"Menominee – Where the best of Michigan begins"

MENOMINEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Menominee County Courthouse
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Menominee, Michigan 49858-3000

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MENOMINEE COUNTY FINANCE COMMITTEE

Meeting as the Committee of the Whole

~ A QUORUM OF THE BOARD WILL BE PRESENT~

DATE: Friday ~ September 2, 2011
TIME: 5:00 PM
PLACE: Menominee County Courthouse ~ Courtroom B

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

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Previous Minutes
   Aug. 16, 2011
6. Public Comment *(Statements, not debate; limited to 5 minutes per person on agenda items only)*
7. Business

   a. 2011-12 County Budget – 4th Draft, discussion (3rd draft was created from discussion at the 8/16/11 Finance Committee meeting)

8. Public Comment
9. Commissioner Comment
10. Any Other Items Members May Wish to Present
11. Adjournment

James Furlong - Chairperson *Bernie Lang - Vice Chairperson*

Charlie Meintz *Mark Jasper* *Jim Pearson*

Menominee County Finance Committee
Minutes of Meeting
August 16, 2011

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

The Finance Committee met as a Committee of the Whole on August 16, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. at the Menominee County Courthouse – Courtroom B.
Present at the meeting were Com. Lang, Com. Furlong, Com. Pearson, Com. Jasper, Brian Bousley & Sherry Smith.
Commissioners were given the second draft budget for FY 2011-12 as was discussed at the 8/9/2011 County Board Meeting.
Commissioners are asked to look at page 7 (Circuit/family court) the column for budget year 2011-12 did not print out in the 1st or 2nd draft, an insert was given with the corrected page showing the last column as 2011-12.

Also present: Pat & Tom Cheski, Dan Menacher, Dawn Dennis-Ruleau, Penny Mullins

Agenda was approved by Furlong and supported by Pearson. 4-0

Previous Meeting minutes: July 7, 2011 – moved to approve by Furlong and supported by Jasper. 4-0

Commissioner Meintz entered the meeting already in session at 4:32 pm.

Public Comment: None

Business:

a. **2011/2012 County Budget – Second Draft** ~ Bousley: Went over the budget changes from the first to the second drafts. Pg. 6 - HRA was added in with a 60% exposure at $257,802. That can come down from 70%. The Entry Door air lock is currently in the budget; not coming from the designated building fund. Because we still have some changes to be made we may want to think about moving this to the designated building fund. District Court, 101-136-706.00 $4000 was added per request from Judge Barstow. Com. Meintz said he thought this was extreme. Com. Furlong said he'd agree to $1500. After a lengthy discussion, allowing the department heads/elected officials to adjust their budgets as needed prior to the adoption, is the consensus. The MSU memorandum of understanding money has been added in ($38,209) along with 1,200 for the internet and 300 for travel as written in the MOA. There was discussion about the meeting with Delta and Dickinson County at the Casino in ref. to MSU. Delta offered $60,000 to MSU to run the program in full within their county. Com Meintz said that was not a Done Deal. Com. Lang: We may need to look at this closer for future years. Bousley: County Parks, Contractual Services was increased to $5,000. We're looking at doing phragmite control

along the shoreline of all parks along M35, possibly Airport park in the upcoming year. Plus, we'll be paying more for septic and pit toilet pumping services with the new bath house too. FOC 215-141 expenditure numbers were added (there were none in the first draft). Library revenues increased for state aid and state aid pass through at 22 cents per capita. Also, penal fine revenues have increased to $70,000, reducing the county appropriation. The expenditure acct. for state aid increased somewhat to reflect the revenue inc. CDBG-Wells Fargo Grant 272-000 & 274-000 numbers were received from Larry Wall and entered in. Brian also discussed some changes he'll be entering and why. Other Legislative 101-103 we may put the $35,000 into the designated fund. Circuit/Family court 101-131 Stenographers can go down to $6,000, Legal should be increased to $65,000. We're currently over budget in that account. Com. Lang asked how this acct. is used, and would like to see a report to explain this. Bousley: Marriage counseling should be increased; we're currently at $4500 for this budget year. So I'd like to increase that to $4500. Com. Jasper asked how many times per year does the Judge send people to marriage counseling. Com. Meintz asked, should we be liable for providing marriage counseling? Com. Furlong stated, if there is a judgment to go to counseling, shouldn't that be part of the judgment to make them pay for it? Discussion ensued. Consensus is to allow the $4500 be budgeted. Buildings and grounds 101-265 Bousley: Contractual services can be decreased to $40,000 and Natural Gas can be decreased to $40,000. I'm adding $5,000 into Building Maintenance for things that need to be done in the county buildings. Com. Meintz asked if we lock in the Natural gas prices or can they be locked in? Bousley said he'd check into it. We did receive a request from the Conservation District, but they didn't specify an amount. I recommend we put in $3,000 for them. Discussion about what they do for the county. Bousley said he'd get some information to the commissioners. Com. Pearson asked why the rescue squads are less this year. It was explained that only two squads requested money. Com. Meintz doesn't disagree with giving the squads money, but wants to be sure that they aren't using the money for political reasons, referring to previous advertisements in the newspapers. All commissioners concurred. Bousley: County Parks revenue, 208-000. We should change Gate Receipts for the fair to $8,500 we budgeted the same as usual, but we've received more this year and hope to continue down that path. Parks Expenses, uniforms should be $700. I decreased this but according to the C.H. contract, each employee gets $350 (that's Jim and Mike). Page 70 & 71 State Child Care ~ Ms. Dawn Dennis-Ruleau addressed the commissioners. She would like to have the Intensive Probation officer and the Standard Probation officer receive the same benefits as the other employees. Both are full time and they have proven to be helping to keep the institutional care and foster care budgets down, therefore saving the county money. The request is for health insurance for the standard probation officer and MERS (retirement) for them both. After a lengthy discussion, the consensus is to budget for the benefits with the understanding if the grant is denied (to include ins. and MERS) or is no longer state funded, then the benefits will cease for both employees. The commissioners want the employees to pay

12.5% of their ins. premium.

Correspondence- None

Any Other items Members may wish to present: Com. Meintz asked if the commissioners were in violation of the bylaws. He questioned the budget being presented to the public in July. Bousley: The budget was presented at a Finance Committee meeting, which is held as a Committee of the whole and open to the public, but Com. Meintz and Jasper were not in attendance. The budget was put on the website shortly after that meeting. So we are in compliance with the bylaws.

Public Comment: Tom Cheski spoke about the county website and the ease of access ability. There are a number of employees who can help with finding information on the county website. It may not be as user friendly as we all wish, but the information is there. Printed copies are in the library, the MSU and at the county clerk's office. The Library employees can answer questions and help locate information for the general public. The Administrative office can help. Penny Mullins, Eagle Herald stated, when available, she tries to list the steps on how to get to the information within the website.

Adjournment:
Moved by Com. Meintz seconded by Com. Pearson to adjourn at 6:17 P.M. Motion approved 5/0