

December 13, 2016

APPROVED on 12/27/16

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 Annex, Stephenson, Michigan.

Chairman Meintz called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Present: Com. Cech, Hafeman, Lang, Meintz, Nelson, Piche, and Schei.

Absent: Com. Furlong, (excused).

Moved by Com. Nelson, seconded by Com. Hafeman to approve the agenda. Motion was approved 7-0.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Cech to approve the minutes from the November 22, 2016 Regular County Board Meeting. Motion was approved 7-0.

Public Comment:

- Lin Peterson – Commented on the Interim County Administrator position and they board should appoint Marc Kleiman

Presentations: None.

Department Head/Elected Officials Reports:

- Paul Putnam, MSU Extension District Coordinator – Gave the board an update on the MSU Extension. They will be having an open house and Listening Session on December 19th at 6:00 p.m. He also discussed the MOA and a 1% increase.
- Peggy Schroud, Equalization Director – Kandace Curran just completed all of her courses and has obtained her certification as a Michigan Advanced Assessor.
- Marc Kleiman, County Clerk/ROD – Informed the board that they did not need to fill the vacancy on the County Board since it was less than 30 days before the end of Com. Williams term. Steven Gromala will take over as the 1st District Commissioner on January 1st.

Action Items:

Moved by Com. Cech, seconded by Com. Hafeman to approve the 2017 Parks Price List as recommended by the County Parks & Recreation Committee with no changes to the prices from 2016. Motion was approved 7-0.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Nelson to approve Resolution 2016-12 ~ PA 152 Compliance. Motion was approved by a roll call vote 6-1. Com. Lang voted nay. (Attachment A)

Moved by Com. Schei, seconded by Com. Cech, to approve purchase of the BS&A.Net Software upgrade for the Building Code Department. Funds up to \$16,335 will be disbursed from the Building Code Special Revenue expense account #249-371-727.00 (office supplies). Motion was approved 7-0.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Schei to approve 2016/17 Budget Amendments #2 (#'s 3-9) as recommended by the Finance Committee. Motion was approved 7-0.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Schei to appoint Amanda Hess to the Delta/Menominee Public Health – Board of Health for a three year term (1.1.17 ~ 12.31.19). Motion was approved 7-0.

Moved by Com. Nelson, seconded by Com. Piche to appoint Gary Eichhorn to the Department of Health and Human Services Board for a term to expire on 10.31.2019. Motion was approved 7-0.

Moved by Com. Piche, seconded by Com. Schei to appoint Thomas Philipps to the Building and Grounds Committee for a term to expire on 1.31.2020. Motion was approved 7-0.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Piche to approve miscellaneous bills as paid on November 17, 2016 in the amount of \$59,439.31. Com. Hafeman asked about a bill on page 57. She was wondering why the account number was different for Bill Hafeman's payment. After review it appears that there was a typo in the entry of the account number. Motion was approved 7-0.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Cech to approve commissioner per diems and expenses as recently submitted. Motion was approved 7-0.

Moved by Com. Lang, seconded by Com. Nelson to approve miscellaneous boards/committees/commission reports be placed on file in the office of the County Clerk. Motion was approved 7-0.

New Business (discussion only)

Personnel Items:

- a. E-911 Director New Hire. – Administration received E-911 Director Applications. A panel of four individuals conducted the interviews. Brian Barrette was at the top of all members' scores after all interviews were conducted. Brian will begin on December 20, 2016.
- b. UP 911 Authority Board Appointment. – A letter requesting Menominee County to appoint a new member to the UP 911 Authority Board was received. The consensus of the board is to approve appointing new E-911 Director Brian Barrette to the position at the next meeting.
- c. Interim County Administrator position. – Interim County Administrator Sherry DuPont informed the County Board that she would be stepping down as Interim Administrator effective 12/14/2016. The demands of the position have taken away from the many necessary duties of her position as Administrative Assistant. Com. Schei asked Sherry if her decision was final. She stated that it was. Com. Schei stated that he would like to thank Sherry for the work that she has done. Com. Meintz asked the board if they had any ideas on filling the position. Com. Schei stated that we need an Interim Administrator and we need to also proceed with a Full-

