

The Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners met on this date in Conference Room A, Commissioner's Chambers, Ogemaw County Building, West Branch, Michigan. Chairman Reetz called a Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Present: Scott, Reetz, Vaughn, Neubecker, and David.

Cindy Scott, CPA, and Nathan Miller, Stephenson & Company, discussed the draft of the 2018-2019, County General Fund Expenditure/Revenue Budgets with the board. She provided an overview of fund changes, i.e. major government funds. She stated the general fund balance as of this draft audit report is \$194,228.00.

The tax umbrella fund has a balance of \$3,827,000.00. There was an increase in the county property taxable value of 3.16%. Total transfers into the county general fund were less than the previous year. It was decided to Ms. Scott attend the February 20, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting to follow up on the final audit report with the commissioners

Tom Spencer, County I.T. Director, discussed computer equipment purchases with the board. He has set up a five-year replacement schedule. He provided a quick overview of the computer inventory. He explained 2 switches and 2 battery packs are scheduled for purchase this fiscal year. The total amount to be purchased this fiscal year is \$32,872.00. A motion for approval of the purchase will be presented at the upcoming commissioner meeting.

County Register of Deeds, Denise Simmons, asked the board to approve a tract index research hourly rate. She would like the rate to go from \$40.00 per hour to \$50.00 per hour. A motion will be presented at the upcoming commissioner meeting approving this request.

Rick Ebert discussed a security officer pay increase with the commissioners. He explained potential staff reductions due to pay. It is a significant factor in recruiting and retaining security officers. He requested the officers be paid \$18.00 per hour. This increase would not be for the court bailiffs. Commissioner David suggested \$15.00 per hour with a maximum hourly rate of \$16.00. Chairman Reetz suggested the \$18.00 per hour be approved for the security officers. Commissioner Scott stated no decision would be made today. It can be reviewed next week at the commissioner's meeting.

LaDonna Schultz, County Prosecuting Attorney, stated a sexual violence and teen dating awareness workshop has been scheduled for February 11, 2020. She requested the use of the Ogemaw County Building on February 11, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. County Sheriff Deputy O'Dell has volunteered his time for this event. The board approved the request.

Administrative Assistant, Caren Piglowski, stated this month's budget high light is "tax bill processing". Winter tax bills have gone out. The budget is on target at this point in the current fiscal year.

Ms. Piglowski stated a select group of county officials met with the Michigan Department of Treasury to review county budgetary matters. She explained areas of discussion. County Treasurer McIntyre stated the Treasury representatives questioned a significant transfer of funds in the prior year audit. He explained to the officials how the transfer was handled and the rationale for it. A follow-up letter was received from the Michigan Department of Treasury high lighting the meeting with recommendations. County Clerk Klacking informed the board the Treasury Department has offered to assist the county in budgetary matters. Plante Moran, CPAs, will be contacted to determine its interest in assisting our county. If they are, Treasury Department will determine if funding is available to pay Plante Moran consultation fees.

Ms. Piglowski informed the board a new law has been passed that requires part-time employees be paid for time off. It will cost the county approximately \$11,856.00 for the current fiscal year. The county sets the operational parameters for this requirement. It was decided to pay out 50% for unused paid time off with no carry over from year-to-year.

Ms. Piglowski surveyed county officials to determine how often Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) services would be utilized. Only one official expressed interest in using MAC's services.

The board discussed what services would be provided by Intelligent Design Services related to the proposed juvenile day treatment building. Mr. Klacking was directed to contact the architect to determine approximate costs involved in providing the design services and related costs.

Ms. Piglowski informed the board two contracts, i.e. Showroom Auto Detailing, (Kelly Jones, owner), and Dr. Casten, County Medical Examiner, would soon be expiring. Mr. Klacking will contact both individuals to determine their interest in continuing to work with the county. He will report back to the board his findings. He will also contact County Prosecutor Schultz to determine progress of her discussions with an autopsy service provider.

Commissioner Vaughn stated the commissioners may be approached by a group promoting 2nd Amendment rights. The group may ask for a resolution related to this matter.

Caren Piglowski presented the Probate Court, Indigent Counsel contract. The agreement includes a 1% increase. A motion to approve the contract will be presented at the next commissioner meeting.

The board went into closed session at 10:37 a.m. The board came back into open session at 10:46 a.m. The board reviewed a legal opinion regarding a United Steelworkers Local 8569 against the Ogemaw Public Transit Director. The board agreed the proper procedure as outlined in the bargaining unit agreement related to hiring Ogemaw Public Transit employees must be followed.

Ray Blamer, Ogemaw Public Transit Director, appeared before the board. He was informed by Chairman Reetz he must follow Ogemaw Public Transit bargaining unit contract guidelines related to hiring employees for his department. Mr. Blamer discussed the need for more revenue to operate the public transit department. The possibility of placing a millage proposal on an upcoming ballot was discussed with suggested millage amounts. Commissioner Scott stated targeted millage proposals seemed to be adopted.

Mr. Blamer stated the proposed FY 2021 Ogemaw Public Transit budget, less ineligible expenses, will be \$991,210. It is 5% more than the prior fiscal year. He will provide a resolution of intent and require signatures on related documents at the upcoming commissioner meeting.

The board discussed AED equipment within the county building and whether or not the AED's are operational. Chairman Reetz will do research and contact Ogemaw County EMS and Ms. Piglowski will contract our County Emergency Management Director.

A budget workshop was scheduled for Wednesday, January 29, 2020, 5:30 p.m. in the County Annex building.

Chairman Reetz adjourned the meeting at 11:34 a.m.

Minutes by Gary R. Klacking, Ogemaw County Clerk.

Attest: Gary R. Klacking, Ogemaw County Clerk.