

September 14, 2010

APPROVED on 9/28/10

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 Annex Building, Stephenson, Michigan.

Chairman Eichhorn 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. Anderson, Eichhorn, Furlong, Lang, and Meintz

Absent: None

Chairman Eichhorn called for public comment.

Public Comment: None

Com. Furlong asked to amend the agenda to add item number 4h (Discussion of the County Budget that was submitted at the last finance committee meeting.)

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

Moved by Com. Lang, supported by Com. Anderson to approve the minutes from the August 4, 2010 Special Committee of the Whole meeting. Motion was approved 5-0.

Com. Anderson stated that the minutes from the August 10, 2010 Committee of the Whole need to be changed to reflect that the three way road program plan was to be forwarded to the Finance Committee.

Moved by Com. Anderson, supported by Com. Meintz to approve the minutes from the August 10, 2010 Committee of the Whole meeting with the previously noted corrections. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com Anderson, supported by Com. Furlong to approved the minutes from the August 24, 2010 Regular County Board meeting. Motion was approved 5-0.

Presentations: None

Department Head/Elected Officials Reports: Treasurer Diane Lesperance updated the County Board as to the progress on the 5th St. house. The garage was taken down on Tuesday, September 14, and it took four, 30 yard dumpsters for all of the waste.

Moved by Com. Furlong, supported by Com. Anderson to approve the distribution of \$3,500 to Ayres Associates for the preparation of a single Wide-Area Hazardous Materials Assessment Grant application and a Petroleum Assessment Grant application to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on behalf of Menominee County. Funds to be disbursed from account #101-103-810.00 (Professional Contractual Services). Discussion ensued, Brian Bousley recommended the county go forward with the contract because both grants are over \$200,000 a piece. If the county does not receive either grant Ayres Associates will resubmit the application again for the next two cycles at no additional charge. We would also need some letters of support from the local townships and cities. Motion was approved 5-0.

New Business (discussion only)

Personnel Items:

- a. None

Building and Grounds/Parks Items:

- a. Parks Bylaws, Rules and Policies & Charters – both Prosecutor Hass and the Parks Committee have approved the Bylaws. The consensus of the board was to move this item forward.

Miscellaneous Items:

- a. Honeywell Municipal Services – Performance Contracting – Brian Bousley explained what services Honeywell would provide. Com. Furlong discussed that the City of Menominee just went through this same process with Honeywell a couple of years ago, and they have implemented some of the changes Honeywell recommended. Com. Lang has some misgivings about Honeywell because of the last involvement the county had with them. Com. Furlong wants to know if we are obligated to Honeywell in any way for any of the changes they recommend. Com. Eichhorn recommends that this be held for further discussion. Brian said he could bring them in for a presentation.
- b. Northpointe appointments – Oath of Civil officers – Com. Eichhorn explained that according to their rules board members are to be sworn in. Com. Lang asked if Northpointe should provide this on their own. County Clerk Marc Kleiman stated that his office will send a letter to the Northpointe Board members and have them come in to take the Oath of Civil officers.
- c. DHS/Pinecrest Board of Directors' member appointment expiration – Com. Eichhorn stated that we are advertising for it. Com. Lang asked if we had any results yet. Brian Bousley stated that we have a recommendation from Mr. Sexton of DHS to reappoint Michael Kaufman.
- d. Basara Parcel – Hannahville Indian Community – Fee to Trust Acquisition – Com. Eichhorn informed the board that the Hannahville Indian Community has filed to have a piece of their property placed into trust status. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is asking for Menominee County to submit a "Notice of Appeal" within 30 days should the board want to file one. Com. Lang stated that from what he has read the county will lose more than \$1,000 a year in taxes if this goes forward. He said that Hannahville is justifying this because of the 2% money that they give out each year. Com. Meintz compared this to the State of Michigan buying property and not paying taxes. Com. Furlong asked if Harris Township has weighed in on this matter. Treasurer Diane Lesperance stated that she spoke with other counties where this

similar thing is happening. She referenced Isabella County. Com. Furlong and Com. Anderson said they have no problem with it as long as Harris Township doesn't have a problem with it.

