

February 11, 2014
Approved 02/25/2014

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. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Plutchak to approve the agenda. Motion was approved 9-0.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Nelson to approve the minutes from the January 22, 2014 Special Meeting, the January 24, 2014 Special Meeting, and the January 28, 2014 Regular County Board Meeting. Motion was approved 9-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

DEPARTMENT HEAD/ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS: None.

ACTION ITEMS:

Moved by Com. Nelson and seconded by Com. Plutchak to the final 2014 County Board meeting schedule as submitted. Motion approved 9-0.

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

Moved by Com. Nelson and seconded by Com. Schei to approve miscellaneous bills as paid on January 16, 2014 in the amount of \$81,392.97. Motion approved 9-0.

Moved by Com. Lang and seconded by Com. Plutchak to place miscellaneous boards/committees/commission reports on file in the office of the County Clerk. Motion approved 9-0.

NEW BUSINESS (DISCUSSION ONLY)

PERSONNEL ITEMS:

- a. None

BUILDING AND GROUNDS/PARKS ITEMS:

- a. None

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:

- a. MAC Revenue Sharing for 2015. Adm. Bousley reads proposed resolution thanking the governor and his administration for the recommendation of 100% full funding for county revenue sharing and to call upon the state legislature to adopt the Governor's recommendation. Adm. Bousley and Com. Hafeman point out that this is a recommendation and could change. Com. Hafeman encourages commissioners and the public to contact the governor and their legislators to support the Governor's recommendation. Com. Lang comments that the board should be mindful of the role that MAC has played in this process over the years and that although it is good that the county will be getting revenue sharing back after all this time there are still hoops that must be maneuvered to receive money that is rightfully the county's. Com. Meintz agrees. Com. Schei questioned as to where the funds would be coming from. Com. Nelson agrees that the board should support the resolution. The consensus is that the resolution will be moved forward to the County Board for Approval as Recommended.

- b. MSU Agreement for extension services. Adm. Bousley comments that representatives from MSU were unable to be in attendance and opens the item for discussion. Com. Piche, as a member of the hiring committee, comments that there just aren't many applicants for the position (there have been a total of 5 applicants and 1 might be a possibility for a personal interview). Com. Nelson questioned the education requirements of the position (currently a Master's Degree is required). Com. Piche, Com. Meintz, Com. Hafeman, and Com. Schei agreed that the current education requirement maybe a hindrance to filling the position. Com. Hafeman suggests reducing the MSU payments for each period when an educator is not filling the position. Com. Meintz questions if the amount of value lost by not having an educator on staff can be calculated and deducted from the payment. Com. Nelson and Com. Schei suggest that Adm. Bousley calculate and deducted the amount from the MSU payment. Com. Meintz stated that in order to have a successful extension service you needed to have someone that was involved with the local people. Adm. Bousley stated that Representative McBroom has inquired as to what extent the Ag services were being provided to Menominee County by the extension because other counties were not satisfied with the services being provided to their counties as well. Com. Meintz also stated that Joe Schultz from Michigan Works' (Ag Direct Program) has indicated that they were looking to fill some of the gaps from the inability of 4-H to provide services. Com. Lang asked if Menominee County could run local programs and just not call it 4-H. Com. Meintz stated that we could run local programs buy we would not be able to participate in 4-H sponsored events. Com. Nelson commented the current issue with MSU is whether or not to pay for the services not being provided. Com. Nelson feels that Adm. Bousley should determine the value of the services not provided and deduct that amount from payment. Com. Furlong comments that the county has a memorandum of understanding with MSU as to the services to be provided and if we are not receiving those services then we should not pay the bill until such time as the services are provided. It was the consensus of the County Board to withhold payment of the MSU payment until such time as the services are provided.

FINANCE ITEMS:

- a. Commissioner Per Diems and Expenses. No questions/comments. The consensus is to move forward to the County Board for Approval as Recommended.
- b. Miscellaneous bills as paid on January 30&31, 2014 in the combined amount of \$57,956.13. Com Hafeman mentioned that she had some questions and concerns: relative to K9 dog food she encouraged that it be purchased from Menominee County businesses rather than from Wisconsin; was there a figure available at this time for the amount paid to date for bulletproofing; asked if the sheriff "walk troughs" were being performed; and further inquired as to the fire safety inspections and the cost of calculator repairs. Com. Schei inquired as to mileage reimbursements for Probate Court. The consensus is to move forward to the County Board for Approval as Recommended.

MISC. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS REPORTS:

- a. No questions/comments. The consensus is to move forward to the County Board for Approval as Recommended.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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Bob Desjarlais stated that he likes the discussion of the MSU Extension hiring process and feels that there are many good individuals with experience that should be given serious consideration.

Charlene Peterson agrees with the board's decision to withhold payment until the educator position has been filled. Ms. Peterson also questioned the decision of the Parks Committee to pay its volunteers \$50/meeting if the volunteers requested. Ms. Peterson called upon the board to reconsider the per diem payments to volunteers.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT:

Com. Plutchak informed the board that the appointment at the airport becoming open as Jason Lauzer may not be able to complete his term as he may be relocating for employment reasons.

Com. Hafeman is excited for the possibility of full revenue sharing and that she is glad that the part time correction officers are in process with their training. Com. Hafeman further commented that from information she has read as to the employer mandates for companies under 100 and other portions of the mandate have been extended so "maybe we can think about holding off".

Com. Piche getting back to the Farm Management position, the committee is going to keep working on it and hopeful that they will find a qualified applicant. Com. Plutchak is going to schedule a Personnel Committee meeting and they will be talking about the situation in the Equalization Department. Com. Nelson has set a meeting for the 3 Way Road Commission for 02/17.

Com. Krienke attended a “Morning Break With MERS” meeting with Adm. Bousley represented by Tara from MERS. It appears that the county can address its unfunded liability by merely formulating a plan. Adm. Bousley stated that this was a part of the overall revenue sharing plan whereby the county needed to formulate a plan to address its unfunded liability. Currently the plan is due 06/01/2014. Com Krienke said that Tara from MERS offered to come to a county board meeting to review the meeting. Com. Nelson expressed his belief that an actuary needed to be involved to assist in formulating a long term plan. Com. Krienke stated that the MERS representative said there would never be a time when the county’s liability is fully paid because the actuarial numbers are constantly changing. Com. Schei agrees with Com. Krienke’s thoughts of having an special meeting with MERS to review the formulating of a plan. Com. Nelson cautions having MERS at a meeting in that it is in MERS’ own interest. Com. Meintz states that he has asked Representative McBroom if there is a possibility of having legislation to allow counties to pull their money out of MERS and go to a different retirement manager. Com. Krienke also mentioned that on 02/22/2014 he would be participating in the Menominee County Walk for Warmth and there are 9 remaining openings on his pledge form.

Com. Furlong stated that he will be participating in Muscular Dystrophy’s Jail and Bail on 02/26/2014.

Any other items members may wish to present: None.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Nelson to adjourn at 6:56 p.m. Motion was approved 9-0.

Charlie Meintz, Chairman

Tom Faller Chief Deputy, County Clerk