

Menominee County Finance Committee
Minutes of Meeting
6/13/2018

*******APPROVED 8.13.18*******

The Finance Committee met on June 13, 2018 at 8:30 AM at the Menominee County Administration office.

Others present at the meeting were Sherry DuPont, Bill Cech, Judge Barglind, Diane Lesperance, Peggy Schroud, Media.

Call Meeting to order: Com. Hafeman called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

Pledge of allegiance: was recited by all.

Roll Call: Finance Commissioners present (Hafeman, Gromala, Nelson) Com. Meintz is excused.

Approval of Agenda motion by Com. Nelson and supported by Com. Gromala to amend the agenda with to add Indigent Attorney Agreement and 911 Comprehensive plan. Motion approved 3/0. Motion by Com. Gromala, support by Com. Nelson to approve the amended agenda. Motion approved 3/0.

Previous Meeting minutes: Motion by Com. Gromala and supported by Com. Nelson to approve previous minutes from 5.2.18.

Public Comment:

Department Head/Elected Official Reports:

Business Items

- a. **Indigent Attorney Agreement - Nelson:** I'd like Judge Barglind to discuss a possible fee schedule change. **Judge Barglind** – Fee schedule change. We are willing to discuss with Judge Ninomiya, to increase our Court costs, which stays 100% with Menominee County, or different assessments that we give at the time of sentencing. One of them is court costs. Many of the court costs stay here in Menominee County. Court costs and attorney fees, we assess between \$500 and \$1200 per case in Dickenson County, we'd be willing to do the same here. I would say on average closer to the \$1,000 range per sentencing. We would assess probably \$50-\$60,000; what we collect maybe \$10-20,000. **Gromala:** The contract that we presently have with the lawyers; You're saying that now because of the new mandate, there will not be a need for a contract with these attorneys. **Judge Barglind,** no they will still need contracts. In Circuit court, we'll be getting 100% of funding; that will increase to \$300,000 for next year. For the 2019 budget year, for district and circuit, our request from the county will become \$113,000. We will request that amount for District and Circuit courts combined for indigent defense. Probate will have another number but it won't exceed the \$179,250. You may even save some money there. **Gromala:** The only thing that scared me that this set up is a Grant a one year grant. Based upon the next year house and senate approving the renewal in the next budgetary year. **Nelson:** And that's true with money coming from the state. (Com. Hafeman agrees) **Judge Barglind:** This grant is different because it's statutorily mandated. Another difference is that the state of MI was rated 49th in the country in terms of how poor our indigent defense is. So that started the lawsuit and they have that lawsuit stayed, pending the resolution of

these issues. So it's a little different than most grants. In MI a state has not been putting money out for indigent defense and they finally are. **Nelson:** With that said, now we have to come up with roughly \$30,000 for this year. **Hafeman:** Where are we going to come up with that? **Nelson:** The easiest way to do this is to go into the reserves and get it processed. Because we need to look at the \$125,000 dollar reserves. **DuPont:** How do we want to put this into the budget then? Half in District Ct. half Circuit Ct. **Judge Barglind:** Currently the way they divvy up the \$179,250 is 30% probate 35% District 35% Circuit. You could do it the same. At this level, this money is for all three courts. To be consistent with the past years. **Nelson:** Is it accurate with their spending? I would probably go more into Circuit court because they'll be underfunded. I would probably divide between Circuit 70% and Probate 10%, Family 20%; District looks like they'll be good. **Judge Barglind:** I'll get a contract together before the next full board meeting. **Nelson:** I move to take 30 from reserve fund split of 70/20/10 it goes to a flat rate on the first of July pending contract information from Judge Barglind. Com Hafeman supports the motion. 3/0

