

**CHEBOYGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
April 27, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Cheboygan County Board of Commissioners was called to order in the Commissioners Room by Chairperson Linda Socha at 9:30 a.m.

Roll called and a quorum present.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Socha, Makima, Redmond, Mushlock, Page, Wallace and Bolinger

**ABSENT:** None

Commissioner Bolinger gave the invocation and Commissioner Wallace led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairperson Socha requested a moment of silence for Emmet County Commissioner Tom Foltz who passed away recently.

**Motion** by Commissioner Mushlock, seconded by Commissioner Bolinger, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS** – None

**SCHEDULED VISITORS/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

Bruce Brandt, representing the Cheboygan County Trail Blazers Grooming Club, reported on the 2010 Rusty Stud event held at the fairgrounds earlier this year. He said lack of snow affected event. Forty-eight teams participated in this year's event, up eight from last year. Mr. Brandt said a net profit of \$4,771.25 was realized, however, they did not keep track of attendance. He asked any consideration the county might give regarding the agreed upon split of 75/25 for the grounds rental would be appreciated. Chairperson Socha requested Administrator Overton to look at actual costs for the county and make a recommendation as to any adjustment for next meeting.

Chairperson Socha presented a certificate of appreciation to Scott McNeil for his service on the Cheboygan County Economic Development Corporation, the Cheboygan County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority and Northern Lakes Economic Alliance Board of Directors, as well Mr. McNeil's involvement on many other boards and committees, such as Rails to Trails and NEMCOG. Scott thanked the board and appreciated the support he received from the Board of Commissioners along the way and said he looks forward to being part of the county team.

Prosecutor Daryl Vizina presented the 2009 Annual Report for the Prosecutor's Office. He said, while prescription drug charges are down, there seems to be an alarming increase in meth and heroin usage in this county, and noted since the first of April there have been four persons testing positive for meth. Mr. Vizina said the county's cost of drug abuse extends beyond prosecution as many cases involve children, which leads to higher foster care costs. Commissioner Wallace said that according to NMSAS statistics Cheboygan County had the highest number of individuals served by NMSAS in 2009. Chairperson Socha said with the county's participation with SANE clean up costs for meth labs would be the state's responsibility, without that connection the county would be responsible. Mr. Vizina reported on the status of his 2009 goals which were establishing a drug court, upgrading the department website, electronic calendaring and a paperless office. The Drug Court program commenced in August of 2009 and is presently active. The website now is utilized for press releases, county resources, links, forms, contact information, and Victim's Rights, Child Support and Drug Court information. The office now uses Microsoft Outlook calendaring to provide access to three attorney calendars and one staff calendar. Mr. Vizina said great strides have been made toward a paperless office, with scanning all denied warrants, closed misdemeanor files and some probate files.

## Committee of the Whole Meeting – April 27, 2010

Circuit Court Judge Scott Pavlich updated the board on the Drug Court. He noted people were first placed into this program on November 3<sup>rd</sup> of last year, and to date \$8,000 has been expended for this new program. According to the Judge, it appears that somewhere around \$30,000 will be expended in the first year. He said the program has been more successful than he thought in terms of relapses; and participants so far seem to be making an honest effort. Regarding funding, he said drug court team has put in a lot of work. A State Court Administrators Office representative will be here in May to observe the drug court, and hopefully Cheboygan County Drug Court will be awarded some amount of funding since the program has been moving in a positive direction. He said at the current rate of participation, in two years there would be approximately 30 participants, which probably would be more than could be handled so it would mostly likely have to be cut back. Currently there are more female participants than males.

Sheriff Clarmont presented and reviewed the 2009 Annual Sheriff Department Report. He said actual expenditures in 2009 totaled \$2,843,543, compared to \$2,929,134 budgeted expenditures, and total revenue generated was \$415,795. He reviewed the Jail Division revenues which totaled \$212,406; and total grant monies received of \$203,389. Jail Statistics show inmate days totaling 22,169. He reported Community Corrections Service Programs resulted in an annual savings of \$245,836 in 2009, and the jail once again attained compliance with MSTC Correction Officers Training Certification Requirements. Sheriff Clarmont said the trustees seem to liking working in the community garden and the produce harvested from the garden is donated to the Lord's Kitchen for distribution to the needy throughout the community. Chairperson Socha commended the Sheriff and his staff for the fiscal responsibility they have shown.

### NEW BUSINESS

Sheriff Clarmont presented the State of Michigan FY 2009 Operation Stonegarden Grant in the amount of \$142,431. The grant is a non-matching federal grant for purchasing search & rescue equipment and additional homeland security patrols. He said approximately \$70,000 will be used to purchase a hover craft; about \$66,000 will be used for extra security patrols with participation from the Mackinaw City, City of Cheboygan and Tuscarora Township police officers, as well as the Sheriff Deputies; \$1,100 to purchase a generator and roughly \$5,000 for fuel.

