

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Menominee County Courthouse - Courtroom B

Menominee, MI 49858

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. (CDT) by Chairman Jim Lynch.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken with the following in attendance:

Present: Commissioners Lang, Berger, Kakuk, Lynch, Furmanski

Absent: none

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**Public Comment:**                   None

**Department Head Reports/Comments:**

Linda Schneider, Treasurer, expresses her concern with how busy the department is because of the equalization report issues...as has been the case every year there have been problems with the reports.

Sheriff Botbyl handed out a progress report. His concern is Jail overcrowding. We currently have inmates in Delta and Iron County jails which cost \$40 per day for Delta Co. and \$30-\$35 for Iron Co. Sheriff says he spoke with the judges about possibly reducing sentences to keep the jail numbers down. UPCAPP is currently working on a study for a "Regional Jail" to possibly help with overcrowding. Sheriff also reports that the Bailiff Position hiring process has been pushed back to the starting point...someone they were looking at hiring accepted employment with another entity.

**Approval of the Agenda:**    Moved by Comm. Berger, seconded by Comm. Lang to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 5-0.

**Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes:**       Moved by Comm. Furmanski, seconded by Comm. Kakuk to approve the previous meeting minutes. Motion carried, 5-0

**Presentations:**           Dave Murray with UP MPRI (Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative) This program is to "hopefully" provide the prisoners with training and skills needed to allow the prisoners to enter the community and to succeed in the community...rather than end up back in prison. Commissioner Lang is concerned that the state is "shifting" the problem back onto the Counties...rather than the state, even though it may be state funded.

**Agenda Items:**

Personnel Items: Probate – State Basic Grant – Judge Hupy speaks about the need for the State Basic grant. This grant of \$15,000 is provided yearly by the state. He proposed a resolution to have a portion of the Basic Grant, not to exceed \$7800 be allocated as a supplement to the County Juvenile Officer’s salary for providing counseling through the “Family Crisis Counseling Program”.

Consensus is to provide the board with 2 separate resolutions.

1. To allow no more than \$7800 be allocated as a supplemental salary in addition to the Menominee Co. Juvenile Officer’s salary
2. To refer to the DMG for an evaluation of the County Juvenile Officer’s position description as a Crisis Counselor.

AFSCME E-911 Union Contract – Administrator Neumeier brought the proposed E-911 contract to the board noting any major changes from the prior 3 year contract.

WPPA Road Patrol Union Contract – Administrator Neumeier brought the proposed WPPA one year contract to the board notating a change of a 2% pay increase as of 01 April 2007. Sheriff Botbyl expressed his concern with “not being kept in the loop” during the mediation process.

**Finance Items:**

Commissioner Per Diems: Based on discussion, Administration will place a recommendation on the next County Board agenda to approve the per diems as paid.

Misc. Bills: Based on discussion, Administration will place a recommendation on the next County Board agenda to approve miscellaneous bills dated April 3<sup>rd</sup>, April 17<sup>th</sup> & May 2<sup>nd</sup> in the total amount of \$238,996.82.

**Building & Grounds:**

Yellow Bike Basket with Flower Proposal: The board discussed allowing the Yellow Bike Project to place a non-rehabilitated bike “adorned with flowers” on the courthouse lawn. Based on discussion, Administration will place a recommendation on the next County Board Agenda.

**Miscellaneous Items:**

Parks use for Menominee River Century Bicycle Ride: The board discussed the use of our Menominee River Park & the Chappee Rapids Historical Marker as a “rest stop” for the riders of the yearly Menominee River Century Bicycle Ride event. In the past, we have let them use these areas and they have always kept these areas clean. Based on discussion, Administration will place a recommendation on the next County Board Agenda.

Resolution for claiming the Men. Co. Historical Society as a nonprofit organization: The board discussed the approval of a formal resolution passed by the local government stating that the Menominee County Historical Society is a recognized non-profit organization in the community. Based on discussion, Administration will place a recommendation on the next County Board

Agenda.

MAC Discount Dental Program: The board discussed the MAC Discount Dental Program and the average savings of 20% to 50% to the enrollees noting only two local dentists participate in this program. Based on discussion, Administration will place a recommendation on the next County Board Agenda.

June Board Meeting: The board discussed the letter submitted by Chad Knodl, Meyer Township Supervisor, inviting the Commissioners to have their June Board Meeting at Hermansville. The meeting last June was held in Powers at Pinecrest. Based on discussion, Administration will place a recommendation on the next County Board Agenda.

**Other Items Members may wish to present:**

May 30th, 2008 - National One Stop Day: Menominee County Michigan Works Service Center in Menominee has asked the board to declare May 30<sup>th</sup> 2008 National One-Stop Day. Based on discussion, Administration will place a recommendation on the next County Board Agenda.

**Correspondence:** None

**Public Comment:** None

Moved by Comm. Furmanski, seconded by Comm. Berger to adjourn meeting at 8:02 pm.  
Motion carried, 5-0.