- b. 2017/18 Current Budget Balances as of 5.31.18 – Hafeman:** 101-301...Sheriff's overtime is at 100% **Jason:** They're currently at 65% of their budget. **Nelson:** So they're roughly 2% over their budget. We can adjust some of the PT for overtime. **DuPont:** Worker's comp will need a budget amendment. We went from a 1.5 multiplier to a 1.67. That will increase. Salary increases, those will also increase due to the contracts taking effect. Much discussion on pulling from one line item to another for covering the costs of the overtime in the Sheriff budget. **Hafeman:** 101-301: we're taking 22,000 out of PT; 3,000 out of reserves; 6,000 out of mental health; 1500 out of transports; 3,000 out of Equipment repair; 3,000 out of radio repair; 3,000 out of civil process; and 4,000 out of capital. **Nelson:** so we have about 45,500 of what we're doing and we should have about 120,000 in OT so we're looking at about 75,000 from the GF.
- c. 2018/19 County Budget Discussion – Nelson:** I'd like to ask Peggy a question about the taxes for this budget year. Any change in our projected revenue for property taxes which is right around 5.5 mil. **Peggy:** Yes. It wasn't a very big increase this year. Only about 90,000 over last year. Revenue Sharing was a dramatic decrease from last year. About \$66,000, I'd have to look. **DuPont:** Local stabilization \$...We got 208,000 this year, and 201,000 last year. **Diane:** I think they're still debating on how they're going to distribute that this year. **Nelson:** discussion with Diane on the interest rates the County receives. To Jason: Have you had a chance to review the requests from the department heads? **Jason:** The meetings are taking place today and tomorrow. I've reviewed emergency management. Rich will be retiring in Jan. He would like the position to go to fulltime 40 hrs/wk. it's currently at 32 hrs/wk...Or have a part time director and a second part time secretary/assistant. **Hafeman:** Can our person at MSU handle that? **Nelson:** I expect our budget to be 3 to 500,000 more this year. When will we know what the projected increases are? **Jason:** We should have a good idea at the end of next week or the beginning of the following week. I'll have most departments done this week. We just got all of the salary data ready. That's going to be a large increase. **Nelson:** in the past we were able to control the budget a little better, we were able to pay the unfunded MERS down somewhat. I don't want the next board to inherit the mess we did with MERS. I think we should budget for MERS. **Peggy** enters with a projection for the Local Stabilization for this coming year which is at 69k for the County part. Based on what was projected last year. So I don't know if that's accurate. **DuPont:** We added money in for WC this year, since we've had an increase for the past few years, we predict it'll increase, but have no way of knowing. **Nelson:** How are we doing with expenditures for courthouse security? I know we projected one (person) but there are more hours there than projected. Does that fall within the Sheriff Dept. and not a separation with that? **DuPont:** There is not a separation with that. **Nelson:** The budget wet up 100,000+, I thought most of that's for courthouse security. **DuPont:** Probably a lot of overtime for security. They are there before we open and leave after we do...plus stay for any after hour meetings. **Jason:** Sherry and I still need to get together for the

Special Revenue accounts. I wanted to get the bulk of it done, general fund first. I'd like to pull the capital outlay out of the individual accounts and put it into the other legislative account for all requests. Computers I'd like to put on a five year plan. Tyler is coming up with a plan based on the oldest computers being replaced first in this five year revolving plan. **Nelson:** The only problem I have with that is, by department, it looks like they've made cuts, when in fact they haven't. **Jason:** But from a government standpoint of keeping technology up to date we should probably have UES or whoever the IT person will be in the future, to be taking care of that. **Hafeman:** I think it has to remain within the departments. **DuPont:** We heard from the auditor in reference to fixed assets. We have no tracking mechanism in place when we have all of these capital outlay items within the department budgets. Having them budgeted within the other legislative account would stop the issue with fixed assets. It currently is a problem, we have to go into each department budget to find out if there are any fixed assets purchased or not...then to get the info.(about the asset, serial #, cost date purchased, etc.) from the department head is sometimes a difficult task. They're easy to miss. By moving them to the other legislative account, it gives us a tracking mechanism for all of our fixed assets. The way we do it now isn't working (within the departments). We may budget for them to purchase a new computer, but sometimes they don't get the equipment they need. Yes, the money stays in the general fund, but the computers aren't staying on a renewal plan either. **Jason:** Part of it is being able to manage the fixed asset part but also being able to handle the technology part of everything as well. **Hafeman:** We talked about cross training in some of the departments. And having the product keys the same for all, we would probably be able to do that. **Gromala:** Years ago we spoke to the union about having a floater position; that would be assigned to a specific department but could also float to help out in another if needed. **Jason:** the big hang-up with that is the union contracts. They all have a job description with what their responsibilities are, in the union they can file grievances if what we make them do is outside of their responsibilities. **DuPont:** Cross training, I am 100% for that, but with we have to deal with the union issues if we do that.

d. **911 Comprehensive Plan - Jason:** the general consensus of the board is we want a comprehensive plan of the 911 public safety communications system. It is probably going to cost a little bit of money to get that plan. To inspect the Bagley tower, as has been identified as the most critical problem, just to look at the Bagley tower of what it will take to repair, or replace. The inspection alone will cost just under \$5,000. Which would be split in cost between us and the road commission. **Nelson:** Just get it done. The question to earmark the money, my opinion we should have done this differently. I want to see where 911 is at for retirement (actual). We have fixed costs for the library, road patrol (if they can't pay, we do). So I don't think we should just ear mark the money, we need a comprehensive plan to see what we're looking at county wide to fix our problem and keep it up.

Public Comment: Diane: comments on the personal property tax. I got this HB5908 for the PPT. The amounts there is \$111,366 for Menominee County. But it says it was based on the previous year but we got \$200,000 so that's not true. But if you remember the state had also paid some \$ back too. **Peggy:** I projected the amount by a few hundred dollars last year.

Commissioner Comment: None

Adjournment: Moved by Com. Gromala, supported by Com. Nelson to adjourn the meeting at 10.01 AM. Motion approved 3/0.