

November 9, 2010

APPROVED on 11/23/10

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 Eichhorn called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Present: Coms. Anderson, Eichhorn, Furlong, Lang, and Meintz

Absent: None

Moved by Com. Furlong, supported by Com. Meintz to approve the agenda. Motion was approved 5-0.

Chairman Eichhorn called for public comment.

Public Comment:

-Bob Desjarlias – Commented on Agenda item #2 and the current County Board allowing the next County Board to make committee appointments.

Moved by Com. Lang, supported by Com. Meintz to approve the minutes from the October 28, 2010 Regular County Board meeting. Com. Eichhorn commented that he referred to the court case the County Board had when he was discussing the next County Board making committee appointments. He said he just wanted to mention it, he did not see a need to amend the minutes. Motion was approved 5-0.

Presentations: Karen Thekan and Bill Adrian from Northpointe gave a presentation regarding the use of County Appropriations given to Northpointe. Com. Eichhorn asked questions about the cost of living raises and longevity pay. Com. Anderson asked how Northpointe can justify giving out \$60,000 in longevity pay in these tough economic times. Com. Meintz asked what the trend has been in paying longevity over the past four years.

Department Head/Elected Officials Reports: None

Moved by Com. Furlong, supported by Com. Meintz to approve the Quit Claim Deed drafted by Daniel E. Hass, allowing St. John Real Estate Company possession of the property as described below:

All that part of the SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Sec. 4, Tp. 40 N., of R. 25W., more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the section corner common to Sections 4, 5, 8 & 9 of Tp. 40 N., of R. 25W; thence North 33 feet; thence East 1320 feet; thence South 33 feet; thence West 1320 feet to the point of beginning. Being in all one acre more or less.

All that part of the NW ¼ of the NW ¼ of Sec. 9, Tp. 40 N., of R. 25W., more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the section corner common to Sections 4, 5, 8 & 9 of Tp. 40 N. of R. 25W., thence South 33 feet, thence East 1320 feet; thence North 333 feet; thence West 1320 feet to the point of beginning. Being all in one acre more or less.

Motion was approved 5-0, with spelling correction.

Moved by Com. Lang, supported by Com. Furlong to allow the Newly Elected County Board to appoint the miscellaneous boards/committee members after January 1, 2011. Discussion ensued. Com. Anderson stated that before tonight he was in favor of this motion, but is no longer in favor of it. Com. Eichhorn said that he has mixed feelings about this issue. He does feel that the new County Board should adjust the terms of the committees so that they expire after a new board takes office. Com. Furlong commented about the principals that this current board fought for, and about the current board now being a lame duck board. Com. Meintz said he agrees with both Com. Anderson and Furlong, but feels we need to follow the law. Motion was not approved. 2-3. Com. Anderson, Eichhorn and Meintz voted nay.

Moved by Com. Anderson, supported by Com. Furlong to appoint Brian R. Bousley as Menominee County Re-Monumentation Grant Administrator. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Meintz, supported by Com. Eichhorn to approve Miscellaneous Bills as paid on September 15, 17, & 30, 2010 in the amount of \$182,730.96. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Anderson, supported by Com. Eichhorn to place miscellaneous boards/committees/commission reports on file at the courthouse. Motion was approved 5-0.

New Business (discussion only)

Personnel Items:

- a. MERS Resolution – Health Care Savings Programs. Tom Jordan from MERS was here to answer any questions. He stated that this plan would come with no cost to the county. Brian Bousley recommends it be moved forward. Com. Lang asked if the board has discussed this plan before. Com. Anderson thinks it should be moved forward. Com. Meintz wanted to be sure there would be no cost to the county. The consensus of the board is to move it forward to the next meeting.

Building and Grounds/Parks Items:

- a. None

Miscellaneous Items:

- a. GIS – Launch of Maps InDeed. Com. Meintz asked if we could use the Big Screen TV in courtroom B for a presentation. The consensus of the board is to move it forward to the next meeting with a presentation.
- b. Bay Area Medical Center – Ratification of appointment. The consensus of the board is to move it forward to the next meeting.

Finance Items:

- a. Miscellaneous Bill as paid on September 30, October 5 & 28 in the amount of \$167,838.88. The consensus of the board is to move it forward to the next meeting.
- b. Commissioner Per-Diems/Expenses. The consensus of the board is to move it forward to the next meeting.

Misc. Boards/Committees/Commissions Reports:

- a. Com. Eichhorn asked some questions of Karen Thekan regarding a meeting of the Northpointe Healthcare Systems Board. Most specifically about bills being flagged differently. He said he did not like the tone Ms. Thekan took in her answer to board member Millie Hofer. Com. Eichhorn also asked about an incident that occurred between board chairperson Karen Raether and board member Mari Negro. He asked if the board has a code of ethics that are being followed. The Board would like Brian Bousley to sit down with the Northpointe Healthcare Systems Board members and mediate the situation. The consensus of the board is to move it forward to the next meeting.

It was discovered that Action Item #4 to approve Miscellaneous Bills was passed with the wrong dates and amount.

Moved by Com. Meintz, supported by Com. Anderson to approve Miscellaneous Bills as paid on October 13, 14 & 18, 2010 in the amount of \$181, 142.20. Motion was approved 5-0.

Public Comment:

- Mari Negro – Commented on the Northpointe issue and the letter she wrote to the County Board.

Commissioner Comment:

-Com. Meintz – Commented about the Six County Alliance committee meeting and the U.P. is looking in better shape than Lower Michigan.

-Com. Lang – Had several comments. First, regarding commissioners being limited to only 5 minutes during commissioner comment. Second, new commissioner training in December. Third, the health insurance issue that he has been reading about in the newspaper.

-Brian Bousley informed the board that there will be a meeting with the county employees regarding health insurance on Wednesday at 5 p.m.

-Com. Furlong and Com. Anderson asked about when with health insurance rates would be set.

-Com. Anderson – Thinks that Jan Stage should be at the next County Board meeting to give a presentation.

Moved by Com. Anderson, supported by Com. Meintz to adjourn at 7:14 p.m. Motion was approved 5-0.

Gary Eichhorn, Chairman

Marc Kleiman, County Clerk