

Menominee County Finance Committee  
Minutes of Meeting  
July 7, 2011

\*\*\*\*\*APPROVED 8/16/2011\*\*\*\*\*

The Finance Committee of the Menominee County Board met on July 7, 2011 at 3:32 p.m. at the Menominee County Courthouse – Courtroom B. Present at the meeting were Com. Lang, Com. Furlong, Com. Pearson, Brian R. Bousley & Sherry Smith. (Commissioners Jasper and Meintz were not in attendance). Commissioners were given the first draft budget for FY 2011-12. (Jasper and Meintz had a copy mailed to them because they were not present.)

**Also present:** Pat Cheski, Dan Menacher, Mike Erdman, and Diane Lesperance

**Agenda** was approved by Furlong and supported by Pearson. 3-0

**Previous Meeting minutes:** April 19, 2011 – moved to approve by Furlong and supported by Pearson. 3-0

**Public Comment:** None

**Business:**

- a. **Michigan State University (MSU) Memorandum of Agreement.**  
**Discussion:** Mike Erdman commented on the previous minutes-MSU Pays Benefits plus 40% of the salary for the 4-H person, Men. Co. pays 60% of the salary only. Also, the five year agreement can be broken with a 120 day written notice. Response to the final public comment section. The annex building houses not only the Building Code dept. but also the Juvenile Probation officer and the Drug and alcohol services for the Health Dept. Erdman presented the Agreement necessary to keep MSU active in Menominee County. **Lang:** There's no doubt that MSU has improved the quality of life for the people in Menominee County, If we don't sign up for \$93,538 some of those services we would like to hang on to and some we need to look for. How much will it cost to hang on to some of the elements and not the others? **Erdman:** the way this agreement is modeled is to have both the educator and 4-H person together because of the interaction. It can't be split up. I can tell you how much MSU pays for this county...\$143,000 + \$51,666 for the current year. **Furlong:** This \$53,829 (in the draft budget as it is now), what does that get us? **Erdman:** That building is operated and available for use in the community. We keep a log there. That \$ runs that building plus you provide secretarial support who is also the Fair Manager and the Building Code inspector's helper. The office is open all day. Some counties are going to part time. I think what's best about our plan is everything's in the same building. Anyone in the office can help customers. You will also get an educator assigned to this county and a half-time 4-H person as a program coordinator. MSU believes with our numbers, this is going to

work. Furlong: Why isn't the \$1,500 in here for the telephone? Bousley: probably overlooked. Smith: We pay the telephone bills from here out of the Other Legislative account. That's why. The only thing in this current budget is Kandace's position and money to run that office/building. Nothing else is currently in there for MSU. Furlong: So in order to fund the MSU we're looking at another \$40,000 increase to the 53,829? Erdman: Yes, your total would be \$93,538. Pearson: We have a lot of people involved in 4-H in this county. So this person going to part time, how is this going to affect this county? Erdman: It should not impact it because of the electronic reporting. June Chapin says with our numbers throughout the U.P., a half time person will be sufficient per county.

- b. **2011/2012 County Budget – First Draft** ~ Bousley: Presently we are at a positive \$25,995 and that is with no MSU in there. That's up to the commissioners to decide. Also, ins. is at the higher ins. we added 15% to the premiums and a 70% exposure to the county. (trend is about 35% exposure). Teamsters are guaranteed premium costs for up to four years but they don't guarantee the benefits. The appropriations are in there on page 38. You have a copy of the letters requesting the appropriations. Lang: Who's included for the \$2,000 for the rescue squad? Smith: Only those who requested them. I believe Faithhorn and Mid County were the only two. Bousley: The Conservation District didn't send a request letter to us. Appropriations are not a given. What they request is not necessarily what you give them. Furlong: These Operating transfers, what is that? Bousley: That's what it will cost to offset the revenue with the expenses. It comes from the General fund. Page 67 (child care) if you look at institutional care, they budgeted 75,000 in expenses but only spent 20,549. I've asked the judge to budget less because of the figures. Furlong: Road patrol, why is this here? We just passed the millage. Bousley: Because we won't receive the millage money until Dec. 2012, that's in the next budget year. Furlong: The bookmobile. The county was on a progressive path for putting money away for a new bookmobile the last couple of years that was overlooked in the budget. Looking through these papers, it looks like the librarian would like to catch up to where we should be with the money for the bookmobile. Bousley: That's another thing we need to talk about, the projects we've discussed during commissioner goals. Getting the County Board meetings on the website; Vestibule on entry doors; seating in the courtroom for the upcoming 9 member board, doors in the front of the C.H.; Courthouse security on entry; Pearson: We've had a study done showing serious problems with this building (Honeywell), we should be able to look at these projects and schedule (or budget) one at a time. Did we not talk about a budget cut at one point? Bousley: We did, this is a preliminary one. This is with the numbers that everyone turned in. Pearson: But they were all informed that they were looking to go in that direction? Bousley: Yes  
Furlong asked questions about the transfer from designated RP millage fund. Smith: Question on the MOA for MSU. Is the MOA proposing that we'll receive a part time 4-H person? In the past, we've had a full time 4-H person

which we have paid 60% of the salary for. On the prelim. We would have paid \$28,580 for a full time 4-H person. MSU wants us to pay \$38,209 for a part time person? That's almost an extra \$10,000 than we would normally pay.

**Correspondence-** None

**Any Other items Members may wish to present:** Furlong: I spoke with Keith Boyd a number of times to look at the Steller building. I'd like to put it on the agenda for the next meeting, to have Brian go over there to get some numbers together for our space needs problem. Lang: I'd still like to have Brian Neumeier make a presentation to the board, to show the effort and plans that we've had in the past for space needs. Pearson: that's for storage, right? Well, we've moved people around the courthouse and we do need more room. Lang: I'd like to consider using the public health building.

**Public Comment:** None

**Adjournment:**

Moved by Com. Pearson seconded by Com. Furlong to adjourn at 4:40 P.M. Motion approved  
3/0