

Minutes are Subject to Correction and Approval

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, February 28, 2006, 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. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Pellow, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace and Chairperson Corkin. Absent and excused: Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Cihak.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and unanimously carried by voice that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on February 15, 2006 be approved.

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

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 13) Airport Capital Projects.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Struck, and carried by voice vote 5 Ayes to 1 Abstention (Comm. Joseph) that Claims and Accounts for the period February 18, 2006 through February 24, 2006 in the amount of \$159,807.96, including check no. 71231 in the amount of \$150.00 made payable to Joseph's, Affidavit of Disclosure be approved, as follows:

AFFIDAVIT OF DISCLOSURE

PURSUANT TO MCL 15.323(2)(a)

COUNTY OF MARQUETTE)
)SS
STATE OF MICHIGAN)

Nick Joseph, a Marquette County Commissioner, being duly sworn, hereby submits this Affidavit pursuant to the provisions of MCL 15.323(2)(a):

1. The Final Disbursement List submitted for approval at this February 28, 2006, meeting of the County Board of Commissioners Committee of the Whole includes Check No. 71231, dated February 24, 2006, payable to Joseph's in the amount of \$150.00, in payment for Soldiers and Sailors Relief for Veterans;
2. I hereby disclose that I have a personal financial interest in Joseph's Foodland, Inc., d/b/a Joseph's Super Value, which is as follows:

Sole Shareholder

3. I hereby certify that any direct benefit I personally will receive from this payment to Joseph's will be less than \$250.00, and will be less than 5% of the total payment of \$150.00.

Dated this 28th day of February, 2006.

/S/

Nick Joseph

Linda Rossberg, Cooperative Extension Director, introduced Nichole Dewald, 4-H Coordinator. Ms. Rossberg explained that Ms. Dewald is a MSU Board appointment.

Nicole Dewald, 4-H Coordinator, addressed Commissioners as the new Marquette County MSU Extension Educator. Ms. Dewald highlighted her background and stated she is looking forward to her new position. On behalf of the Upper Peninsula 4-H Staff, she invited Commissioners to their Annual U.P. Leadermete Banquet. She explained the banquet is held to honor U.P. 4-H Leaders and teens for their outstanding work as volunteers and members of 4-H in the Upper Peninsula. The U.P. Leadermete Banquet will take place on Saturday, April 8, 2006 at 1:00 P.M. in the Dining Hall at Bay Cliff Health Camp in Big Bay, Michigan. She also distributed a handout regarding a Junior Citizen Program Planner which informs tomorrows citizen planners.

Chairperson Corkin welcomed Nicole Dewald and along with Comm. Struck commended her on her excellent background in community involvement and 4-H participation.

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The Committee considered a request from Josh Krimston, Firefighter/Paramedic, Director of Operations, EPIC Medics for a Proclamation from Marquette County to Gary Gustafson, Paramedic and Nurse from Marquette County. Mr. Gustafson is the winner of a EPIC Medic's award. The Proclamation is regarding unintentional injuries that are the leading cause of death for children in the United States. These deaths are not only predictable, they are completely preventable. EPIC Medics, a non-profit organization comprised of firefighter and paramedics dedicated to reducing these tragedies from occurring, has created the Nicholas Rosecrans Award for Excellence in Injury Prevention. This National Award is presented each year at the EMS Today Conference and Exposition. Mr. Gustafson is being honored for his dedication and commitment to the safety of Marquette County's children. Mr. Gustafson will be presented the Proclamation at the 2006 Award Ceremony being held in Baltimore, Maryland on March 25th.

It was moved by Comm. Struck, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board draft a Proclamation honoring Gary Gustafson for his dedication and commitment to the safety of Marquette County's children.

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The Committee considered proposed Health Department Dental Clinic Fee Schedule Adjustments. Dr. Randall M. Johnson, Marquette County Health Department, explained that most of the fees in the Dental Division are charged to Medicaid, MICHild, or the Healthy Kids Insurance Programs. For services not

covered by these programs, or reimbursement through a grant source (i.e. “private pay”), a sliding fee schedule with 50% or 30% discounts on the full fee based on family size and income is used. The Dental Division Fees were last updated in 2002. Dr. Johnson presented the described proposed changes in the Dental Clinic Fee Schedule prepared by Dr. Jim Hayward, Health Department Dental Division Director.

