

May 28, 2013  
APPROVED on June 11, 2013

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 Courtroom B, Courthouse, Menominee, 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. Schei to approve the agenda. Motion was approved 9-0.

Moved by Com. Hafeman, seconded by Com. Schei to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2013 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. Furlong and seconded by Com. Hafeman to approve Resolution 2013-08 Support of DNR Grant for River Park Development. Motion approved 9-0. (Attachment A)

Moved by Com. Schei and seconded by Com. Krienke to approve Budget Amendment #1 for the 2012/13 Budget as approved by the Finance Committee. Motion approved 9-0.

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

Moved by Com. Lang and seconded by Com. Piche to approve miscellaneous bills as paid on April 25 & May 09, 2013 in the amount of \$99,923.99. Motion approved 9-0.

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

**New Business (discussion only)**

**Personnel Items:**

- a. Part Time Employees – Health Care Reform requirements. Adm. Bousley addressed the possibility of an implementation date of August 4<sup>th</sup>, limiting part time employees to 29 hrs/wk, and to budget for possible penalties. Com. Meintz asked what other counties are considering. Adm. Bousley commented that other administrators in the U.P. are on the same page with similar questions. Com. Nelson and Com. Hafeman commented that because of the possibility of overage of part time hours they would prefer part time employees be limited to 25 hrs/wk. Adm. Bousley commented that he was somewhat concerned about the increased possibility of employee turnaround with such a reduction. Com. Lang questioned as to the number of times an employee may work over the 29 hr/wk limit. Com. Plutchak commented that with the questions concerning penalties and implementation the board may want to consider part time employees at 25 hrs/wk rather than 29 hrs/wk. Adm. Bousley will bring back additional information for the board at the next meeting.

**Building and Grounds/Parks Items:**

- a. Veterans Council of Menominee – Request Permission dated to ring the County Bell on Specific (military related) dates. Adm. Bousley address the request from the Veterans Council of Menominee for approval to ring the County Bell for Memorial Day (last Mon of May), Flag Day (06/14), July 4<sup>th</sup> Day, Labor Day (1<sup>st</sup> Mon of Sep), 9/11 Day, and Veterans Day (11/11). Com. Lang commented that he was in attendance at the Memorial Day bell ringing and the overall impression was very favorable. It was the consensus the this matter be forwarded to the County Board for Approval as Recommended.

**Miscellaneous Items:**

- a. Discussion of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Menominee County. Adm. Bousley commented that he has discussed the anniversary with Ms. Nancy Douglas. Com. Hafeman asked as to the possibility of incorporating the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary theme for the floats in the Waterfront parade, and further if the Menominee Journal publication would be able to incorporate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary theme in its publication.
- b. Cheboygan County Resolution in Support for the Preservation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. Com. Hafeman offered a re-written resolution for consideration. Com. Nelson commented that rather than a resolution in support of a specific portion of the constitution he would rather a resolution in support of the entire constitution. Com. Furlong commented that the board might not want to consider addressing resolutions which the board cannot support, that the board should not support a resolution merely for the purpose of supporting a resolution. It was the consensus of the board that this matter be continued after further consideration and review.
- c. Resolution 2013-11 – Menominee County 911 Surcharge. Adm. Bousley read Resolution 2013-11 approving the default surcharge cap rate of \$2.12 or the highest rate. In that Menominee County’s current surcharge rate is \$2.20 a reduction to

\$2.12 would provide slight tax relief. Com. Nelson asked if the county should consider a consolidation of 911 services to offer further tax reduction. Com. Lang and Com. Nelson support the investigation of combining 911 services. Adm. Bousley commented that he will explore the combined services, however the current resolution need to be considered. Resolution 2013-11 will be forwarded to the County Board for Approval as Recommended.

- d. Northpointe Behavioral Health Systems Discussion. Com. Nelson questioned the service(s) being received. Com. Hafeman questioned as to the location of the service centers. Com. Nelson and Com. Plutchak would like to see a better outline/brief as to what services Northpoint Behavioral Health Systems provides. Com. Nelson and Com. Hafeman offered to review this matter further. This matter will continue at the June 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Finance Items:**

- a. Resolution 2013-10-Menominee County Deficit Elimination Plan – Road Patrol \$34,671. Adm. Bousley read Resolution 2013-10. Com. Nelson questioned if the resolution can be amended to reflect the unfunded MERS funding once the updated MERS information is received. Adm. Bousley commented that the current resolution is the result of the counties recent audit, further that all other information has been submitted to the Department of the Treasury, and that the resolution is the only matter currently pending.

Com. Nelson moved and Com. Hafeman seconded that Resolution 2013-10 be moved forward to the board as an action item. The resolution was moved forward with a Roll Call vote 9-0.

