

The Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners met on this date in Conference Room A, Commissioner's Chambers, Ogemaw County Bldg., West Branch, Michigan. Chairman Reetz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call: Present – Scott, Reetz, Vaughn, Neubecker, and David.

The first item of discussion concerned the proposed county administrator position. Caren Piglowski, Administrative Assistant, stated she met with Frank Goodroe, West Branch City Manager, and drafted a proposed budget for the county administrator. She explained the various line items in the budget.

Frank Goodroe, West Branch City Manager, stated Caren was helpful by providing county budgetary information. He stated the salary range for the county administrator could be \$65,000 - \$80,000. There would be a need to add in a clerical position for support. He stated Ms. Piglowski's current duties are compatible with a county administrator. Tasks could be assigned by the county administrator and performed by Ms. Piglowski and/or the county clerk office. He stated the county personnel policy should be updated. Michigan Municipal League can assist with this task.

Ms. Piglowski explained the current budgetary adoption timeline to the commissioners. She stated the board asked for a 2% reduction from county departments. That equates to \$215,837. County departments managed to cut \$116,000. A brief review of budget reductions from the last budget work session was discussed. The county equalization director has stated tax revenues can be adjusted upward by \$3,000. Vice-chairman Scott stated the county is over spending. Chairman Reetz stated what various millage proposals might be considered by the commissioners. Ms. Piglowski stated the proposed 2019-2020 general fund revenues are short \$709,628. The proposed general fund expenditure budget is up +1.42% over last year's budget. \* "She also stated that if the county borrows to pay the local units their delinquent taxes in the spring it will set the county back 15 years".

County Treasurer McIntyre stated he does not believe there will be a positive fund balance for FY 2018-2019. Vice-Chairman Scott stated there are mandated services that can't be cut. He asked what ticket writing costs the county after expenses. The board discussed what to do about the Sheriff Department ticket writing effort. The costs, i.e. gross dollar amount of tickets generated versus what the county receives, etc. Vice-chairman Scott suggested 4 deputies and one department vehicle be eliminated. The Sheriff Department staffing levels were reviewed.

Commission David stated the other large budgetary consideration is corrections. She provided a comparison of Roscommon County to Ogemaw County Corrections facility expenses. She suggested the jail medical services contract be reviewed. As a general consideration, perhaps outsource the inmates. The board would need to consider various costs, i.e. transport, per capita inmate costs, etc. The jail bond payment would need to be made regardless of any corrections department budget cuts. Ms. Piglowski stated initial corrections budget cuts were approximately \$150,000. Genesee County not a very likely source for housing its inmates in the future. There was ongoing discussion regarding road patrol and corrections facility budgets.

Commissioner David requested Ms. Piglowski rework road patrol and county corrections budgets. District Court revenue projections will be revamped. Commission Vaughn stated the public will be very upset about drastically cutting road patrol. Commissioner Neubecker stated the board must make cuts and perhaps promote a road patrol millage. Commissioner David suggested county correctional facility staffing levels be reduced. Commissioner Vaughn explained how staffing levels were determined while he worked within the facility.

Undersheriff David provided information related to County Sheriff Department ticket writing. She stated the department is not wasting money. The department is here for the public's safety. Ms. Piglowski was directed to rework Sheriff Department budget by eliminating 4 full-time deputies, one patrol car, and all part-time deputy and correctional facility personnel. She will also adjust 82<sup>nd</sup> District Court revenues related to ticket writing.

Vice-Chairman Scott suggested assigning the processing of warrants to the Ogemaw County Sheriff Department. Training time/costs for Sheriff Department staff to perform this work was discussed.

The next budget work session is scheduled for Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 6:00 p.m.

Chairman Reetz adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Minutes by Gary R. Klacking, Ogemaw County Clerk  
Attest: Gary R. Klacking, Ogemaw County Clerk