 25, 2005, at 6:30 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. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Pellow, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace, and Chairperson Corkin. Absent: None.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Pellow, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on October 11, 2005 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Dr. Elmer Mosio and Ann Constance, on behalf of UPDON (Upper Peninsula Diabetes Outreach Network), recognized the County Board for their position on reducing the threat of second hand smoke in all work and public facilities in Marquette County. Dr. Mosio explained they are very pleased to know this will lead to a better life style for those who don't smoke but do through second hand smoke.

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

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Agenda be approved with the addition of Item 9) License Agreement Between Marquette County and the 550 Snowmobile Club.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period October 14, 2005 through October 20, 2005 in the amount of \$1,202,286.00 be approved.

The Committee considered a Telkite Marketing Update.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Pellow, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board place the written report on file and reschedule the update when a Telkite representative could be present.

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The Committee of considered a memo from Kim Bourgeois, Park Manager/Harbor Master, regarding proposed Big Bay Harbor of Refuge Regulations and Fees for 2006. The State Waterways Commission set transient and seasonal mooring rates at the harbor. The County normally accepts the State transient rates but, in the past, Marquette County has made a request to the State Waterways Commission for permission for a reduction in the fees for seasonal mooring at the Big Bay Harbor in order to attract seasonal boaters to the marina. It is Staff's opinion that the distance to Big Bay and available amenities reduce the ability to demand State rates for slips at the Harbor. Therefore, Staff recommends the County adopt the State transient

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rates and request to the State that our seasonal rates be set at a rate 2.5% above our 2005 seasonal rate to coincide with the State’s 2.5% increase. All other fees will remain the same as to 2005 rates.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt the Big Bay Harbor of Refuge Regulations and Fees for 2006 as presented.

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The Committee considered Third-Quarter Budget Amendments prepared by Sue Vercoe, Finance Manager. Ms. Vercoe presented Budget Amendments #42-#52. She explained that all Departments were requested to review their revenues and expenditures as of September 30, 2005. Those recommendations were prepared based on requests and information from the Departments and review of the September budget reports.

#42 – General Fund The General Fund revenue is increased by \$212,632. The majority of this increase is a result of the Domestic Violence Grant, the Grant is a 2-year award, and the 2005 portion of the grant is \$163,271. Other revenue increases include the Federal Hazard Mitigation Grant and State Grant for Orthophotography. Real Estate Transfer Tax revenue is expected to increase by \$40,000.

On the expenditure side, the part-time and over-time line items for the jail have been increased by \$41,000 as a result of new training requirements mandated by the State, extended medical and maternity leaves, and staff turnover. Expenditure increases exceed revenue increases by \$39,586. This amount will reduce the contingency line item to \$117,963. 2005 started with a contingency balance of \$160,000. The contingency account is established to cover unanticipated expenditures or reductions to revenue. Over the past five years, the average use of the contingency account has averaged \$115,000 annually.

Ms. Vercoe further explained that Friend of the Court, Probate Child Chare, and DHS Child Care are all operating within their budgeted appropriation at this time.

She also explained #43 – Airport Fund; #44 – Water and Sewer Fund; #45 – Airport Stabilization Fund; #46/#47 – Health Department/Service Center Fund; #48 – R.O.D. Automation Fund; #49 – PA 511 Community Corrections; #50 – M.C.T.V. Fund; #51 – Community Development; and #52 – Commission on Aging.

Chairperson Corkin commended Staff for an excellent job with the 2005 Budget.

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 Third-Quarter Budget Amendments #42-#52 as presented by Sue Vercoe, Finance Manager.

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The Committee considered a License Agreement between the County of Marquette and the 550 Snowmobile Club. Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that the County is presently the owner of real estate located in the Township of Powell, County of Marquette, State of Michigan, over which the 550 Snowmobile Club has operated and maintained snowmobile trails for the use of the public, under contract with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The 550 Snowmobile Club wishes to continue this

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activity, and the County is willing to allow the continued use of the land for this purpose, subject to terms and conditions. The Contract would be effective November 1, 2005 and continue to June 1, 2006, unless sooner terminated pursuant to the terms.

Mr. Powers further explained that the License Agreement with the County of Marquette and the 550 Snowmobile Club has been done in the past. The Agreement has been reviewed by Civil Counsel and Risk Management.

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 License Agreement between the County of Marquette and the 550 Snowmobile Club.

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Pellow questioned putting the Ishpeming District Court security issue and the Humane Society Draft Contract on a future agenda.

Comm. Heikkila announced that the Commission on Aging met today. He explained that the Commission on Aging has decided to prioritize services. They will set a budget that will hopefully be agreeable to everyone. Comm. Heikkila explained that a motion was made and passed to have a third party do an evaluation of the Senior Center and the Commission on Aging to provide the services in a more effective way. He suggested a meeting between himself, Chairperson Corkin, and Administrator Powers to discuss a possible third party.

Comm. Wallace announced the immunization clinic that was held at the Dome and coordinated by the Marquette County Health Department went very well, there seemed to be a steady stream of traffic.

Comm. Struck updated Commissioners regarding his trip to the Dominican Republic working on community development projects. He explained that upon returning home he has a different perspective and appreciates the cooperation with Commissioners and Staff.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, distributed a memo in Commissioners' mailboxes regarding a License Agreement with the U.S. Army for a building at Sawyer.

Chairperson Corkin read a memo received from the City of Ishpeming regarding a Public Hearing for Exemption of New Personal Property Taxes and Application for Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate. The Public Hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, October 26, 2005 at 4:00 P.M. in the meeting room of the Ishpeming City Hall.

There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie M. Branam
Marquette County Clerk