

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, December 9<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

Absent: Commissioner Furmanski

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**Public Comment:** There was no public comment

**Department Head Reports/Comments:** Linda Schneider presented the board with a hand-out showing month end bank balances for the month of September, 2008. Ms. Schneider would like to know which commissioner will be at the Financial Hardship Meeting on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>, @ 10:00 AM in the Treasurer's office. The board advises Ms. Schneider that they'll check into which commissioner is on that board and that commissioner will attend. Ms. Schneider also voices her concern once again about the treasurer's office. Diane Lesperance will take a full year to learn the job of County Treasurer therefore she still feels that hiring a full time person in the treasurer's office is necessary. She states that the current two full-time employees are overwhelmed with state foreclosures, homestead exemptions and taxes twice per year...not to mention helping customers in person and on the telephone. Ms. Schneider also says when she started here 29 years ago there were 3 full time people in the office plus the treasurer; then one fulltime person was removed and only replaced with a part time person which we've replaced 4 times.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Moved by Comm. Berger, seconded by Comm. Kakuk to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 4-0.

**Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes:** Moved by Comm. Lang, seconded by Comm. Kakuk to approve the previous meeting minutes. Motion carried, 4-0

**Presentations:** Public Hearing of the proposed Menominee County ORV Ordinance. The board received one written comment from the Menominee County Road Commission. The proposed ordinance states that ½ of the monies collected from fines and damages will go to the Road Commission for repairing damage to roads and for posting signs, speed limits/roads open/closed. The Road Commission has stated that they do not want to be responsible for posting signs pertaining to ORV's. Mr. Lang asks, What kind of impact would the new ordinance have with signs? The previous ordinance did not have the Road commission put up signs with the exception of those for townships who chose to not participate (close roads to the ORV's). The question asked is "What happens if there are no tickets given out, then there is no money for posting signs, who pays for the signs then?" Mr. Neumeier states that the Road Commission is not responsible for closing any roads, if a township chooses to close their roads to ORV's, maybe *they* should be responsible for putting up and maintaining the signs. Mr. Moilanen stated that there has not been a big problem with ORV's in the past, mostly trespassing on private property. Mr. Berger stated, why change it if it's not broke? Mr.

Mike Castillo states that he has a cabin in Holmes Township and that there are no township boundary lines. He states that this is a big problem for those on ORV's traveling through ORV routes. A person may be riding along and all of a sudden they are in a township which has elected to close roads to ORV's. How does the person know they've crossed a boundary line?

**Agenda Items:**

1. **Personnel Items:** Resolutions for Barb Morrison and Linda Schneider's retirements. The board agrees to allow this to be put on the county board agenda for Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>.
2. **Building & Grounds Items:** None
3. **Miscellaneous Items:**
  - a. **Expiring Misc. Board Appointments:** After re-submitting an ad for the two committees that were not filled, we have received 3 letters of interest for the CUPPAD Regional Committee. No letters were received for the Building Code-Construction Board of Appeals. Consensus is to allow the 3 candidates be put on the agenda for December's County Board meeting.
4. **Finance Items:**
  - a. **Comm. Per Diems/Expenses:** Based on discussion, Administration will place a recommendation on the next County Board agenda to approve the commissioner's per diems/expenses as paid.
  - b. **Miscellaneous Bills:** Based on discussion, Administration will place a recommendation on the next County Board agenda to approve miscellaneous bills dated Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> and Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> in the total amount of \$213,955.69 as paid.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Administrator Evaluation

At 7:03 PM, Mr. Kakuk made a motion to move to closed session. Motion supported by Mr. Lang. Members present for the closed session: Commissioners Kakuk, Lang, Berger, Lynch; also Mr. Neumeier, Administrator and Ms. Smith, Assistant.

At 7:40 PM, a motion to adjourn the closed session was made by Mr. Lang. Motion supported by Mr. Kakuk.

**Other Items Members may wish to present:** Mr. Neumeier informed the board that the payroll position in the clerks' office was accepted "internally" by Lisa Frost, Deputy Register of Deeds. He also added that we posted the announcement for the Deputy Register of Deeds position within the courthouse for interested union candidates. He asks the board if we can place a motion on the next County Board meeting to hire a new Deputy Register of Deeds.

**Correspondence:** There was none.

**Public Comment:** None

**Adjournment:** Moved by Comm. Lang, supported by Comm. Kakuk to adjourn this meeting at 7:48 pm. Motion carried, 4-0.