Com. Furlong moved and Com. Nelson seconded to approve Resolution 2013-10 – Menominee County Deficit Elimination Plan for FY ending September 30, 2012. The resolution was approved with a Roll Call vote 9-0. (Attachment B)

- b. FY 2014 Agreement for Extension Services provided by Michigan State University (MSU). Doug Brahee of Michigan State University Extension addressed the board as to the current organization structure the MSU Extension which has moved away from a county structure to a statewide structure. Further that the services provided by the extension are facilitated by its specialized statewide teams rather than individual county educators. Com. Meintz asked how the MSU Extension will generate local activity and if the extension will be actively promoted within the county/local community. Com. Hafeman raised a concern that the contract calls for, and that the county is paying for, a full time educator. Com. Schei expressed similar concerns as raised by Com. Hafeman. Com. Furlong suggested that since Delta county has additional educators based within its county, one of their educators should be based in and have office hours in Menominee county. Adm. Bousley commented that others counties have variations of the MSU Extension contract that provide for reduced assessments. Com. Nelson commented that if the MSU Extension is no longer able to provide the services specified in its contract with Menominee County then the assessment paid by Menominee County should be reduced. This matter will be continued at the next board meeting to allow Doug Brahee to review the concerns addressed by the board.

- c. Commissioner Per Diems and Expenses. This matter was recommended with the following changes: Com. Meintz expense form be corrected to reflect the correct date. It was the consensus of the board that this matter be moved forward to the next meeting for approval.
- d. Miscellaneous bills as paid on May 16 & 23, 2013 in the amount of \$157,826.34. Com. Hafeman asked for clarification as to the Road Patrol gas charges and the item for pizzas for the jurors. Clarification was provided by Adm. Bousley and County Clerk Marc Kleiman. It was the consensus of the board that this matter be moved forward to the County Board for Approval as Recommended.

**Misc. Boards/Committees/Commissions Reports:**

- a. Com. Hafeman commented on the Airport and Road Commission minutes. It was the consensus of the board that this matter be moved forward to the County Board for Approval as Recommended.

**Chairman Meintz called for public comment**

**Public Comment:**

- **Kandace Curran** - introduced herself as a MSU Extension Menominee County employee and believes that Menominee County needs a full time educator to maintain its contact with the Menominee County users

- **Charlene Peterson** - offered her support for a full time educator in the extension office. Ms. Peterson stated that Dr. Erdman had many contacts and resources that are now missing.

- **Justin Zirkle** - introduced himself as a candidate for the 108<sup>th</sup> State House District. Mr. Zirkle stressed that the people of Menominee County need to have their voices heard and need to press for services for our citizens that protect our future and provide for our citizens.

- **Stephanie Bruno** – a program instructor at the MSU Extension office, stressed the need for an educator based in Menominee County.

**Commissioner Comment:**

- **Com. Furlong** was wondering who the individual was in the County Clerk's chair. Marc Kleiman responded that it was Tom Faller. When asked if he was a new hire, it was pointed out that his appointment was in January, prior to the hiring freeze. Com. Furlong welcomed Tom Faller.

- **Com. Hafeman** thanked those that took the time to speak up and that she agrees that the office is understaffed and thanked the board for moving the Commercial Forest Reserves (CFR) Resolution forward and commented that the resolution was passed at the UPCAP conference. She further expressed her appreciation to Adm. Bousley for his concise resolution for Menominee County addressing revenue sharing and the resolution from Bay City concerning tax exempt bonds. Com. Hafeman further commented that a representative from Pinecrest is willing to speak to the board. On behalf of the board she would like to wish Com. Lang a Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

- **Com. Krienke**

- **Com. Lang** commented that the Monroe and Bay County resolutions are exactly on point, that revenue sharing are still the county's main concern and

that the state is pushing the counties to the brink in order to save their own economic skin. Further that at the DHS meeting the board feels that the county board is not equal in the application of that rule that mental health receives money from the board and uses that money to reimburse its board and DHS receives funds from the board but that they are restricted from such reimbursements.

- **Com. Meintz** agrees that it was a good meeting and that there were many emotions that were brought up and dealt with. Further that he believes the board members are working together very well to work toward achieving whatever goal the board is agreeing to go forward with.

- **Com. Nelson** commented that he is awaiting the MERS numbers, that with the stock market being at 15000 if MERS numbers are not at 4 million dollars or less that the county owes this is a disaster. Further that the department heads must continue to understand that the county board needs to find ways to pay what is owed.

- **Com. Piche** commented that he thought it was an excellent meeting. That people expressed their feeling and gave the board a challenge to seek ways to resolve the issues addressed.

- **Com. Plutchak** commented that the comments expressed were made as public comments on public time and expressed in the interest of providing the board with information to assist in the decision making process. Further that he didn't want to see anyone lose their jobs over their comments as they were made to assist the board.

- **Com. Schei** commented that he would like to express his appreciation to Com. Lang for his years service to the county board and wishes him many more Happy Birthdays to come. Further that as the board deals with its day to day issues it must remember that the future of Menominee County lies with its youth.

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

Moved by Com. Nelson, seconded by Com. Hafeman to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Motion was approved 9-0.

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Charlie Meintz, Chairman

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Tom Faller Chief Deputy, County Clerk