Finance Items:

- a. Resolution 2010-18 – Approval or acceptance of Credit Card Payments by Menominee County offices – Brian Bousley explained what GovPay is. Com. Furlong asked who pays the fees and if the customers are notified of the fees. County Clerk Marc Kleiman explained how the fee scale works. The consensus of the board was to move this item forward.
- b. Recovery Bonds – retention of Recovery Zone Bonds – Com. Eichhorn stated if Menominee County wishes to retain recovery zone bond allocation, we must submit a letter by October 8, 2010 in accordance to the information provided. Com. Lang stated he does not understand what they are asking for. Brian Bousley explained that we either need to use the bonds or lose them. Com. Meintz asked if there was anyway we could use it for any projects. The consensus of the board was to move this item forward.
- c. Salaries of County Officers/Elected Officials – Com. Anderson said he suggest no increase. Com. Furlong asked what Brian Bousley recommends. Brian Bousley stated that in the proposed budget for 2010/11 the county has accounted for a 1% increase for all employees and elected officials. Com. Furlong asked how the county determines what kind of an increase to give. He asked if there is some kind of a review process. Brian Bousley explained that in the past it has been based on the salary increase of the courthouse employees. Com. Anderson said he is totally against a raise. Com. Eichhorn said that he is totally against a raise. He also said that according to Atty. Stoker's opinion the county does not even have to offer the elected official health insurance. Com. Furlong stated that a 1% increase wouldn't be too much but would like to see a performance evaluation. Com. Lang stated that he is not at war with any of the elected officials and he feels they do a very good job. The consensus of the board was to move this item forward with no pay raises recommended.
- d. Vehicle Purchase from Marinette County – Auction – Brian Bousley explained that Marinette County is giving us the run around about the purchase of the two vehicles. Brian explained that we will bid on them at the auction. Com. Furlong stated that it is still a two package deal, that we are still only spending up to \$13,000 for the two vehicles. Com. Meintz asked if anyone would be attending the auction. Brian stated that we do not need to attend. The consensus of the board was to move this item forward.
- e. General Appropriations Act-2010-2011 – Com. Eichhorn explained that this is something that is mandatory. The consensus of the board was to move this item forward.
- f. Commissioner Per Diems/Expenses – Com. Furlong stated that it is refreshing to see the chairman submit his per diems in a timely manner. The consensus of the board was to move this item forward.
- g. Miscellaneous Bills – Com. Anderson asked about why the county is giving so many refunds at the park. Brian Bousley explained that when someone makes reservations at the park and has to cancel they are given a refund. Com. Anderson thinks the park should look at this policy. The consensus of the board was to move this item forward.

- h. Budget – Com. Furlong asked where we are at with the budget. Com. Furlong asked when there would be a meeting. Com. Anderson stated Thursday at 8 a.m. there would be a meeting. Com. Lang asked how the budget would be finalized by October 1st. Com. Lang, Furlong and Anderson discussed the rules the county is suppose to follow when preparing the budget. Com. Furlong thinks that we should be going forward with the budget the Finance Committee and Brian Bousley have already prepared. Com. Eichhorn talked about other committee budgets that are presented to the county board.

Misc. Boards/Committees/Commissions Reports:

- a. Com. Eichhorn asked Com. Lang about the Northpointe Board meeting on July 22, 2010 and the video teleconferencing. Com. Lang explained how it works. Com. Eichhorn asked Com. Lang about proposing two vacation days to people that are at the top of their scale. Com. Eichhorn also asked Com. Lang about the Northpointe Board looking to have a retreat on Aug. 6th. Com. Lang explained how it worked, that it is an educational thing. The consensus of the board was to move this item forward.

Public Comment:

Ruby Ivens, Menominee Township – Legislative Summit in Marquette. Discussed how the State of Michigan is cutting money from education.
John Anderson – commented about the GIS teleconference and the money that the county could make by using the GIS system.
Bob Desjarlis – commented on longevity bonuses to the county employees in the budget. He thinks they should be cut out.

Commissioner Comment:

Com. Lang discussed the response we received from Sen. Prusi about the county board’s letter to him regarding mineral rights. Com. Lang would like this pursued further. Com. Anderson agrees. Com. Furlong does not feel we have been given the answer we asked for. Com. Eichhorn suggest we move this forward to the Prosecutor Hass to be reviewed.

Moved by Com. Anderson, supported by Com. Meintz to adjourn at 6:51 p.m. Motion was approved 5-0.

Gary Eichhorn, Chairman

Marc Kleiman, County Clerk