

December 10, 2013

APPROVED on 12/23/13

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 6:00 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Present: Coms. Furlong, Hafeman, Krienke, Lang, Meintz, Nelson, Piche, Plutchak, and Schei.

Absent: None.

Moved by Com. Furlong, seconded by Com. Schei to approve the agenda. Discussion ensued. Com Meintz stated that he would like the agenda amended to add under New Business, Personnel Items B. (A discussion of the Equalization Department restructuring). Com. Furlong withdrew his previous motion.

Moved by Com. Schei, seconded by Com. Nelson to approve the agenda as amended. Motion was approved 9-0.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Nelson to approve the minutes from the November 26, 2013 Regular County Board Meeting. Motion was approved 9-0.

Public Comment: None.

Presentations: None.

Department Head/Elected Officials Reports: None.

Moved by Com. Furlong, seconded by Com. Nelson to approve the Menominee County Housing Program Guide for the MSHDA Program. Motion was approved 9-0.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Plutchak to approve payment of Commissioner Per Diems and expenses as recently submitted. Motion was approved 9-0.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Nelson to approve miscellaneous bills as paid on Oct. 16, 23, 25, 30 & Nov. 7, 2013 in a total amount of \$342,263.73. Motion was approved 9-0.

Moved by Com. Nelson, seconded by Com. Hafeman to place miscellaneous boards/committees/commission reports on file in the office of the County Clerk. Motion was approved 9-0.

New Business (discussion only)

Personnel Items:

- a. Medical Examiner – vacancy effective March 1, 2014. – Administration received a letter from Dr. Paul Haupt D.O. (County Medical Examiner) stating that he will no longer be available to serve as the ME for Menominee County, effective March 1, 2014. Brian explained that he would be leaving his contract 2 years early. Dr. Haupt informed Menominee County when he signed this contract that it would be his last one. Com. Meintz asked if he Dr. Haupt could terminate his contract. Brian explained that he is required to give a 30 day notice, and he has given us a 90 day notice. Brian is requesting the board allow him to advertise for the position. He is also going to be meeting with Delta and Dickinson Counties to discuss the possibility of a shared Medical Examiner. Com. Lang explained that we could utilize a doctor from Marinette as long as they are an MD. Com. Hafeman asked what we are currently paying. Brian explained that it is in the budget but he doesn't know the figure off the top of his head. Com. Nelson stated that the entire Medical Examiner budget was for \$53,058 and the administration portion of the budget is \$36,000. Com. Nelson explained that there was a doctor a few months ago that expressed interest in the position. Brian will do more research on the possibility of sharing with another county, and advertise if necessary.
- b. Equalization Department Proposed Position. – Com. Meintz stated that he wanted this item brought back before the full board. He knows that it was sent to the Personnel Committee, but thinks that things got muddled up regarding the other position in the office and what would happen to it. But, the question was about opening the old position up again. Com. Hafeman stated that she thinks part of the problem is with space in the courthouse for Equalization. She asked Brian if there was somewhere else in the courthouse they could put Equalization? Brian said no. Com. Meintz said he had several phone calls from different mortgage financiers and stuff and they were very concerned about the security of that office. They work with that office a lot and are very happy with the service they get. Com. Meintz thinks that the board should just move it forward for an action item. Com. Furlong explained that it was assigned to the Personnel Committee and there was a tie vote. He stated you would be basically circumventing the committee process. He asked what would be the point of having committees then? Com. Meintz commented that if the committee can't come up with an idea. Com. Furlong stated that the committee did have an idea, but because of the hiring freeze in place we would be picking and choosing which departments we wanted to put people into. He feels that until we address the hiring freeze we can't move this item forward. Com. Hafeman is concerned because we are working on putting someone into Emergency Management, and we did move someone in Courthouse Grounds. She can see this in the same light. Com. Piche commented that the committee did come up with some good ideas and Com. Furlong brought up some good ideas that we need to look into. Com. Piche feels we need to slow down and make sure we get this right the first time. Com. Piche stated that at the end of the Personnel Committee meeting Kandace reassured the board that she is going to continue her training towards the Level 3 no matter what the decision is. Com. Meintz said "we do have other departments working in other positions. In the Sheriff Office, there's been 24 hour Road Patrol Deputies working in the jail, because he has some shortage of manpower. Emergency Management, Debra Wormwood and Brian are doing some stuff in there; those are job openings but are being filled by doing work with Courthouse employees. That's why we talked about doing internal hiring – within the courthouse." Com. Hafeman thinks that this is a very important position and we need to have two people in the office that are familiar with Menominee County. Even if this person is not going to be the next Equalization Director there will be some continuity in

