

**DICKINSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Thursday, March 17, 2016 – 6:00 p.m.**  
**Board Room**

1. The meeting was called to Order by Chairman Martin at 6:00 P.M.
2. Roll Call was taken by County Clerk Dolly Cook and a quorum was present.  
Present: Chairman Martin and Commissioners Wender, Kramer and Degenauer. (4)  
Absent: Commissioner Stevens (1)  
Also Present: County Clerk Dolly Cook and Controller Sonya Pugh.
3. Citizens' Time: (Limited to 5 minutes per person)  
Chairman Martin opened the floor to Citizens' Time and there was no participation.
4. Finance Chair Items  
Commissioner Martin explained those departments that were over budget. Phones were anywhere from 38% to 64%, ROD, Printing and Binding was over budget by 174%, Courthouse and grounds was over 538%, and the Airport was over in Professional Fees by 382%. Controller Pugh explained this was charged to the wrong line item.  
Commissioner Martin was glad 911 passed and the Counties Allocated Mills was closer.  
She stated Verso is appealing the agreement they made with Breitung Township and that will cost us \$205,000 a year if it is successful.  
Commissioner Degenauer Jr., stated we gave tax breaks to Verso when they first came here and they came for another one a few years back. He stated it is time they stop with these tax reductions.  
Commissioner Wender stated he would like to discuss putting the language for the County millage on again in August.  
Commissioner Martin stated the pay sheets will be revised separating the Exempt from the Elected to avoid a problem eleven years from now. She stated she hoped the Judges will make an effort to collect monies owed to the County. She further stated the retiree's problem has been worked out.
5. Items before the Committee:
  - A. County Clerk personnel reclassification.  
Commissioner Wender stated the last discussion got rather heated and he hoped that voices would be kept normal and the conversation would be civil.  
County Clerk Dolly Cook explained she made a mistake and the cost per hour is .298. She stated it would cost \$2.23 a day, \$11.175 a week and \$22.25 a pay period for a total of \$497.345 for the rest of this year. (She handed out the sheet with the costs and they are on file in the County Clerk's Office.) She stated Carol will be doing her job and Mary's job which includes going to court and filing. She stated this is a big job and a lot of responsibility. She stated you eliminated the job, not the position. (She handed out the law requiring a court clerk which is on file in the County Clerk's Office.)  
Commissioner Wender stated he thought the pay went with the position. He further stated he has never seconded a motion but did so to talk about it.  
Commissioner Kramer stated she did not like getting this right before the meeting and she stands by her decision.  
County Clerk Dolly Cook stated she gets things before almost every meeting and still votes yes.  
Commissioner Degenauer Jr., stated we did this for District Court and the Prosecutor with no notice. He stated there is dissention here and we have to get over it. He stated this was a no brainer. He stated we have a job to do and we failed on Monday night.  
Commissioner Martin stated a Department Head does not have the authority to tell the payroll Clerk to raise an employee's salary. She stated it has to come to the County Board.  
Commissioner Wender asked if we have to wait until Monday?  
Commissioner Martin stated her pay will be retro-active.  
Controller Pugh stated her only problem was that it had to go to the Board.  
Commissioner Degenauer Jr., stated not for a job change. He did not agree.  
County Clerk Dolly Cook stated this job was eliminated through attrition and Carol has to go to the next classification.  
It was the consensus of the Board to recommend this to the full Board and Carol will receive retro-active pay.
6. Other Business  
A long discussion ensued about putting the millage on the August election because this time it was so close.

The clerk stated the only cost would be about \$600.00 and that amount would be split between any millages on the ballot. She stated we cannot change the amount but we can change the time from 5 years to 3 years if so desired.

Commissioner Kramer didn't think we should change the time and she said she has someone who volunteered to help promote it when the time comes.

Commissioner Wender stated that between 2002 and 2012 we lost 58% of our budget to State and Federal mandates.

Commissioner Martin stated this should go on the next meeting and that the new phone system will be on the next meeting.

7. Citizens' Time: (Limited to 5 minutes per person)

Chairman Martin opened the floor to Citizen' Time and Dale Alessandrini addressed the Board. He stated he didn't think the Board should put the millage on for a third time. He stated people are tired of paying more taxes. He stated we should look harder at our books. He explained the dire straits Iron Mountain City was in and how they got out of it He stated they have a 37% fund balance.

Mr. Maloney addressed the Board. He stated he heard people just didn't understand the language. He stated it was unfortunate about the legislation that did not allow us to explain it.

Commissioner Martin stated we should look at the length of time.

Sue Ellis, Union Representative, addressed the Board. She stated this appointment is no different than the Sheriff appointing an undersheriff and that does not come to the Board. She stated we should use some of the Retirees Healthcare fund to offset some of the expense of retirees. She stated people are not happy around here and they do not trust the offices that are running the show. She asked the Board if they received a letter dated January 15 about the problems we are having by not having a full time maintenance and janitor? The Board said yes, they received it. She then said then why didn't someone respond.

County Clerk Dolly Cook stated she received the grievance Thursday morning, talked with Sue and Carol and granted the grievance. She stated they followed the contract and Carol should be paid on Thursday and not have to wait for two more weeks. She thanked the Board for their agreement but still thought she should get paid now.

Mike Bronzyk, Quinnesec addressed the Board. He thanked the Board. He stated he has read the minutes and on December 28, 2015 there were many budget amendments and the Commissioners just got them and Commissioner Degenauer Jr., was the only one who voted no. He stated people are watching. He stated he is not here to bash the Board but will correct their errors because he is a taxpayer.

There was no other participation.

8. The Board will continue to check all the bills and the meeting will be adjourned when they are finished.

The motion and time will be on the other set of minutes.

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Ann Martin, Chairman

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Dolly L Cook, County Clerk