

April 10, 2012

APPROVED on 4/24/12

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 Meyer Township Hall, Hermansville, 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

Chairman Furlong stated that the agenda would need to be amended to add under "New Business" Building and Grounds/Parks Items, "Item A" to be a discussion of new Digital Recording equipment in Courtroom A, B and Judge Hupy's Chambers.

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

Moved by Com. Lang, seconded by Com. Jasper to approve the minutes from the March 30, 2012 Regular County Board Meeting. Motion was approved 5-0.

Chairman Furlong called for public comment.

**Public Comment:**

- Charlene Petersen – Agenda Item #6 the appointment to the Menominee County Planning Commission. She and the MTA supports Lillian Schultz.
- Bob Desjarlais – MTA supports Lillian Schultz for the Planning Commission.
- John Nelson – He supports Lillian Schultz for the Planning Commission.
- Gary Eichhorn – Agenda Item #3 approval of bid for video surveillance system, urged the board to look at this item carefully. Also he supports Lillian Schultz for the Planning Commission.

**Presentations:** Ray LaMarche – Anderson Tackman & Co., PLC ~ FY2011 Audit Report.

**Department Head/Elected Officials Reports:**

- Diane Lesperance – Informed the board that she has finished the foreclosures for Menominee County, and there are 11 parcels.
- Dan Menacher – Discussed the audit and establishing a policy for his department handling money.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Pearson to allow the County Administrator to not file an appeal to the Bureau of Indian Affairs in reference to the Fee to Trust Acquisition on the Beauchamp parcel. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Jasper, seconded by Com. Meintz to approve Menominee County's Soil Erosion Permit fee scale as proposed by the County Building Inspector. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Furlong, seconded by Com. Pearson to approve a bid by Twin City Electric of Menominee/U.E.S of Marinette in the amount of \$ 90,669.00 for the replacement of the video surveillance system in the Jail and exterior of the jail and courthouse buildings. Funds to be disbursed from account # 101-103-998.00 (designated building fund). Discussion ensued. Brian Bousley explained

that Cyberzone of Marinette went through the specs for the bids and made a list of their preference based on compliance with the requested specs. Com. Meintz asked Sheriff Marks several questions regarding the current system and the new purposed system. Motion was approved 4-1, Com. Meintz voted nay.

Discussion ensued regarding Agenda Item 4. The board asked building inspector Dan Menacher for his recommendation on the bids. He said both sides are comparable, but he is concerned that this project as proposed will not solve the energy efficiency issue that the board is looking to solve. He recommends that they table this item until he can look into it further.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Furlong to table Agenda Item #4 (to approve a bid from \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to build the Airlock Breezeway for the Courthouse West Entrance. Funds to be disbursed from account # 101-103-970.06 (other legislative, capital outlay).) Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Furlong, seconded by Com. Jasper to appoint Donna Buechler as a Citizen member with recreational & tourist interests, to the Menominee County Planning Commission for a 3 year term (5/1/2012-4/30/2015). Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Furlong, seconded by Com. Pearson to appoint Lillian Schultz as a Citizen with gov. municipal interests, to the Menominee County Planning Commission for a 3 year term (5/1/2012-4/30/2015). Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Furlong, seconded by Com. Meintz to appoint Janis Linderoth to the U.P. State Fair Board for a 3 year term. (5/1/2012 – 4/30/2015). Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Jasper, seconded by Com. Meintz to approve Miscellaneous Bills as paid on March 9, 15 & 21, 2012 in the amount of \$87,713.03. Discussion ensued, Com. Meintz asked Brian about at bill for Attorney Stoker and also about a bill for snow plows. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Pearson 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. Digital Recording Equipment – Brian explained that there is a need to replace the current recording equipment that is being used in Courtroom A, B and Judge Hupy’s chambers. The new equipment would be digital equipment similar to what is being used in Dickinson County. It is important to use similar equipment to Dickinson County since the 41<sup>st</sup> Circuit Court covers both counties and the staff would be familiar with it. Brian explained that this will cost between \$35,000 and \$40,000. This is something the county has been looking into for the past few budget years, but has put off in the hope that the old equipment would still work. Clerk Kleiman explained that some parts for maintenance of the old equipment and technicians to complete that work are no longer available. This equipment would not only be used for the courts, but will be used by the county board during meetings. Commissioners asked several question. Com. Furlong would like Brian to look into the possibility of having the State of Michigan help pay for some of the cost. Brian will bring this item back to the board upon receiving more information.