Under Sec. 24444 of the State Public Health Code (Act 368 of 1978), all fees charged by local health departments must be adopted by the “local governing entity” (i.e. the Board of Commissioners) and “shall not be more than the reasonable cost of performing the service”.

The Marquette County Board of Health has adopted and approved the proposed Dental Clinic Fee Schedule Adjustments and recommends adoption by the County Board.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the proposed Dental Clinic Fee Schedule Adjustments as presented.

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The Committee considered a proposed Health Department Plan of Organization presented by Dr. Randall M. Johnson, Marquette County Health Department. Dr. Johnson explained that the Marquette County Health Department is preparing for the third round of the State-mandated local Health Department Accreditation process. The on-site visit is scheduled for the entire week of May 8, 2006 during which time representatives of the three state agencies that the Health Department works with (Community Health, Agricultural, and Environmental Quality) will be at the Department to review the majority of the programs. Health Department Management Staff has been working steadily to prepare materials that will need to be in place or submitted to the State prior to the on-site visit.

One new accreditation requirement is the development of a Comprehensive Health Department “Plan of Organization” that must be approved by the local governing entity (the Marquette County Board of Commissioners). This Plan of Organization must be submitted to the Michigan Public Health Institute and the participating State agencies by March 13th.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, made Commissioners aware that the Plan of Organization does not change Health Department responsibilities by the County Board. The Plan of Organization does not prevent the Board from making changes that are allowed under statute.

Comm. Wallace clarified the accreditation process. He explained that the State is looking at specific programs at local public health agencies. Those programs are funded by State dollars. This Plan represents a significant portion, but not all of the programs at the Marquette County Health Department. Marquette County was one of the first of three departments that were accredited in a pilot project six years ago. The Marquette County Health Department has always been able to perform at a very high standard.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt the proposed Plan of Organization as recommended by the Marquette County Board of Health.

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The Committee considered a memo from Dr. Randall Johnson, Marquette County Health Department, regarding proposed acceptance of credit card payment for Health Department fees. The Marquette County Board of Health has adopted a motion recommending the Board of Commissioners approval. A memo was distributed from the Director of the Environmental Health Division (Fred Benzie) that describes the rationale for the proposal. The Health Department Plan is to implement this procedure first in the Environmental Health Division where they believe it would most improve customer service. If it is successful there, it could be extended to other divisions at the Health Department where it would provide clients with another option to pay for services and potentially reduce their "bad debt" burden.

The Health Department is recommending the Marquette County Board of Commissioners approval to accept credit cards for payment of services and to absorb associated merchant fees and equipment as a business expense to be partially recovered through the following year's fee structure.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that Perkins Park is also requesting authorization to accept credit cards. He explained that if approved a Resolution needs to be adopted.

Sue Vercoe, Finance Manager, explained that Perkins Park has been accepting credit cards for two years. Their acceptance of credit cards was approved during the budget process but no policy at that time was adopted. She explained that the credit card company will charge a flat fee. They will not allow the County to charge back to the customer.

Comm. Heikkila expressed concern regarding the credit card company charging a flat fee. He feels the credit card option is a great idea and an advantage to the customer, but a flat fee should be added into the cost. A lengthy discussion followed.

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 Resolution for Acceptance of Credit Cards at Perkins Park and the County Health Department contingent upon additional information from the credit card company regarding the fees.

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The Committee considered a Vehicle Purchase for the Building Codes Department. The Codes Department would like to up-grade one of the new trucks from a standard cab to an extended cab. The increase would be \$2,263 for a total bid of \$18,130.90. With this up-grade from Public Service Garage, the low bidder, the \$18,130.90 would still be lower than the other three bids submitted and the bid would be within the budgeted amount. The extended cab truck would allow Staff to carpool when traveling outside the area and would have a higher trade-in value. \$19,000 was budgeted in the 2006 Capital Budget for the Building Codes Vehicle.

The trucks would replace two trucks currently used by the Codes Department. The two vehicles to be traded are a 2002 Chevrolet S10 4x4 with a trade-in allowance of \$8,400 and a 2002 Chevrolet S10 two-wheel drive with a trade-in allowance of \$5,000. Each dealer bid a regular cab pickup. All bid specifications were within the minimum requirements.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Struck, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board accept the Marquette Public Service

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Garage adjusted bid of \$18,130.90 for two GMC Canyon's (this adjustment includes an up-grade of one of the vehicles to an extended cab versus a regular cab). This bid includes the trade-in of two vehicles.

