

Minutes are Subject to Correction and Approval

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, February 27, 2007, 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. Cihak, Comm. Heikkila, Comm. Pellow, Comm. Struck, Comm. Wallace, and Chairperson Corkin. Absent: Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Bergdahl, and Comm. Joseph.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Pellow, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on February 14, 2007 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Cynthia Prior, Big Bay, Gabriel Caplett, Skandia, Gail Griffith, Marquette, Kelly Matthews, Ishpeming Township, Barbara Bradley, Skandia, and Doug Cornett, Marquette, all spoke in opposition to the Kennecott Eagle Project. The group was under the impression that the County Board had a resolution on the agenda to support the Kennecott Project. They spoke about matters relating to ground water, road issues, health issues, and tourism if the Kennecott Project becomes a reality.

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

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

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period February 17, 2007 through February 23, 2007, in the amount of \$464,839.95 be approved.

The Committee considered the Pathways FY 2007 Aging Well/Prevention Services Contract and the UPCAP FY 2007 Supplemental Funds. Jackie Boxer, Director, Commission on Aging, explained Pathways will be extending the Aging Well/Prevention Services contract with Marquette County through fiscal years 2007. The total amount for January 1, through September 20, 2007 shall be \$20,095.50. The following is a breakdown:

Outreach, Caregiver Support Groups & Staff Development:	\$10,345.50
Forsyth Senior Center	1,413.75
Ishpeming Senior Center	2,968.50
Negaunee Senior Center	4,013.25
Marquette Senior Center	1,350.00
In-Home Respite Care:	\$ 9,750.00

Aging Services Department

Ms. Boxer also explained that UPCAP’s Executive Committee has designated supplemental funds for Homemaker, Home Care Assistance, Regular Respite, and National Family Caregiver Respite. Based on the funding formula, it is being recommended that Marquette County be designated additional funding as follows:

Homemaker	\$ 9,401.00
Home Care Assistance	606.00
Regular Respite Care	1,185.00
National Family Caregiver Respite Care	<u>4,906.00</u>
	\$16,098.00

The Homemaker funds will be designated to the four senior centers using the funding formula as follows to provide an additional 660 units of service:

Forsyth Senior Center	1,364.00
Ishpeming Senior Center	2,864.00
Negaunee Senior Center	1,302.00
Marquette Senior Center	3,871.00

The Home Care Assistance, Regular Respite, and National Family Caregiver Respite funds will be designated to the County’s Aging Services department to provide an additional 671 units of service.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Pathways FY 2007 Aging Well/Prevention Services Contract in the amount of \$20,095.50 and the UPCAP FY 2007 Supplemental Funds in the amount of \$16,098.00.
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The Committee considered CUPPAD Regional Commission 2006 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS Report and Resolution. Each year the CUPPAD Regional Commission prepares a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) document to maintain its designation as an “economic development district” with the U.S. Economic Development Administration. The CUPPAD Regional Commission recently adopted the 2006 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy report. The CEDS document identifies potential economic development projects within the six county area. These projects are solicited from local governmental units on a bi-annual basis. The list can be amended by the Commission as new projects become known.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Heikkila, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt the Resolution of Concurrence with the 2006 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Document.

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The Committee considered Group Life and Long Term Disability Insurance. John Greenberg, Human Resources and Risk Manager, explained for the past three years the County’s group life and long term disability coverage has been with Fort Dearborn Life Insurance Company. For 2007 Mr. Greenberg asked Employee

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Benefits Agency to verify that the County was getting the most competitive rate available for group insurance coverage. Quotes were received from seven carriers and found that Fort Dearborn was planning to raise the long term disability rate of \$.64 from the current rate of \$.55/\$100 of payroll, but that another carrier, Jefferson Pilot Financial (which is a member of Lincoln National Corporation), would give the County a three year guaranteed rate of \$.43/\$100. He explained that since this would be a substantial savings and they are an A+ rated company, he is recommending that the County move our long term disability coverage to Lincoln National/Jefferson Pilot Financial. The benefit level would match the existing coverage and meet the requirements of bargaining agreements and, because the County is working through the same agency, the change would not require new applications from individual employees.

Mr. Greenberg is not recommending a change to the County’s group life carrier.

It was moved by Comm. Pellow, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board move its long term disability coverage to Lincoln National/Jefferson Pilot Financial for a guaranteed three year rate of \$.43/\$100.

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The Committee considered Ishpeming Service Center Bid Award. As per the County Board’s space allocation, sealed bids for renovations were solicited by ads in the Mining Journal, County web site, and Builders Exchanges. Eight bids were received. All bids conformed to the bidding requirements. Larry Gould, Facilities Manager, and Rich Uren, Project Architect, Northern Design Works, recommend the bid be awarded to the low bidder A&F Construction Company for the bid price of \$275,000. The bid price is less than the Architect’s renovation estimate.

The 2006 and 2007 Public Improvement Fund budgets have funds budgeted for space needs. The Building Authority Fund has funds available from the sale of the DeFant Building. Source of funds are as follows:

Source of Funds

2006 space needs	\$168,000
2007 space needs	\$115,000
Building Authority Fund	\$ 59,050
Total	<u>\$342,050</u>

Use of Funds

Closing Costs	\$ 3,810
Engineering	\$ 19,775
Remodel	\$275,000
Contingency	\$ 27,500
Finishing and Capital Outlay	\$ 15,965
Total	<u>\$342,050</u>

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 award the Ishpeming Service Center Contract to A & F Construction Company in the amount of \$275,000.

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Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Cynthia Prior, Big Bay, Gabriel Caplett, Skandia, Gail Griffith, Marquette, Kelly Matthews, Ishpeming Township, and Doug Cornett, Marquette, again expressed their opposition to the Kennecott Eagle Project. Ben Shelk, Charlevoix, also expressed his opposition to the Kennecott Project. They hoped the Board would take their views into consideration when deciding whether or not to support the Kennecott Eagle Project.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Pellow stated concerns regarding the Kennecott Project, she hopes that the DEQ listens to all. She emphasized that the Board is fair and open on all matters regarding the Kennecott issue.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, reminded Commissioners that next week's meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 7th.

There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:57 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Mason
Deputy County Clerk