"Menominee – Where the best of Michigan Begins"

MENOMINEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Menominee County Courthouse
839 10th Avenue
Menominee, MI 49858

Brian R. Bousley– County Administrator
Sherry DuPont – Administrative Assistant
Telephone: (906) 863-7779 or 863-9648
Fax: (906) 863-8839

MENOMINEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

~A QUORUM OF THE BOARD MAYBE PRESENT~

DATE: Friday~ September 18, 2015
TIME: 8:00 AM
PLACE: Menominee County Annex Building, Stephenson, Michigan

********AGENDA*******

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Previous Minutes
6. Public Comment (limited to 5 minutes on agenda items only)
7. Business
   a. Discussion of County employee drug testing
   b. Discussion of County employee training policy
   c. Review of Menominee County Board of Commissioners Bylaws
8. Public Comment (limited to 5 minutes)
9. Commissioner Comment (limited to 5 minutes)
10. Adjournment

Raymond Williams *Charlie Meintz – Chairperson* *Larry Schei – Vice Chairperson*
James Furlong *Bernie Lang* *Gerald Piche* *Jan Hafeman* *John Nelson* *William Cech*

Menominee County Executive Committee
Minutes of Meeting
April 1, 2015

**********DRAFT**********

The Executive Committee met on April 1, 2015 at 10:00 AM at the Menominee County Annex Building, Stephenson, MI.

Others present at the meeting were Sherry DuPont & Dale Anderson

Call Meeting to order: Com. Meintz called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

Pledge of allegiance: was recited by all

Roll Call: Coms. Meintz & Nelson & Furlong were present.

Agenda was approved by Com. Nelson and supported by Com. Furlong to approve the agenda as written. Motion approved 3/0

Previous Meeting minutes: October 16, 2014 – moved by Com. Nelson and supported by Com. Furlong to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2014 Executive Committee meeting. Motion approved 3/0.

Public Comment: Dale Anderson, Menominee County Conservation District Board ~ I came to see if there is anything that they can help the County and/or MSU with. We're making progress in the area of tourism. And a possibility of more staff, depending on income. In favor of the County having a full time 4-H Agent. The "other" half time can be used to work with the Conservation District to promote Agri-tourism, or any needs that the County sees fit.

Business Items:

A. **UP State Fair Authority Governing Board: -** Meintz: Our appointment on the board was up, and the UP State Fair Authority sent us a letter stating the term ending date was incorrect. Was that a state statute? DuPont: No. They run on a "calendar" year. When we set the initial appointment 8/1/109 – to 7/31/2012, we set it to the 3 year term. The second appt. we changed the term to 5/1/12 to 4/30/15 due to the late dates on the first term expiring during the fair activities going on. They were sent a letter to let them know of the date change. Now we get the letter saying the appt. doesn't expire until Dec. 2015. I've checked their bylaws and it doesn't say anything about the appointments running on a calendar year…nor have we received anything from them prior to this telling us that the term of appointment is incorrect. We did what we were supposed to do by appointing for a three year term. Nelson: I don't recall having anything in our bylaws for the "fair board". We have every appointment that we make, within our bylaws. I don't remember it being in there. DuPont: it should be in there.

Meintz: We don't support anything financially to the UP State Fair, and there is a person appointed from every county in the UP. They operate under their own mission. DuPont: When I spoke to Jonathan Mead, "he said the board can break an appt. and put someone else on the board if they have a problem with the person appointed by the previous board." But then we're breaking a term that the person was sent a letter of confirmation to. We've been down this road once before. Furlong: No board can break a term of someone's appointment. In 2009 we went through a two year lawsuit over what we're talking about now. Eichhorn and Anderson felt it wasn't right for a previous board to set appointments to terms served to another board. We changed all appointments to expire after Jan. 1st to stop this from happening. DuPont: There are some that, by law, expire in December. We don't have an option there. The Bylaws of the UP State Fair Board are discussed. Meintz: My personal recommendation is to allow them to set their terms. Furlong: One of the things that the fair board isn't taking into account is, what if everyone associated with the UP State Fair authority were making appointments in Dec. All of a sudden in Jan. all new members show up and no one knows what's going on. Wouldn't it be better to have staggered appointments rather than all expiring at the same time? We should keep ours the same. Nelson: James is right. Meintz: Yes, they don't have anything spelled out. DuPont: Janice was in here to talk about how the board feels about this. They've already had their first meeting prior to the appointment date (April), so that person is already appointed their duties for the fall Fair. Nelson: I think we set the date earlier in the year and explain to Jonathan Mead that it provides continuity. Meintz: I say we change the ending date. DuPont: How about setting the term Feb. 1 through Jan. 31? All commissioners agree to set the terms for three years Feb. 1 through Jan. 31…making the current term extended.

