

September 26, 2012

APPROVED on 10/9/12

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 Menominee County Courthouse, Courtroom B, Menominee, 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 needs to be amended to remove and add several items.

Remove Action Item #3 and New Business, Personnel Items A.

Add New Business, Personnel Item A (Discussion of DMG study for Administrative Secretary Sherry Smith. New Business, Miscellaneous Items C Resolutions to Manage Floodplain development for Gourley, and Stephenson Townships. New Business, Finance Items B add Cedarville Township to the Three Way Road invoices.

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

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Jasper to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2012 Regular County Board Meeting. Motion was approved 5-0.

Chairman Furlong called for public comment.

Public Comment:

-Tom Cheski – He thought the Hermansville Hotel building was going to be on the agenda as an action item this week, and not discussion.

-Neil Palmer – He is from American Transmission Company (ATC) and was here to update the board on their project in Menominee County.

Presentations: None

Department Head/Elected Officials Reports: None

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Jasper to approve Resolutions to Manage Floodplain development for the National Flood Ins. Program for Spalding, Menominee, Ingallston, and Mellen Townships. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Pearson to approve “Exhibit A, Annual Work Plan for the 2012/13 Budget Year, for the agreement for extension services provided by Michigan State University. Menominee County agrees to pay MSU \$38,209 for services provided. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Jasper, seconded by Com. Lang to approve the General Appropriations Act 2012-2013 Resolution, regarding appropriating money, to accompany the County Budget of FY 2012-2013. Motion was approved 5-0. (Attachment A)

Moved Com. Pearson, seconded by Com. Lang to approve the proposed FY 2012-2013 Menominee County Budget. Discussion ensued. Com. Meintz stated that he still is not in agreement with the money going to the bookmobile and a few other items. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Pearson to approve Commissioner per diems and expenses as paid. Motion was approved 5-0.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Jasper to approve Miscellaneous Bills as paid on August 27 & 30, 2012 in the amount of \$61,998.77. 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. DMG study upgrade for Administrative Secretary Sherry Smith. – Brian discussed the study was returned with the recommendation of increasing Sherry’s pay grade from a level 8 to a level 9. With the way the contract is written this would move her from a pay grade 8 step 5 to a pay grade 9 step 4. A raise of \$2,800 per year. Com. Furlong states that Sherry works very hard and deserves the increase. He also thinks that her title should be changed to Administrative Assistant instead of Secretary to better express her actual job duties. Com. Meintz asked if the change in title would change the recommendations. Brian stated that it would not. Com. Meintz does feel Sherry works very hard, but is not in favor of the raise. The other commissioners are in agreement with the increase and title change. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting for approval and with the title change to Administrative Assistant.

Building and Grounds/Parks Items:

- a. None

Miscellaneous Items:

- a. Alliance Against Violence and Abuse Inc. – No office after Oct. 18, discussion. - Sheriff Marks is on the Alliance against Violence and Abuse board. Because of funding, the Menominee Office will be closing on Oct. 18th. - The Board would like to ask the commissioners if the advocate can be housed in the law library at the courthouse, or possibly at the Sheriff Satellite Office at the Pinecrest Facility in Powers. Or maybe the commissioners have other ideas to where they may be housed. The commissioners asked several questions about the program.
- b. Resolution – Peninsula Fiber Network, our primary 911 service supplier. – 911 Director Debra Wormwood discussed this item. Given new changes that our current provider (AT&T) is not able to meet, the county would like to switch providers. Resolutions from all counties will need to be passed before this switch can take place. Com. Meintz asked several questions of Debra on this topic. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting.

- c. Resolutions to Manage Floodplain development for the National Flood Ins. Program ~ Gourley and Stephenson Townships. – Gourley and Stephenson Townships have asked that the County Board approve the agreement to manage floodplain development for the national flood insurance program. The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting for approval.

Finance Items:

- a. Hermansville Hotel Building – demolition discussion. - Discussion whether we should wait to fill out another grant for funding (if available) or just use the DTRF fund to start and complete the demolition of the Hermansville Hotel Building. Brian stated that he is working with Dan Menacher and Diane Lesperance to put specs together to be published for bids on the demolition and removal. The commissioners discussed that they have explored all other funding options and it is just time to take care of the demolition with the DTRF fund. When asked by Com. Lang about the fund and the cost of demolition Treasurer Lesperance stated that there is about \$500,000 in the fund and this is exactly the kind of a project that the funds are suppose to be used for. She is estimating the project to cost \$75,000. Brian expects to be able to have this as an action item on the agenda October 23rd.
- b. Three Way Road invoices – Cedarville, Gourley, Nadeau and Meyer Townships. – The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting for approval.
- c. Commissioner Per Diems and expenses. – The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting for approval.
- d. Miscellaneous Bills as paid on September 13, 2012 in the amount of \$49,469.07. – The consensus of the board is to move this item forward to the next meeting for approval.

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:

-Mike Erdman – Invited the board to attend the MTA meeting in Nadeau Township as there will Forester there to discuss the dry summer we had. Also there will be a training for New Commissioners at the end of November.

Commissioner Comment:

-Com. Meintz discussed Northpointe and the payment of \$67,000 in longevity pay to its employees. He feels that if there is money left over at the end of the year to pay longevity bonuses then Northpointe should not be asking the counties for as much money so there would not be such a surplus.

-Com. Lang responded so some of Com. Meintz questions about the longevity pay and that Northpointe only pays it when there is a surplus at the end of the year. He voted in favor of it and feels the employees deserve it.

-Mari Negro who sits on the Northpointe board also discussed this topic, and stated that she was not in favor of the longevity payments. The money could be used to help more clients that would not normally qualify for services.

- Com. Furlong added that if the county is over funding Northpointe, then maybe we should look at cutting back. He also discussed the MAC conference and the meeting that will be held on October 18th in Brimley.

-Com. Lang also commented on the MAC conference. He also talked about the bell on the courthouse lawn and he would like to see a ringing schedule set up. For example on Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Veterans Day and when Menominee wins the M&M game.

-Com. Pearson wanted to let the board know that Explorer Solutions started working today at the airport.

-Com. Jasper asked if there has been any long term solutions put forth regarding the Three Way Road project. Com. Meintz and Com. Pearson stated that they are still working on it, and the board wanted to wait until the projects that have been scheduled are completed so that we can see if the program worked or not. The only possible solution right now would be to run a millage.

Moved by Com. Pearson, seconded by Com. Meintz to go into closed session, for strategy and negotiations of the County Collective Bargaining Agreements. (Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act 267 of 1976, 15.268 Section 8 (c)). Individuals to be present will be: Commissioners, Clerk Kleiman, Administrator Bousley, and Administrative Secretary Smith. Motion was approved by a roll call vote at 6:51 p.m. 5-0.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Lang to return to open session at 7:10 p.m. Motion was approved by roll call vote 5-0.

Any other items members may wish to present: None.

Moved by Com. Meintz, seconded by Com. Pearson to adjourn at 7:11 p.m. Motion was approved 5-0.

James Furlong, Chairman

Marc Kleiman, County Clerk