

February 12, 2013

APPROVED on 2/26/13

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 the County Annex Building, 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. Hafeman to approve the agenda. Motion was approved 9-0.

Moved by Com. Lang, seconded by Com. Hafeman to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2013 Regular County Board Meeting. Motion was approved 9-0.

Public Comment:

-Bill Hafeman – He thinks the Miscellaneous Bills should be approved by the County Board before they are paid, and not after.

-Charlene Peterson – She stated that this would not always work, as many bills have due dates that would be missed and late fees could be added.

Presentations: None.

Department Head/Elected Officials Reports: None.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Furlong to approve the Campground Host Volunteer Program as submitted by the parks committee. Motion was approved 9-0.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Plutchak to approve the County Board committee assignment schedule for 2013 as amended. Motion was approved 7-2. Com. Furlong and Lang voted nay.

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

Moved by Com. Furlong, seconded by Com. Lang to approve miscellaneous bills as paid on January 3 & 10, 2013 in the total amount of \$78,317.54. Discussion ensued. Com. Hafeman asked questions about several bills. The commissioners discussed the process of approving miscellaneous bills. It was explained that the County Administrator has the authority to approve bills up to \$5,000. Motion was approved 9-0.

Moved by Com. Schei, seconded by Com. Plutchak 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. None

Building and Grounds/Parks Items:

- a. Sale of firewood/saw logs bids – Shakey Lakes Park. – Administration has submitted an advertisement to receive bids for the sale of firewood/saw logs for Shakey Lakes Park. Bids are due back on Feb. 15th at noon. There are approximately 12 cords of Oak firewood and approximately 2 cords of Oak saw logs. (One bid to include all wood). Commissioners asked if there was a minimum bid. Brian explained there was not a minimum bid set, but the board reserves the right to refuse any bids. Com. Meintz also asked if Brian contacted any local firewood producers. Brian explained he did not, nor can he because if he were to miss contacting any of them there could be issues. The bids were sent to the local newspapers. The bids will be available for approval at the next regular meeting.

Miscellaneous Items:

- a. MAC Conference attendees. – The commissioners discussed how many commissioners the county should send to the MAC Conference due to the high cost of attending. It was agreed upon that not all commissioners should attend. The consensus of the board is to send 2 or 3 commissioners. Com. Furlong, Nelson, and Krienke all asked, and were approved to attend the MAC Conference in Lansing this year.
- b. Mutual Aid Agreement – City of Marinette Police Dept. – The mutual aid agreement allows the City of Marinette Police Dept. to work together with the Menominee County Sheriff Dept. in MI or WI. The City of Marinette Police Dept. has already approved the agreement. Menominee County Commissioners are asked to discuss and approve the mutual aid agreement. Brian explained that the agreement was drafted by Marinette City Attorney Jon Sbar, and that Menominee County Prosecutor Dan Hass reviewed it and did not find any issues. Com. Nelson asked why the agreement was only between Menominee County and the City of Marinette and not between Marinette County. It was explained that Menominee County and Marinette County already have an agreement in place. There is not an agreement in place with the City of Marinette. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting for approval.
- c. Committee/board vacancies – Jury Commission and Northpointe Board. – Administration has submitted advertisements for the Jury Commission (one vacancy – Mercedes Adams term expiring) and the Northpointe Board (two vacancies – Mary Lee DeGrave and Mari Negro terms expiring). Circuit Court Judges will ask the

commissioners to ratify their decision for Jury Board when all letters of interest are received. Applications for Northpointe members are due Feb. 22, 2013. Com. Meintz asked if these vacancies have been advertised? Brian explained he has sent it to the local newspapers and he will be sending it this week to the Menominee County News.net. 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 17, 23, & 31, 2013 in the total amount of \$237,505.32. 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:

-Mari Negro – She commented that she liked the set up of the County Board tonight at the Annex.

-Dave Wesoloski – Informed the board about the MTA meeting in December and the information that will be provided.

-Bill Hafeman – Discussed the Veterans Relief Fund and handed out information to the board.

-Bob Desjarlais – Commented that Dan Hass should look at the information Bill Hafeman was providing so determine the legality of it.

-Tom Cheski – Asked how many counties currently have a Veterans Relief Fund.

Commissioner Comment:

-Com. Schei discussed the conference that he and Brain Bousley attended in Escanaba on Monday. It was put on by MAC and was about board Chair and Vice-chairs.

-Com. Hafeman discussed the reduction in MERS funding in order to make changes. Now the county needs to be 50% funded to make changes. She would still like to see the extra money the county will be receiving from the State of Michigan to go towards the unfunded balance. She would also like to look at using the county's fund balance to pay for this. In addition she would like the county to look into a hiring freeze. She would also like to see cross training in the courthouse for periods of stress. In addition she would like to see salaries to be in line with other counties in the U.P. and not in Lansing. She also discussed an issue that was brought to her attention by a local resident, Pat Kleikamp regarding paper mill sludge being spilled on the roads.

-Com. Nelson stated that Com. Furlong has a chance at a State Level position with MAC, and the board should do whatever they can to support him.

-Com. Meintz would like to remind everyone about Valentine's Day on Thursday. He also hopes that Com. Furlong gets elected to the position with MAC.

Any other items members may wish to present: None.

Moved by Com. Furlong, seconded by Com. Hafeman to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Motion was approved 9-0.

Charlie Meintz, Chairman

Marc Kleiman, County Clerk