B. **MSUE – 4H Agent** - Meintz: We're talking about a possibility of a full time person in that position. Dale Anderson is allowed to speak. Putnam: What we did in Gogebic County when the expressed interest on taking a half time 4-H position to fulltime, was I worked with the campus to set up a similar format for a multiyear plan. A full time person usually ranges between $32,000 and $35,000/year with a bachelor's degree. That's ballpark. These are pretty good estimates. The cost may be less. Operating expenses are printing, commuting etc. Estimate budget costs to carry a full time 4-H person is (in addition to the already budgeted $30,000) in 2015-$20,000 (because they probably won't start until June sometime); in 2016 - $33,000; and in 2017 - $34,000. Campus is committed to all of the cost increases. Normally there is a 3% increase projected. This year we're scheduled for a 2% increase. Furlong: What are we paying MSU right now? Putnam: Just short of $40,000 Furlong: and that includes Kaitlyn? Putnam: Technically Yes Furlong: So we have a full time educator (Kaitlyn) and we have a half time 4-H person Putnam: yes, and a full time instructor in Nutrition/SNAP education, but she's Multi County. Meintz: My initial understanding was that we won't pay for benefits. But MSU is only holding the liability on it. I know in the past, since we lost our 4-H person, this has been a struggle for us. The county has been struggling for the last 3 years without any leadership within 4-H. To me it's a concern for the youth in the area to have a structured leadership in the program. How do you put a dollar value on the youth of our county? They're the future. Dale Anderson: Within the Conservation District, we're going to reach a point if we continue the way

we're going, we're going to need help. Yes we're looking at more help. Donna is not always able to stay at the office, and that hurts us. She's only part time. We're concerned about our resources, our most valuable resources is our youth. What we lack is "vision" to look a little farther in the future. I think Paul has something…you really need a full time position. Generate a little more income from the programs you run. People are willing to help, for support. Putnam: We have to be very careful. We can only bill what is spent out. Nelson: It's a much higher sticker price than I originally thought. Meintz: I agree with that. Nelson: If Marquette is sharing with Alger, why can't we share? Furlong: We all know part time people don't work out. We train and then they leave us hanging (going to a full time position). Looking at this and these numbers. 4-H is important to us in the county. I think it's extremely beneficial to our youth. Our purpose is to provide a service. I don't think $73,000 is an astronomically amount for the service we provide to the county. Nelson: I didn't say I was opposed to it, if we can expand duties; the benefit package is very sweet, there is no question about that. Is there enough to do to fill full time? Furlong: We talked about if we go to a full time 4-H person, some of the duties will be focused on other things. If we pay for a full time person, then we want them "here" within our county. Putnam: One of the things I would encourage you to do is a ¾ time 4-H person and 25% tourism, community development etc. We can add the extra duties later when the person is hired. Nelson: I think we're on the same page to move forward with this to the full board. Putnam: I expect these numbers to go down. I commit to you and the full board as we move forward that I'm not going to have campus bill you for more than what the costs are. We have some flexibility for determining needs within the county. Meintz: I think it's an excellent idea for the Conservation District to work together with the 4-H person…in a co-operative effort. We'll recommend to the full board for a full time 4-H person for another $20,000 in addition to the current MOA.

Public Comment: Jerry Piche – I think this was a good meeting. You explained things to John about what was discussed at a meeting that he was not in attendance at.

Adjournment: Moved by Com. Nelson supported by Com. Furlong to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 AM. Motion approved 3/0.