

January 22, 2013

APPROVED on 2/12/13

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

Chairman Meintz 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. Hafeman, Krienke, Lang, Meintz, Nelson, Piche, Plutchak and Schei.

Absent: Com. Furlong was excused.

Chairman Meintz stated that the agenda would need to be amended to add under New Business Miscellaneous Items, Item C – Discussion of the commissioner’s IPads. Also Item D – committee assignments.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Schei to approve the agenda as amended. Motion was approved 8-0.

Moved by Com. Nelson, seconded by Com. Plutchak to approve the minutes from the January 2, 2013 Reorganizational County Board Meeting and the January 2, 2013 Regular County Board Meeting. Motion was approved 8-0.

**Public Comment:**

-Bob Desjarlais commented that the County Board should not renew the CUPPAD dues or the counseling contract.

-Mari Negro commented that the board meetings should start later than 5:30 p.m. and also be at the same time every month, and not change with daylight savings time.

**Presentations:**

-County Treasurer Diane Lesperance gave a presentation on the financial state of Menominee County and Fiscal year 2011/2012.

**Department Head/Elected Officials Reports:** None.

Moved by Com. Lang to approve 2013 Membership dues in the amount of \$9,000 for services provided by CUPPAD. Funds to be disbursed from account number 101-103-802.00 (Memberships/Subscriptions) Motion died for lack of support.

Moved by Com. Lang, seconded by Com. Piche to approve the Concerned Associates Contract in the amount of \$4,318 for a one year period. (Feb. 1, 2013 – Jan. 31, 2014) Funds to be distributed from account number 101-103-801.00 (Professional Contractual Services). Discussion ensued regarding the fact that the employee health insurance plan has coverage for counseling services. Motion was not approved 2-6. Com. Hafeman, Krienke, Meintz, Nelson, Plutchak and Schei voted nay.

Moved by Com. Nelson, seconded by Com. Hafeman to appoint Leon Felch to the Building Code Construction Board of Appeals for a two (2) year term (2/1/2013-1/31/2015). Motion was approved 8-0.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Nelson to appoint Jerome Bejgrowicz to the Menominee County Library Board for a five (5) year term (2/1/2013 – 1/31/2018). Motion was approved 8-0.

Moved by Com. Plutchak, seconded by Com. Hafeman to appoint Diane Brazelton to the Menominee County Fair Board for a three (3) year term (2/1/2013 – 1/31/2016). Motion was approved 8-0.

Moved by Com. Nelson, seconded by Com. Piche to appoint Dawn Wells to the Corrections Advisory Board (Business Sector) for a one (1) year term (2/1/2013 – 1/31/2014). Motion was approved 8-0.

Moved by Com. Schei, seconded by Com. Plutchak to appoint Gail Jerzyk to the Menominee County Parks and Recreation Committee for a three (3) year term (2/1/2013 – 1/31/2016). Motion was approved 8-0.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Nelson to appoint Jerald Poupore to the CUPPAD Regional Committee for a two (2) year term (3/1/2013 – 2/28/2015). Motion was approved 8-0.

Moved by Com. Schei, seconded by Com. Nelson to approve the County Board of Commissioners, County Board Meeting Schedule for 2013 as submitted. Discussion ensued about making the start time of all the County Board Meetings 6:00 p.m. instead of 5:30. Com. Schei withdrew his motion.

Moved by Com. Schei, seconded by Com. Nelson to approve the County Board of Commissioners, County Board Meeting Schedule for 2013 as submitted with the exception of all meeting start times being 6:00 p.m. Motion was approved 8-0.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Lang to approve payment of Commissioner Per Diems and expenses as recently submitted. Motion was approved 8-0.

Moved by Com. Plutchak, seconded by Com. Nelson to place miscellaneous boards/committees/commission reports on file in the office of the County Clerk. Motion was approved 8-0.

## **New Business (discussion only)**

### **Personnel Items:**

- a. None

### **Building and Grounds/Parks Items:**

- a. Campground Host – Volunteer Program. – The parks committee would like to continue with the campground host program again this year. The county board is asked to review the program and to approve/disapprove the program for the 2013 camping season. Com. Meintz, Bob Desjarlais discussed how the program worked last year, and some of the problems they encountered, and possible solutions to those problems. Bob Desjarlais stated that before the Parks Committee proceeded any further they wanted to know if the County Board would be supporting this program again. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.