**Miscellaneous Items:**

- a. Resolution 2012-08 ~ April 2012 Head Start Month. – The Community Action Agency has requested for the County Board to approve a resolution in support of Head Start Month to celebrate the accomplishments of the local Head Start program through our early childhood center and the community. Brian read the resolution to the board. Com. Furlong stated that since it was already April the board should move this item to an action item for approval.

Moved by Com. Furlong, seconded by Com. Pearson to make the approval of Resolution 2012-08 ~ April 2012 Head Start Month as an action item for approval. Motion was approved 5-0 by a roll call vote.

Moved by Com. Pearson, seconded by Com. Jasper to approve Resolution 2012-08 ~ April 2012 Head Start Month. Motion was approved 5-0. (Attachment A)

- b. Menominee County Bylaws, Board Rules, County Policies, and Charters of Standing Committees. – The Executive committee met twice and has made some changes to the bylaws, board rules & county policies. Those changes were outlined and a copy was given to all of the commissioners. The board is asked to discuss/accept the recommended changes from the Executive committee. Brian read the changes that the Executive committee recommended. Com. Meintz stated that he likes the cap of \$100 in per diems for the day that are in the current bylaws. The new bylaws would lift that cap, and allow commissioners to receive per diems for as many meetings as they attend in a day. Com. Meintz also stated that with the new 9 member board coming in next year he feels this board should set an example and not take the \$50 per diem for each regularly scheduled county board meeting. He stated that this would save the new board \$900 per month. He feels that the \$4,000 salary that the commissioners currently receive should cover their regularly scheduled meetings. He is in favor of still receiving per diems for special meetings, and committee meetings. Com. Lang disagrees with Com. Meintz. Com. Furlong said he disagrees also. He also stated that he uses his salary to pay for his cell phone and his other expenses related to his job as a commissioner. Com. Pearson also does not agree with Com. Meintz as he feels per diems are a per item payment and they should receive it for attending meetings. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting

**Finance Items:**

- a. Miscellaneous Bills as paid on March 29, 2012 in the amount of \$101,202.74. – The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.
- b. Commissioner Per Diems and expenses. – 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:**

- Bob Desjarlais – Thanks the board for appointing Lillian Schultz to the Planning Commission, and he agrees with Com. Meintz about the per diems.
- John Anderson – Asked about the county having a an office in the Powers or Hermansville area.
- Ray Gurgall – He supports Com. Meintz proposal.
- Lillian Schultz – Thanks the board for appointing her to the Planning Commission.
- John Nelson – Thanks the board for appointing Lillian Schultz to the Planning Commisison.
- Pat Kleikamp – Would like to inform the board about the transportation of paper mill sludge on the county roads and illegal activity that is not being dealt with.

**Commissioner Comment:**

-Com. Meintz – Asked Diane Lesperance what has been happening around the state with the PILT payments. She said she has heard nothing so far. Com. Meintz would still like to pursue action on the state for non payment. Also, he hopes everyone had a nice Easter.

-Com. Furlong – Also asked Diane about this and if we could pursue legal action.

-Com. Pearson – Would like to learn more about the sludge being spread on the roads and if the previous board issued a permit for this to be transported.

-Com. Jasper – commented about Com. Meintz idea of commissioner pay and thinks Brian should look into what other counties are doing. He asked about the survey on the number of people from the northern part of the county utilizing the courthouse on a daily basis. And, if it warrants putting an office in Powers. He wants to keep working on taking down the red brick building in Hermansville.

**Any other items members may wish to present:** None

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Pearson to adjourn at 7:08 p.m. Motion was approved 5-0.

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James Furlong, Chairman

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Marc Kleiman, County Clerk