the office for the next person. Com. Schei asked if she was proposing moving someone into that position from another office. Brian explained that first the board would need to put this position back in to the Position Allocation List. Then they would need to put money into the budget for the position. There were multiple discussions about what retirement plan the person who was put into this position would fall into. If the person that was placed into this position already was in the current retirement program, then nothing would change. Com. Nelson asked if this is about hiring, or what we can do to create this position. He also commented on the tie vote in the Personnel Committee. He doesn't know if that makes a difference. He feels that this topic can still be brought up for discussion. Com. Schei would like to see a timeline set on this. Com. Krienke asked if we are going to be seeking an opinion from Mr. Hass there are two clarifications that he would like to know. If we bring back a position that use to exist, but is no longer on the list, would that constitute creating a new position. And second if transferring someone internally from a different position in the county, constitutes a new hire. Com. Piche doesn't feel we can move this forward as it sits because we have nothing to move forward yet. Com. Meintz asked if there is a consensus to move it forward to the next meeting as an action item with answers from Dan Hass. Clerk Marc Kleiman asked if Com. Meintz was moving it forward as a discussion item, or an action item. He said he was moving it forward as an action item. Continued discussion ensued. The consensus of the board is to only move it forward at this point as a discussion item with direction from Dan Hass.

Building and Grounds/Parks Items: None

Miscellaneous Items:

- a. CAA Gov. Board & DHS Board ~ member vacancies. – A Menominee County Representative on the Community Action Agency Governing Board resigned. Administration received a letter asking for the County Board to appoint another member. We have submitted an advertisement to receive applications until December 5th @ noon. Applications may also be submitted via the County Website. We have received no applications for the CAA board nor have we received any applications for the DHS board. Brian would like to know how to proceed. Com. Hafeman stated that she would like to see if advertised again after the first of the year when people are not so busy. Com. Hafeman also asked if it would be possible to separate the DHS and Pinecrest Board. Brian stated no. Brian also stated that the member whose term has expired will remain in place until a replacement has been appointed. The consensus of the board is to have Brian advertise again after the first of January for a replacement.
- b. Bay Area Medical Center Board of Directors appointment. – We received a letter from BAMC asking to ratify the appointment of Marc Jamo to the Bay Area Medical Center Board of Directors as a director (four year term). The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting for approval.

Finance Items:

- a. Resolution 2013-18 ~ PA 152 of 2011. – Per State Law, the county board must comply with PA 152 of 2011. Approval of this resolution complies. Brian read the resolution and explained we would be continuing with the 80/20 split for employee health insurance. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting for approval.
- b. Courthouse Security. – Brian explained that he contacted Bulletproof Securities. The company toured the courthouse on Monday. Brian also explained he would have to get more information to the “Big Boss” in Arizona before we could receive a quote. Brian

- also explained that he met with the sheriff and undersheriff and they would be still providing random visits to the courthouse. The sheriff would also still be providing security for the courtroom. Com. Meintz stated that he is concerned that the day to day activities would not have security. Com. Lang discussed the security breaches that we are not aware of, and he also discussed an audit that was performed by Federal Marshalls years ago. Com. Nelson asked Com. Furlong for his opinion since he is a retired law enforcement officer. Com. Furlong stated that he is opposed to using a security service. He would rather see random walk through with the deputies. Com. Meintz fears that the random walk through will only be once a week, and not daily. Com. Nelson stated that he agreed with Com. Furlong. Com. Schei asked Brian if the commissioners could receive the security report that was put together by the former Emergency Services Coordinator. Com. Hafeman asked who would be paying for the private security firm. She would like to see it paid out of the Sheriff's budget. Brian stated that he would talk to the sheriff about doing random visits. The consensus of the board is to have Brian continue gathering information on this subject.
- c. Commissioner Per Diems and expenses. – Com. Hafeman commented that she thought Com. Lang accidentally wrote the wrong information on his reimbursement voucher. He listed 2 County Board Meetings on 11/26 and she thinks one of them should have been listed as the DHS meeting. Com. Lang commented that she was probably correct and he could fix it. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting for approval.
 - d. Miscellaneous bills as paid on November 22 and Dec. 5, 2013 in the amount of \$92,885.63. – Com. Hafeman asked about payment to Bastien Family Services. Brian explained it was for the Treasurers foreclosures and is paid from that fund. Com. Krienke asked about the bill for Pomp's Tires. He asked if we go out for bids for tires on the squad cars. He would like to see us spending our money locally for tires. He feels we should give priority to Menominee County businesses instead of going out of town. Com. Hafeman asked a question regarding paying Pathways. Brian explained it is just a pass through account. 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.

Chairman Meintz called for public comment

Public Comment:

- Carl Johnson (Ingallston Township Supervisor) – Invited the commissioners to the MTA intergovernmental meeting and Christmas party on Saturday, December 14, 2013 at the Casino in Hannahville.

Commissioner Comment:

- Com. Hafeman – Commented MERS and the union. She would like to see documentation on our progress. She would like to know who, when and why Brian is contacting. She would also like to see evaluations done on all employees annually.
- Com. Piche – Commented on the Road Commission meeting he was at today. He was approached by someone and they discussed the condition of the equipment (graders, dump trucks and others) that are in need of replacement. They were wondering if there is anything the board can do to help.

Moved by Com. Nelson, seconded by Com. Schei to adjourn at 7:06 p.m. Motion was approved 9-0.

Charlie Meintz, Chairman

Marc Kleiman, County Clerk