**Motion** by Commissioner Bolinger, seconded by Commissioner Wallace, to approve the FY 2009 State of Michigan Operation Stonegarden grant in the amount of \$142,431 and authorize the Chairperson to sign this document and any other documentation relative to this grant. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Sheriff Clarmont presented for approval a Memorandum of Understanding with GELC union and explained this would be a cost savings measure on overtime. He said employees have agreed to maintain a call in list so if someone calls in sick there would be on-call individuals available. He noted the policy actually was instituted about a month ago.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Makima, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding addition to the Cheboygan County ("County"), the Cheboygan County Sheriff ("Sheriff") and the Governmental Employees Labor Council ("GELC") contract dated January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2010; and authorize the Chairperson to sign. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

### BOARD MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION - None

### CITIZENS COMMENTS – None

### BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Commissioner Makima said the May 6, 2010 Road Commission meeting has been changed to 6 p.m. at Tuscarora Township Hall.

## Committee of the Whole Meeting – April 27, 2010

Chairperson Socha commended the maintenance department for their work redoing the Commissioners Room. Chairperson Socha was wished a Happy Birthday.

Commissioner Redmond said he recently attended the Straits Area Builders Association meeting. Kevan Flory from the Building Department did an excellent presentation to the group on various forms and requirements of his department. Commissioner Socha said she has heard good reports on Kevan from area developers as well. She said some counties are looking towards possibly turning their building departments over to the state.

Commissioner Wallace reported that NMSAS data shows Cheboygan County's usage of NMSAS services to be much higher than any other counties in this region. Chairperson Socha thanked Commissioner Wallace for serving on the NMSAS board.

Chairperson Socha noted receiving the foreclosure packet from the County Treasurer.

Commissioner Page attended a Region IV Council on Aging meeting in Alpena and reported a recent customer survey conducted shows consistent good marks for the resources and services provided. Bad news reported by Commissioner Page was the state budget and possible 8% cuts in senior meals, in-home services and cuts in volunteer programs.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Mushlock, to go into closed session at the request of the County Administrator Michael Overton, an employee of Cheboygan County, and pursuant to Section 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act, being MCL 15,.268(a), to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of Mr. Overton. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Went into closed session at 11:25 a.m.; returned to open session at noon.

Commissioner Redmond noted the final determination on the Administrator's Evaluation was very good in all categories - Organization Leadership, Business and Financial Management, Relationship with the Board, Personal Characteristics that Impact Job Performance, and Innovation/Improvement. Discussion was held regarding 2010 wage and retirement percentage paid by the county. Commissioner Redmond said following the last evaluation Administrator Overton had requested an increase from 12.5% to 15% for retirement paid by the County, which was not changed at that time. Administrator Overton said according to figures he received from the Finance Director a while back, the county was contributing about 16% to MERS for other employees. Administrator Overton said his current salary is \$85,980.

**Motion** by Commissioner Page, seconded by Commissioner Wallace, to authorize a 2% salary increase for the County Administrator for 2010 retroactive to January 1, 2010. Discussion held, Commissioner Mushlock said she would prefer to round the salary to \$88,500, which equates to a 2.8% increase. A roll call vote was taken. Motion failed with 0 yes, 7 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Mushlock, seconded by Redmond, to set the 2010 salary for the County Administrator at \$88,500 retroactive to January 1, 2010. Discussion held regarding salaries in general. A roll call vote was taken. Motion failed with 3 yes, 4 no, and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Page, seconded by Commissioner Wallace, to increase the salary of the County Administrator to \$88,000 retroactive to January 1, 2010. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Page, to increase the employer's contribution paid to ICMA Retirement Corporation for Section 457 deferred compensation plan for the County Administrator from 12.5% to 15% of employee's base salary retroactive to January 1, 2010. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

Discussion was held on extending the current contract, which expires December 31, 2010, with the County Administrator and if it were to be extended how long to extend it for.

**Committee of the Whole Meeting – April 27, 2010**

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Mushlock, to extend the employment agreement with County Administrator Michael Overton through December 31, 2012, noting correction of Mr. Overton's address, and salary and retirement percentage changes approved above. Discussion held, Administrator Overton said if health insurance coverage were to change for employees the change would also affect him. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with 6 yes, 1 no (Commissioner Page) and 0 absent.

Chairperson Socha said this board and previous boards have thoroughly studied and analyzed the position of county administrator.

**Motion** by Commissioner Page, seconded by Commissioner Bolinger, to reaffirm the county administrator form of county administration as the best, most cost efficient and effective form of county government for Cheboygan County. Motion carried with 7 yes, 0 no and 0 absent.

**Motion** by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Makima, to adjourn to the call of the Chair. Meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

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Mary Ellen Tryban  
Cheboygan County Clerk/Register

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Linda Socha  
Chairperson