### **Miscellaneous Items:**

- a. Commissioner Goals for 2013. – At the meeting on January 2, 2013, Commissioner Meintz asked all commissioners to come back to the next meeting with a list of goals for 2013. Com. Meintz stated that one of his goals for 2013 would be the MERS retirement program. He would like for the county to have more control over the program, but for this to happen we would have to be 100% funded. Com. Plutchak stated that one of his goals would be to keep the budget under control. Com. Nelson has several goals. First he would like to see MERS fully funded. Second, he would like to look at ways to possibly reduce the County Millage. Third, he would like to see some changes to how the State handles CFR land. He stated that CFR takes money from the county to the tune of \$1.5 million. He feels that the taxes should still be paid to the local governments and that the State of Michigan can just reimburse the land owners. His final goal would be to see the 3 way road project continue. Com. Lang would like to see the bell tower restoration completed. He would also like to see the City of Menominee give a proportional share of the 3 way road fund if continued. Com. Piche stated that he agrees and disagrees with some of the previously stated commissioner goals. Com. Hafeman agrees with the goals of fully funding MERS and reducing the millage rate. She also would like to see the PILT money that the county is going to receive go towards funding MERS. Com. Schei stated that he agrees with fully funding MERS, and also keeping the budget balanced. He also stated that he would like to see some of the unfinished building and grounds projects like the side entrance completed. Com. Krienke stated that he would like to educate himself on the workings of the board.
- b. Hermansville Building Project. – We've had a lot of issues trying to get the Hermansville building project underway. We've approved a bid from Jeff Walechka in the amount of \$23,860 however due to MIOSHA laws, we've had to stop the project because of added costs (unforeseen prior to the bidding process). Brian Bousley and Diane Lesperance are again working on a grant to help with this process. Brian stated that we will have to go back out for bids again. Diane stated that the State has received the grant that was submitted, and they will be reviewing them. Com. Plutchak asked how much money was asked for in the grant. Diane stated that a specific amount was not asked for. The application was just for the complete demolition and removal of the building. Com. Nelson is concerned about the area around the building. He knows that the building is secured, but he is concerned with what might happen if someone is near the building and it were to collapse. He is wondering if we should do more to secure the area around the building. Com.

Hafeman wonders if putting up a fence around the building would just be an invitation for people to look at the building and try and get closer. Diane stated that if we receive the grant we may not have to even bid the project out. The State has their own people that they hire to do this type of work. The State should be making their determinations on the grants by this spring. Com. Meintz stated that we should get new specs together just in case the State doesn't move forward. Com. Piche asked if we could at least collapse the building at this point so we are not concerned with it falling over. Com. Nelson stated that he would like Building Inspector Dan Menacher to look at the building and give a recommendation as far as what security measures can be taken. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward.

- c. I pads. – Com. Meintz asked if anyone has any problems or questions about their I pads. Com. Lang stated that he does not have wifi at his house, and is having trouble getting the information that he needs. He also has some concern as to how to use it. Com. Nelson asked if it would be ok for Administrative Assistant Sherry Dupont to go to Com. Lang's house and see what he will need to be able to use his I pad at home. The consensus of the board is to allow Sherry to do this.
- d. Committee assignments. – Com. Meintz stated that Com. Schei would like to be removed from the DHS Board. He asked Com. Lang if he would like to switch with Com. Schei and give him his appointment to the Fair Board. Com. Lang stated that he was ok with that. Com. Meintz asked if Com. Lang could go to the next DHS meeting in replacement for Com. Schei until the board can approve this change. Com. Schei will be out of town for the next DHS meeting. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting for approval.

**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 January 3 & 10, 2013 in the total amount of \$78,317.54. 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 to the next meeting.

Chairman Meintz called for public comment

**Public Comment:**

-Bob Desjarlais commented on why the board would appoint someone to the CUPPAD Regional Committee if they had just voted to not renew their CUPPAD membership.

-Gary Eichhorn Thanked all of the commissioners for serving on the board. He commented on the Treasurers report stating that Menominee County levies the maximum tax rate and he does not think other counties do. He also thanked Com. Meintz for bringing up the Sheriff's Department investigation that was written about in the Peshtigo Times.

-Diane Lesperance thanked Com. Schei for bringing up the issue regarding the side entrance of the courthouse.

-Dan Menacher commented about the unfinished building projects in the county, and he thinks they board should put together a committee to look at these projects.

-Gary Eichhorn also commented that there should be a Buildings and Grounds Committee.

-Mari Negro commented that there was a bad draft coming through the windows in the back of the courtroom.

**Commissioner Comment:**

- Com. Schei stated that he would volunteer to be on a Building and Grounds Committee.
- Com. Plutchak stated he would also volunteer for that committee.
- Com. Nelson stated that problems have existed with this courthouse for many years. He would like to see a long term fix to these problems.
- Com. Hafeman commented that the jail does not have the proper accommodations for female inmates. At times there are more women incarcerated than the jail has capacity for.
- Com. Lang discussed a letter from a pilot making complaints about the Twin County Airport. Com. Lang would like to have someone from the airport make a presentation before the County Board.
- Com. Meintz thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and reminded everyone that the next County Board meeting will be at the Stephenson Annex on February 12, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

**Any other items members may wish to present:**

- Com. Piche asked what the board should do regarding appointing someone to the CUPPAD Committee.

Moved by Com. Nelson, seconded by Com. Plutchak to adjourn at 7:43 p.m. Motion was approved 8-0.

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Charlie Meintz, Chairman

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Marc Kleiman, County Clerk