

November 8, 2011

APPROVED on 11/22/11

Proceedings of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Menominee and the State of Michigan were held at the Menominee County Courthouse, Menominee, Michigan.

Chairman Furlong called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A call of the roll indicated that the following Commissioners were present/absent:

Present: Coms. Furlong, Jasper, Lang, Meintz, Pearson

Absent:

Chairman Furlong stated the agenda needs to be amended to add the following items: Presentation by Sheriff Ken Marks, New Business Miscellaneous Items E. 911 Mapping Grant, New Business Finance Items D. Resolution regarding Michigan's Personal Property Tax.

Moved by Com. Pearson, seconded by Com. Meintz to approve the agenda as amended. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Jasper, seconded by Com. Pearson to approve the minutes from the October 25, 2011 Regular County Board Meeting. Motion was approved 5-0.

Chairman Furlong called for public comment.

Public Comment:

-Bob Desjarlais – Agenda Item 3, should move closed session to the end of the agenda.

Presentations: Sheriff Ken Marks – Sheriff's office supervisor reorganization.

Department Head/Elected Officials Reports: None.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Lang to approve Miscellaneous Bills as paid on October 11 & 13, 2011 in the amount of \$234,630.11. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Jasper, seconded by Com. Pearson to place miscellaneous boards/committees/commission reports on file in the office of the County Clerk. Motion was approved 5-0

Moved by Com. Pearson, seconded by Com. Jasper to go into closed session, for strategy and negotiations of Courthouse and Correction Officers collective bargaining agreements. (Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Act 267 of 1976, 15.268 Section 8 (c)). Individuals attending closed session: All five commissioners, Administrator Brian Bousley, and County Clerk Marc Kleiman. Motion was approved at 6:11 p.m. by a roll call vote 5-0.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Pearson to return to open session at 6:38 p.m. Motion was approved by roll call vote 5-0.

New Business (discussion only)

Personnel Items:

- a. Emergency Management Coordinator – Com. Lang is not sure if the Sheriff still wants to include this position in the Sheriff's Department. Com. Pearson stated that the Sheriff never formally brought his proposition to the public during a meeting. Com. Furlong stated that we need to put the job posting out to the public. Com. Meintz stated that it should have been posted already since it had been voted on at the last meeting. Com. Jasper would like it posted, and feels that we need to keep it as a full-time position.

Building and Grounds/Parks Items:

- a. Courthouse Boiler Replacement – Valley Mechanical – Brian explained that Valley Mechanical has given him a proposal to replace several items that they noticed needed replacement while they were working on the boiler project. Those items are the tunnel caps, chiller pipes, and hooking the boilers up with the control and monitoring system in the jail. Dave from Valley Mechanical explained the reasons these items needed to be done. The tunnel caps are beyond repair and he would not feel safe reusing them. The chiller pipes are not in good shape and would be cheaper to replace now rather than wait. And, the control and monitoring system would make the system run more efficiently. Com. Meintz is ok with replacing the tunnel caps and chiller pipes. Al Thompson commented that the controls would help him do his job better and there would be no annual contract with this as there was with Honeywell. Com. Jasper asked if we waited to make these replacements would it cost more later? Dave stated that there would be some increase in cost. Com. Meintz wanted to know if adding the control system would save us money in the long run. Dave said he couldn't put a figure on it, but believes it would. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.
- b. Courthouse Bell Display – Pat Krah from the Menominee Woman's Club and Arts Council gave a presentation on how they would like to display the bell. It would be displayed in a gazebo on the west lawn. This would cost approximately \$20,000 and the county would not have to pay. Mrs. Krah explained the group would raise the money for the project by selling memorial bricks. They are now looking for permission and support to proceed with this project. Com. Lang stated that he is personally thrilled with this idea. Al Thompson explained he also has a proposal for the bell to be displayed on top of the well house. The approximate cost of his project would be \$4,000 and that cost would be incurred by the county. Com. Furlong is concerned about damage to the bell itself from vandalism. Com. Jasper asked if they could put acrylic glass around the bell with the proposal Pat Krah has presented. Com. Meintz asked would you pay the cost for lighting and maintenance? Com. Pearson feels this is a wonderful addition. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.

Miscellaneous Items:

- a. Bay Area Medical Center – Ratification of appointment. - The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.
- b. MERS Resolution-Amendment-Hybrid plan for new hires in the Administrator Division. – Brian stated this would be retro to October 1, 2011 and not to his date of hire. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.
- c. HRA-Resolution for administering the HRA Plan. – Com. Lang stated that we are just replacing the current plan administrator. Brian explained that there are two different ways to administer the plan. \$5/person for the traditional method, and \$16/person for the seamless method. Com. Pearson asked what portion of the deductible will be covered by Menominee County. Vince Babcock explained \$4,000 per person, and \$8,000 for family. This will save Menominee County \$400,000. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting with the seamless method of administering the plan.

- d. PA – 152 – (Formerly Senate Bill 7). – Vince Babcock explained the difference between the hard caps, the 80/20 plan and opting out. Vince explained that there are no penalties for opting out. The board will need to decide by January 1st which plan they intend on adopting. They will then need to make the decision each year by October 1st. Com. Furlong stated that the county has been planning for the 80/20. Com. Pearson agreed with Com. Furlong. Com. Lang would like to know if there is a bottom line on what it could cost the county and the employees with each plan, and he is considering opting out. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting with an option for 80/20 and an option for opting out.
- e. 911 Mapping Grant – Brian explained the program. We would need to apply by December 1, 2011 for any grants and we would have to submit a letter of intent by November 18th. There would be no cost for us to submit a letter of intent. The consensus of the board is to have Brian submit a letter of intent, and to have more information for the next meeting.

Finance Items:

- a. Three Way Road Program, County Funds. – The board approved creating a carryover account at the June 28, 2011 meeting but never approved putting money in it. The board will need to approve placing the appropriate funds into this account. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.
- b. Miscellaneous Bill as paid on October 27 & November 2, 2011 in the amount of \$162,090.39. - The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.
- c. Commissioner Per Diems and expenses. - The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.
- d. Michigan Personal Property Tax Resolution. – Com. Lang explained that the State of Michigan is considering eliminating this tax. He explained Menominee County receives about 8.5% of the taxable value from Personal Property Tax in the amount of \$497,498. He also stated MAC would like the county to pass this resolution. Com. Pearson explained that this is a tax on business not residential, and by eliminating this tax the State is attempting to get new business to come to Michigan. Com. Meintz is 100% in favor of eliminating the tax and thinks it will help business thrive in the boarder counties. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting for consideration.

Misc. Boards/Committees/Commissions Reports:

The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.

Public Comment:

-Bob Desjarlais – Would like to change the agenda structure to move closed session to the end of the meeting.

Commissioner Comment:

- Com. Lang – Senate bills that have been proposed to eliminated County Road Commissions.
- Com. Meintz – With deer hunting coming up he would like to wish all hunters good luck.
- Com. Pearson – Asked Brian to ask our legal representative to find out if the open meetings act allows the board to table and item to later in the meeting.

Any other items members may wish to present: None.

Moved by Com. Pearson, seconded by Com. Meintz to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Motion was approved 5-0.