

March 13, 2012

APPROVED on 3/30/12

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 Courthouse, Courtroom B, Menominee, Michigan.

Chairman Furlong 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. Furlong, Jasper, Lang, Meintz, Pearson

Absent: None

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Lang to approve the agenda. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Pearson to approve the minutes from the February 28, 2012 Regular County Board Meeting. Motion was approved 5-0.

Chairman Furlong called for public comment.

Public Comment: None

Presentations: None

Department Head/Elected Officials Reports:

-Diane Lesperance – Informed the board that the tax collection deadline was extended by one day due to the courthouse being closed because of the snow storm. She also thanked the media for getting the word out to the public. She also stated that the foreclosure hearing for Menominee County was held last Monday, and there are 57 parcels to be foreclosed on.

Moved by Com. Pearson, seconded by Com. Meintz to approve a bid from Troy Rivard in the amount of \$910 for the Shakey Lakes Park Firewood and saw logs (approx. 18 cords total). Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Jasper to approve changing the scheduled March 27, 2012 County Board meeting to be moved to March 30, 2012, due to commissioners attending the 2012 MAC Legislative Conference. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Lang, seconded by Com. Jasper to approve the agreement between the Menominee County Board of Commissioners and the Menominee County Sheriff Road Patrol Officers and International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 486; Effective January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2014. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Lang, seconded by Com. Meintz to appoint two citizens (Karen Raether & Mildred Hofer) to the NorthPointe Board of Directors board to represent Menominee County for a three year term (4/1/2012 – 3/31/2015). Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Pearson to table to the next meeting, Agenda Item #5 (a motion to approve a bid from _____ in the amount of \$_____ for the replacement cost and installation of a Video Surveillance System for the Electronic Safety and Security of the Menominee County Jail and Courthouse. Funds to be disbursed from the Designated building fund, acct. #101-103-998). Brian would like more time to take a closer look at the bids. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Jasper, seconded by Com. Pearson to approve Miscellaneous Bills as paid on Feb. 10, 16, & 22 in the amount of \$183,611.70. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Lang, seconded by Com. Meintz to place miscellaneous boards/committees/commission reports of file in the office of the County Clerk. Motion was approved. 5-0.

New Business (discussion only)

Personnel Items:

- a. None

Building and Grounds/Parks Items:

- a. DNR Grant Support Resolution. – The County Administrator is applying for a grant to develop River Park. The County will be responsible for a 25% match of funds. The board is asked to approve the resolution to support the DNR Grant. Brian read the resolution. The grant would be in the amount of \$25,000. Brian will be holding a Public Input Hearing on Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at the Annex in Stephenson. Com. Meintz thinks this is a good idea. Com. Furlong thinks that Brian should send a notice to the residents living next to the park informing them of the hearing. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.
- b. Deputy Camp Site Program – Shakey Lakes Park. – The parks committee would like the commissioners to discuss the possibility of implementing a pilot program to have law enforcement presence in the campground at all times, in return the officer can camp within the park for a reduced camping fee. Brian explained that the Sheriff has presented this idea to the Parks Committee already. The commissioners discussed several questions about whether this officer would be covered under workman's comp if anything happens to them while he/she is handling an issue at the park. Com. Furlong also wanted to know that the officer would not be seeking overtime pay for handling an issue at the park while they are off duty, since they are already receiving a benefit of reduced camping while there. Brian stated that he will look into these issues. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting, with an agreement the officer will not seek additional compensation.
- c. Recognition of Mark Aubert – Service on Parks Committee. – The Parks Committee discussed having a former member of the parks committee (Mark Aubert) recognized for his years of service to Menominee County. Brian read the proposed resolution. Com. Meintz said this was a good idea, and that it should be a policy of all committees to recognize a member who has served for an extended period of time. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.

Miscellaneous Items:

- a. Household Hazardous Waste. – The Household Hazardous waste pick up date has been confirmed with Veolia for May 5, 2012. This is our last year with the current contract with Veolia. Approximate estimated cost of \$14,336.53 (dependant on the amount of material collected). The commissioners discussed hosting this in either Menominee or Stephenson. It was held in Menominee last year, and Stephenson the year before that. Brian stated that the turnout when held in Menominee was greater than the year in Stephenson. Com. Jasper

asked if it was possible to hold two pick up dates per year. The board asked Brian to gather more information and they would decide on a site at the next meeting. The board is in agreement on holding it on May 5, 2012. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.

- b. COPS Grant. – There has been a change in the way the COPS grant is handled this year. The county will be responsible for a 25% local cash match, with a maximum federal contribution of \$125,000. Brian explained it is a 3 year grant, and the county would have to commit to maintaining the officer for 1 more year after the grant expires. He stated the Sheriff would not be creating a new position, but making a part-time officer into a full-time officer. Com. Meintz stated that the county would be basically paying for 2 years and the grant would pay for 2 years. He also stated he is not in favor of this. Brian stated that they can apply for the grant but they do not have to accept it if they are approved. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.
- c. Commissioner Goals for 2012. – Com. Furlong would like to hold a Committee of the Whole meeting to work on the joint goal of space needs. They have decided to meet as COW on Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. Brian stated that he has Delta County's IT person coming to the next meeting to discuss how Delta County has implemented a paperless board. Com. Lang stated that there has been no change to his goal of finishing the bell tower on the courthouse. Com. Furlong suggested that after the issue of displaying the bell has been completed then we could move on to the bell tower. Brian stated that he and the County Clerk have been working with a few companies on what it will take to move county documents into a digital format so that they can be accessed electronically. Com. Jasper asked about the Hermansville hotel project. Brian stated that we are waiting to hear back from Lansing before we can proceed. Com. Jasper would also like for the property to be turned over to Meyer Township after the demolition and clean up has been completed.

Finance Items:

- a. MAC Revenue Sharing. – Commissioner Lang is concerned with the revenue sharing funding that the state “statutorily promised” to allocate to the counties. Now the state is asking the counties to “qualify” to receive payments. He explained that Jonathon Mead is working on a resolution for the U.P. counties to pass regarding this. Brian explained a little more on what the county would have to do to “qualify” to receive payments. There are three categories that the county would need to be in compliance with. The first two categories are already being accomplished by the county, but the third category involving employee compensation would not be possible with current collective bargaining agreements in place.
- b. Commissioner per diems and expenses. - The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.
- c. Miscellaneous Bills as paid on March 2 & 6, 2012 in the amount of \$178,944.79. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.

Misc. Boards/Committees/Commissions Reports:

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

Chairman Furlong called for public comment

Public Comment:

-Dale Axtell – Can't hear the commissioners during the meeting.

-Diane Lesperance – Settlement from Treasurers, PILT payment was due on February 29, 2012.

Commissioner Comment:

-Com. Lang commented on open and transparent government and the use of speakers so the public can hear the commissioners.

-Com. Furlong commented that the county should look into a better sound system for meetings. Also the MAC conference will be held at the end of the month and he is sure they will be discussing the PILT payments.

-Com. Meintz agrees that it is hard to hear the commissioners during the meeting. He does not agree the Governor and his views on revenue sharing and PILT. He thinks that it should be on the next agenda to discuss the State of Michigan not paying PILT, and he would not have a problem as a commissioner putting a lien on the State's property for their nonpayment. He also told everyone to enjoy the beautiful weather.

-Com. Jasper commented that he would like to have the mine come to another meeting and update the board on their progress.

Any other items members may wish to present: None

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Pearson to adjourn at 6:53 p.m. Motion was approved 5-0.

James Furlong, Chairman

Marc Kleiman, County Clerk