

April 24, 2012

APPROVED on 5/8/12

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

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

Moved by Com. Pearson, seconded by Com. Meintz to approve the minutes from the April 10, 2012 Regular County Board Meeting & Equalization Session. Motion was approved 5-0.

Chairman Furlong called for public comment.

Public Comment: None.

Presentations: None.

Department Head/Elected Officials Reports: None.

Moved by Com. Lang, seconded by Com Pearson to approve the Menominee County Bylaws, Board Rules, County Policies, and Charters of Standing Committees as discussed at the 4/10/12 County Board Meeting. Discussion ensued, and Com. Meintz stated that he is still not in favor of the Bylaws as they pertain to Commissioner Per Diems. Motion was approved 4-1, Com. Meintz voted nay.

Discussion ensued regarding Agenda Item 2. The board asked building inspector Dan Menacher for his recommendation on the bids. Dan stated he is in support of a vestibule and would recommend DGR option #1 if they were going to vote on it tonight. He still does not believe that the vestibule will solve the energy loss. He thinks there are some less expensive options that they can try first before they build the vestibule. Com. Furlong recommends that the board table this item, and allow Dan to try some less expensive options for the two entry doors.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Pearson to table Agenda Item #2 (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. Meintz, seconded by Com. Jasper to approve Commissioner per diems and expenses as recently submitted for payment. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Pearson, seconded by Com. Meintz to approve Miscellaneous Bills as paid on March 29, 2012 in the amount of \$101,202.74. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Pearson to place miscellaneous boards/committees/commission reports on 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 for the courtrooms/chambers – VarTec, LLS was here to demonstrate the Digital recording system currently used in other courtrooms in the state. It uses our state program (JIS) to interface with to make the recording process very user friendly. Dickinson County’s court reporter has been using the system since June of 2011 with outstanding reviews. Com. Meintz asked if there are any grants available to pay for this. Brian stated that there were no grants that he knew of, but would check. Com. Furlong asked what the next step in the process is. Do we go out for bids? Com. Meintz asked Al Thompson and Clerk Kleiman several questions about the demonstration. Al explained that this is the only company that has this equipment. Clerk Kleiman explained that it would not mean that there is a need for less staffing. Com. Lang asked if this company had a good reputation and if they would be around for the long haul. The consensus of the board is to have Brian put this out for bids.

Miscellaneous Items:

- a. Survey in Courthouse – Discussion of North County Liaison possibility. – A survey was conducted in the courthouse to see where the majority of patrons using the courthouse live within the county. This survey was conducted to see if it would be feasible to have a liaison office in the northern end of the county for services. Brian read the results from the survey and the different services each department currently provides outside of the courthouse. Com. Lang asked if the board was still looking at moving services out of the courthouse, or what additional services can be provided. Com. Jasper stated that he thought this was a good start. Com. Pearson thanked Brian and the Department Heads for the work they put into this survey. Com. Meintz stated that this was good information, and he thinks the county should promote the use of these services.

Finance Items:

- a. Deficit Elimination Plan for Re-monumentation (\$16,217) and State-Special Child Care (\$14,424). – For FY ending September 30, 2011 – the audit came back with two deficits. Brian has prepared a resolution to send to the Treasury to explain and correct the deficits for Menominee County. Brian explained the two deficits. Com. Meintz asked a few questions. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.
- b. Miscellaneous Bills as paid on April 11 & 13, 2012 in the amount of \$221,833.76. 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:

-Ray Gurgall – Commented on the Digital Recording System and he thinks it is a waste of money.

Commissioner Comment:

-Com. Meintz – Talked to Brian about a security problem in the courthouse with an individual causing problems. He wanted to bring this up now because he knows the Sheriff is going to ask for an extra patrol officer for this. He stated that he is not in favor of adding another officer for this. He also stated that the parks have already taken in a substantial amount of early camping reservations and he thinks it will be a good year.

-Com. Lang – Reported back to the board from his UPCAP meeting. Senator Casperson’s aid was present and they discussed PILT, and Senator Casperson is on the county’s side. They discussed the difference in money received whether the land was on the tax roll vs. PILT payments. County Treasurer Diane Lesperance put together the figures comparing this and Com. Lang thanked her for the excellent job. Senator Casperson would like to restore the PILT payments to \$2/acre with a 5% increase for inflation.

-Com. Furlong – Discussed the airport commission and Explorer Solution’s phase 1 report. They would like to give a presentation to both the Menominee County Board and Marinette County Board on May 29, 2012. Com. Furlong has asked Brian to look into the possibility if the board could hold a committee of the whole meeting in Marinette on that date.

Any other items members may wish to present: None

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Jasper to adjourn at 6:23 p.m. Motion was approved 5-0.

James Furlong, Chairman

Marc Kleiman, County Clerk