time Administrator. He also stated that he would not like to make a recommendation at this time. Com. Meintz stated that he has spoken with Peggy Schroud, Equalization Director and Marc Kleiman, County Clerk about the position. He said personally he would like to see the board appoint Peggy since he didn't know if there would be a conflict with appointing Marc who is an Elected Official. Com. Piche stated that he would feel more comfortable with appointing Marc to the position, especially with what has been going on the past few weeks. Marc is impartial and can talk to anybody within the county structure. Com. Cech stated that he agrees with Com. Piche, he also commented that appointing Marc would give him a heads up since he was applying for the permanent position also. Com. Lang stated that he received a phone call lobbying him to vote a certain way. The phone call was from a local real estate person. He said that Marc would be a more neutral candidate. Com. Nelson commented that when you are dealing with government money you don't give someone a position just to give them a heads up. He also commented that he thinks Peggy would do an excellent job. He stated that Marc is very competent but he doesn't like the comment about giving a heads up. Com. Schei commented that the board was not looking to give Marc a heads up. That was just one opinion. Com. Hafeman commented that if Peggy were put in that position she would do a good job. Com. Schei commented and asked what happens if Peggy applies for the permanent position; doesn't appointing her give her a heads up? Com. Schei also commented that Marc has an excellent resume and has the staff to help out. He would like to see Marc appointed to the position. Com. Nelson commented that he was concerned if there were any conflicts with appointing Marc to the position. He has contacted MAC and was looking for a legal opinion. He is hoping to have it within a couple of days. That way we don't eliminate someone, or appoint the wrong person. Com. Meintz commented that he feels that Peggy would shake up the courthouse and that she would run a stricter office. Com. Nelson commented that if we do not appoint an Interim Administrator tonight the Finance Chair, Board Chair or Treasurer could still signoff on our financials for the time being. It was decided that the board should wait until the next meeting and obtain a legal opinion before appointing either Marc or Peggy as Interim Administrator.

Building and Grounds/Parks Items:

- a. Project updates – Vestibule; Window replacement. – Jim Mekash updated the board on the projects. Regarding the Vestibule. The State mechanical inspection was approved this morning. An occupancy approval is scheduled for this Thursday. It should be open for public use this upcoming week. Security measures will begin on January 3rd. The final plan for the 2nd floor is still up in the air. The Building Committee will meet to discuss this. Jim also commented that they are in the final stages of the window replacement and should be finished this week.

Miscellaneous Items:

- a. MERS Service Credit Purchases. – We received a letter from MERS in reference to service credit purchases. We need to determine whether Menominee County will allow employees the option to purchase MERS service credit or not. An email from Karima is attached to the Board Packet and explains the “risk” to the municipality. The consensus of the board is to NOT approve allowing employees to purchase service credit. This is based on the fact that there may be increased cost to the County in the future.

Finance Items:

- a. Commissioner Per Diems and expenses. - The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting for approval.
- b. Miscellaneous bills as paid on November 18, 29 & December 1, 2016 in the combined amount of \$177,063.76. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting for approval.

Misc. Boards/Committees/Commissions Reports:

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

Public Comment:

- Kathie Presitn – Commented that she would like to know who Peggy Schroud reports to.
- John Anderson – Commented that he received a lot of emails regarding the issues with one assessor in the county and Peggy Schroud. He stated that this assessor is asking for information that he has never asked for or received.
- Mari Negro – Commented that she worked very closely with the Equalization Department to help her clean up the huge mess with the City of Menominee when she was appointed as the assessor.
- Kandace Curran – Thanked the board for their support. She also commented on the complaints regarding the Equalization Department.
- Peggy Schroud – Commented that she has been the Equalization Director for 11 years. She commented on the unprofessional emails that she received and she would like the county’s support with all of this.

Commissioner Comment:

- Com. Piche – Commented on the loss of fellow Commissioner Ray Williams. He read a nice tribute and thanked Lisa Reed for her article in the newspaper.
- Com. Schei – Commented that he would like to echo Com. Piche’s remarks. He also commented about the issue the county has with their vehicle insurance and not allowing non employees to ride in county vehicles.
- Com. Hafeman – Commented that she would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. She also thanked Sherry for her work as Interim Administrator.
- Com. Cech – Commented on Ray Williams and the celebration of his life that he attended at the Ogden Club.
- Com. Nelson – Commented that he really liked Com. Williams and he had a good personality.
- Com. Meintz – Commented that he would like to thank Com. Piche for his kind words. He is looking forward to Christmas. He also commented regarding a Public Comment question that was asked about the Equalization Director. He stated that Peggy is an employee of the County Board.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Nelson to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. Motion was approved 7-0.

Charlie Meintz, Chairman

Marc Kleiman, County Clerk