



## Budget & Finance Committee

Wednesday, August 15, 2012 – 9:30 a.m.  
Room 212 – Otsego County Building  
225 West Main Gaylord, MI 49735

### MINUTES

#### CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Olsen called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM

Roll call – Present: Lee Olsen, Paul Beachnau, Erma Backenstose, Clark Bates, John Burt

Others present – Judge Morse, Julie Marlette, Janice Lampert, Diann Axford, Rachel Frisch

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Bates to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2012 budget and finance committee meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

##### A. Fire Alarm Monitoring

Mr. Burt reported to the Committee that the fire alarm monitoring system will cost \$453, plus the cost of installing a new phone line. He has submitted a RAP grant application to MMRMA, to cover half of the cost of the project. The cost of the system will be paid out of the Building and Grounds Fund (Fund 637).

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### A. Recycling Millage

Judge Morse, Ms. Marlette, and Ms. Lampert were in attendance to discuss and support the recycling millage issue, and to answer the Committee's questions.

During his review of the ballot language, Mr. Burt noted that the description of the county-wide recycling program was vague. He would like to add some language into the first paragraph to better describe the program, so the voters are clear on the ballot issue.

Motion by Ms. Backenstose to recommend to the full board approving the recycling millage ballot language, once modified as recommended by Mr. Burt, and to add the proposal to the November 2012 ballot. Motion passed unanimously.

##### B. Morgue Location

Mr. Burt explained that currently, the County Medical Examiner's office uses Nelson's Funeral Home as the morgue. Nelson's provides morgue space to the County free of charge. Mr. Burt was approached by Joe Messenger, who has recently opened a new funeral home in Gaylord. Mr. Messenger communicated that he was concerned that Nelson's Funeral Home might have an unfair advantage over his funeral home business if it continues to function as the sole morgue location.

During his research into this issue, Mr. Burt was informed that the room Nelson's uses as the morgue has a separate outside entry with a separate lock. To address Mr. Messenger's concerns, Nelson's is willing to allow Mr. Messenger access to that room to more conveniently transport bodies to his funeral home. Mr. Burt has advised the parties that they should try to work out a system that is agreeable to both funeral homes.

Mr. Burt also reported to the Committee that he met again with Tom Lemon from Otsego Memorial Hospital regarding morgue space. The hospital has a room that could function as a morgue and also is in the process of ordering a lift. This provides another option for morgue space if it becomes necessary.

**C. June 2012 Financial Report**

Ms. Frisch discussed the reports with the Committee.

**D. July 2012 Financial Report**

Ms. Frisch discussed the reports with the Committee.

Mr. Olsen adjourned the meeting at 10:38 AM