

Chairman Reetz called a Committee of the Whole meeting of the Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners to order at 8:00 a.m. on this date in the Commissioner's Chambers, Ogemaw County Building, West Branch, Michigan.

Present – Scott, Reetz, Vaughn, Neubecker, and David.

Tom Benjamin, Valley Associates Drafting Service, discussed the upgrade/refurbishing of the County Annex for use as a law enforcement center. He stated the Annex would need an addition and garage. Walls would have to be moved, etc. He then explained what the old jail would need if it was upgraded, i.e. windows, heat system, etc. The cost for this remodel would be approximately \$100,000. The demolition of the old jail would run about \$70,000. It would be a major project. If a new building was constructed on the new correctional facility site, it would cost about \$1.1 million.

Commissioner David informed the board she has continued research on county building security. She stated we do have some security in place now. We need to move forward with the formation of a committee to move forward with this matter. She will chair this committee.

The matter of purchasing iPads for commissioners was discussed. Commissioner David mentioned there are committees/boards she sits on that utilize iPads. Our I.T. Director recommends the purchase of iPads. A motion will be drafted for their purchase at the upcoming county commissioner regular meeting.

Administrative Assistant Caren Piglowski stated this month expenditure hi-lite is jail kitchen expenditures. There is \$130,000 in this year's budget and \$32,000 has been spent.

County Treasurer Dwight McIntyre presented the revenue report. The total Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund balance is \$5.590 million. Most of the adjusting entries have been posted now. He briefly reviewed other account balances and investments for the board.

The matter of the Substance Use Disorder Committee appointment was discussed by the board. Chairman Reetz volunteered to sit on this committee. Other individuals will be asked about sitting on this board. A motion will be presented at the upcoming regular commissioner meeting appointing Chairman Reetz to this committee.

Paying annual Michigan Association of Counties membership dues was discussed. It was decided not to participate with MAC.

It was reported batteries for the two county building defibrillators have not been acquired yet.

A request to cut trees on county property was discussed. The property actually may be West Branch Community Airport property. The individual will be informed to contact the Airport Manager.

County Clerk Klacking provided the board rental rate costs per square foot, i.e. \$8-\$10 per square foot. This was done to get some idea of what to charge tenants in the County Annex. The per square foot would be at the higher end of the scale depending on what amenities were provided to a tenant.

The board reviewed the matter of a County Road Commission Policy amendment for its retirees. The policy provided access to the road commission's health insurance plan. After discussion, it was decided to have a motion prepared to include an "18 year" time frame service requirement to the Road Commission policy.

Jason and Jenny Dings spoke to the board regarding an Ogemaw County Sheriff Department privacy policy. Sheriff Hanft stated most of what the County Sheriff Department does is public. Mrs. Dings summarized what transpired with the situation related to their son. She stated she and her husband were disappointed the policy was not followed. Sheriff Hanft explained what he did. He apologized for what transpired. He stated his intention was to help the Dings family. Mrs. Dings stated the policy should be updated. Mr. Dings stated the policy needs to be followed.

Mandi Chasey, Ogemaw County Business Resource Director, spoke to the board about a County EDC appropriation request. She summarized what has been accomplished in 2019 to date. She discussed education's part in County EDC's work. She believes a great job has been done in local business promotion. She was asked how much money has been raised from the local municipalities. A motion will be prepared to appropriate \$15,000 to the Ogemaw County EDC.

Commissioner David stated two townships have asked her if the E911 service they paid would be refunded to them. The board discussed this request and it was decided the paid service fee would not be refunded to them.

Karen Macdonald, Ogemaw County Probate Court, Director of Juvenile Services, told the commissioners more money would be needed for the Child Care Fund. 6 juveniles have been placed in detention and could be there for at least seven more months. Judge Lambourn is requesting an appropriation of \$200,000 for the Child Care Fund. Ms. Macdonald explained how these costs have been handled and the way the detention facilities bill the Probate Court. A motion will be prepared to appropriate the additional funds to the Ogemaw County Probate Court, Child Care Fund.

The board recessed at 10:10 a.m. and reconvened at 10:30 a.m.

Cindy Scott, CPA, Stephenson and Company, reviewed the Ogemaw County General and Special Fund audit with the commissioners. She reviewed the following areas with the board: Audit opinion letter, Management Discussion and Analysis, Government-Wide Financial Statements, Fund Financial Statements, Notes to Financial Statements, Required Supplementary Information, Other Information, and Management Letter. With each area noted, she provided hi-lites for that topic of discussion. She informed the board the General Fund, Fund Balance is \$338,083. There will be no Single Audit as the audit threshold requirement was not reached. The audit was considered "clean" with no significant deficiencies. She will present the audit to the public at the February 28, 2019 Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners meeting.

Ladonna Schultz, County Prosecutor, explained to the commissioners she has drafted a policy for placement of individuals on the "Wall of Honor". She briefly explained what some of the requirements were for placement on the "Wall of Honor". A motion will be presented at the February 28, 2019 commissioner meeting to approve the policy.

Ms. Schultz discussed county elected official's salary increase request with the commissioners. The county elected officials are: County Prosecutor, County Sheriff, County Treasurer, County Register of Deeds, and County Clerk. She informed the commissioners that for the last (3) 4 year terms the elected officials have received 3% compared to 18 ½% received by Local 8569 United Steelworkers of America members. She requested the elected officials receive a \$7,000-\$8,000 salary increase. The board discussed the matter. Ms. Schultz stated on the whole, Ogemaw County elected officials are lower than surrounding counties. Brenda Simmons commented the requested increase is well within what should be given to the elected officials. It was decided a motion will be prepared for the upcoming board meeting that county elected officials receive a \$5,000 salary increase retroactive to October 1, 2018.

There being no further business to address, Chairman Reetz adjourned the meeting at 12:16 a.m.

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