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The Committee considered a Bid Award for an Airport Vehicle. Keith Kaspari, Airport Manager, explained that on February 24, 2006 bids were opened for a replacement pickup truck for the Airport. This truck will replace a 1997 4x4 truck that has nearly 140,000 miles.

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference was held on Tuesday, February 14th at the Airport Services Center Training Room for those dealers that wanted to attend. Only two bidders attended, Public Service Garage and Frei Chevrolet. Staff received a total of three bids.

In reviewing the bid documents, Staff recommends the bid from Public Service Garage of Marquette, Michigan in the amount of \$38,492.61. Funding at \$45,000 for the truck has been budgeted in the County's FY 2006 Capital Plan. Note: To comply with General Motor's requirements for the purchase of this vehicle, the dealer will need to receive final bid award prior to March 3rd.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Struck, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Bid Award to Public Service Garage of Marquette in the amount of \$38,492.61, and allow Staff to provide a notice to proceed to Public Service Garage to begin ordering the vehicle.

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The Committee considered Airport Capital Projects Amendments. Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained the Michigan Department of Transportation as the Contract Administrator has approved the Contract Amendments. Board of Commissioner approval is needed because Marquette County is the Airport sponsor and has the contracts with URS. Both change orders exceed the County Administrator's approval authority in County policy.

The original approved costs for engineering, design, and construction administration for the fuel farm expansion was \$151,000. The first contract amendment with URS is for changes to the construction administration for the Aviation Fuel Farm and to the Vehicle Fueling Station at the Airport Services Building. The Fuel Farm and Vehicle Fueling Station work was added to the contract when federal funding became available. Work included design of the storm water removal station, numerous electrical changes to the Aviation Fuel Farm, and a new Vehicle Fueling Station. A limited amount of work will be completed this spring.

The original approved costs for engineering, design, and construction administration for Phase II of the Airport Services Building was \$608,000. The second amendment is for additional construction administration for the Airport Services Building. An additional 130 calendar days added to the Airport Services Building Project from August 5th to December 13th, 2005. There were five change orders with 40 items that were adjusted, added or deleted, requiring the additional time. The Airport Services Building was funded by two federal grants. The first Grant was for site work and utilities. The second grant was for construction. The building was fully occupied January 14, 2006.

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There are two contract amendments recommended with URS. The first amendment is \$10,000. Funds are available from the FAA for the amendment. The County’s share is \$250. The second amendment is for \$45,000. The County’s share is \$1,100 and will be funded by Passenger Facility Charges.

The final building cost is \$8,665,515. With this additional work to be completed, Staff and URS estimate the project will exceed the existing grants by \$181,000, or 2%. Marquette County’s share is \$5,000 and will be funded by Passenger Facility Charges. The State share is \$5,000.

Staff has requested additional Airport Improvement Program discretionary funding from the FAA for the Federal share and approve of \$25,000 from the Federal Airport Improvement Program 2006 Entitlement Fund. If the discretionary funds are not approved by the FAA, 2006 and 2007 Entitlement Funds will be used.

Comm. Joseph questioned why the need for change orders, and why the existing grants were exceeded. Discussion followed.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Struck, and carried by voice vote 5 Ayes to 1 Nay (Comm. Joseph) that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board authorize approval of contract amendments for \$55,000 with URS for the Airport Capital Projects.

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Struck reported on his presentation to the Governor’s Traffic Safety Advisory Commission in Lansing, and also on an upcoming Medical First Responder Training Program to be held in Gwinn, Michigan.

Comm. Heikkila reported that at the Commission on Aging meeting held today, Julie Shaw, Director, Forsyth Senior Citizen, thanked the County Board on their action to hire a third party.

Comm. Pellow questioned when Commissioners would be receiving a report regarding the Commission on Aging.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Struck and carried on a roll call vote 6 Ayes (Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Pellow, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin) to 0 Nays that the Committee of the Whole go into Closed Session to consult with Attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in pending litigation – *Pioneer Square vs. County of Marquette*, but only when an open meeting would have detrimental effect on the public body’s position.

Chairperson Corkin declared a three minute recess to clear Commission Chambers.

.....CLOSED SESSION.....

The Committee of the Whole came back into open session. No action was forthcoming as a result of the Closed Session.

There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:47 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie M. Branam
Marquette County Clerk