

July 15, 2013

APPROVED on 8/27/13

Proceedings of a Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Menominee and the State of Michigan were held in the County Administrator's Office, Courthouse, Menominee, Michigan.

Vice Chairman Schei called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Meintz arrived.

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.

**Public Comment:**

- Nancy Douglas (Economic Development Director) – Discussed Public Act 198 and the City of Menominee's authority to establish an Industrial Development District.
- Jerry Mullins (President and CEO Enstrom Helicopter) – Discussed keeping Enstrom here in Menominee as opposed to moving to another state that could offer them tax incentives. If the County tries to block this he will have to go back to his company and tell them Menominee is not the place for their company to be expanding.
- Jill Schwanz (Menominee City Assessor) – Discussed taxing authority and explained who, and what gets taxed.
- Jason Lauzier (Chairman Airport Commission) – Discussed that if the County Board has an issue with the question of taxing authority they should address that differently and not attach that issue to the establishment of this Industrial Development District.

Moved by Com. Schei, seconded by Com. Hafeman to approve the agenda. Motion was approved 9-0.

Moved by Com. Plutchak, seconded by Com. Hafeman to pursue legal objection to the establishment of an industrial development district at the Twin County Airport by the City of Menominee. Discussion ensued. Com. Meintz stated that he has concerns with the City of Menominee and who really owns the property at the airport. Com. Furlong stated that the Twin County Airport owns the property. The City of Menominee and Menominee Township have the taxing authority. Equalization Director Peggy Schroud was asked to look up information on who owns the property. She stated that on February 24, 1984 the property was deeded to Menominee and Marinette Counties as part

of the Twin County Airport. Com. Plutchak discussed the map that was being shown at the meeting. He stated that the pink area on the map is under the city. He feels this is both Menominee and Marinette County land and he feels it should be the county to decide who can offer tax exemptions and not the city. Com. Nelson stated that nobody is opposed to setting up this IDD be he thinks we need to know if the City of Menominee can legally do this. Com. Furlong discussed the IDD that is already in place at the airport. He feels that this meeting is a bid waste of time. Com. Furlong asked Com. Meintz and Com. Plutchak why they didn't address these questions at the Airport Commission meeting when they unanimously approved setting up the IDD. Com. Schei stated that the worst thing we can do is to alienate Enstrom and lose their business. Nancy Douglas spoke again, and explained that this would be the 12<sup>th</sup> IDD in Menominee County. Com. Lang asked where on the map was the dividing line at the airport between the City of Menominee and Menominee Township. He also asked if Menominee Township has been asked to approve an IDD. Com. Nelson thinks we should support the city right now and move forward with this and clarify things at a later date. He also feels we should rescind this motion. Com. Piche asked Brian Bousley what his thoughts were. Brian stated that it would be best to vote on this motion. The board can't rescind this motion and make a new one since it is not on the agenda. Com. Meintz asked for a roll call vote. Motion was not approved 0-9 by a roll call vote.

**Public Comment:**

- Nancy Douglas – Thanked the board for not pursuing legal action.
- Jill Schwanz – She will work with Peggy Schroud to see who the airport is properly titled to for the tax roll.
- Jerry Mullins – It is very important for the image of Menominee County to change if they would like business to move to the area and develop.
- Diane Lesperance – Her husband works at Enstrom, and she would hate to see the company have to leave the area.

Moved by Com. Nelson, seconded by Com. Furlong to adjourn at 10:38 a.m. Motion was approved 9-0.

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Charlie Meintz, Chairman

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Marc Kleiman, County Clerk