



MANISTEE LOCAL REVENUE SHARING BOARD

c/o Manistee County Controller/Administrator's Office
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MEMBERS:

Dennis Bjorkquist, Chairperson
B. Allan O'Shea, Vice-Chairperson
Colleen Kenny, Secretary

STUDY SESSION REPORT

Wednesday, March 12, 2008
5:00 P.M.

Manistee County Road Commission Building
8946 Chippewa Highway, Bear Lake, MI

Members Present: Dennis Bjorkquist, Chairperson; B. Allan O'Shea, Vice-Chairperson; and Colleen Kenny, Secretary

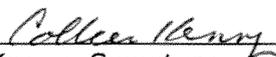
Others Present: Thomas Kaminski, Administrative Support; Jeri Lyn Prielipp, Administrative Support; and numerous audience members representing Municipalities, School Districts, the public, and the media.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken.

The Chairman announced that the purpose of this Study Session was to discuss the payment in lieu of taxes (P.I.L.T.) calculations and the dispersal, and to keep the public aware and to alleviate any rumors that are spreading out in the public. Each of the three Revenue Sharing Board Members expressed their views and opinions on the issue, which then opened up lengthy discussions among the Board and those present in the audience. The Board was divided on whether or not they are correctly interpreting the Compact with regard to P.I.L.T. There was lengthy dialogue on the concept of sending a letter to the Attorney General asking for an opinion on the matter, but who would send it, and would the outcome result in a lawsuit? If such a letter were sent, it would need to be sent to State Representative David Palsrok for him to then submit to the Attorney General, however, Representative Palsrok does not have to submit it to the Attorney General, and if he does submit it, the Attorney General does not have to give an opinion. Mr. Bjorkquist asked the Board and the audience what questions should be asked? After much discussion, it appeared to be the consensus that the Board would ask two questions, (1) If the tax assessment could be frozen at the 2005 assessment level? and (2) If the Board could rate the tax assessment on just the casino itself and not the hotel or other properties? The Board also considered seeking out an independent counsel to give them a legal opinion on the matter to find out what if any options they could pursue. At the conclusion of the study session, the Board was unable to come to a determination and elected to table the issue and place it on the April 14, 2008 meeting Agenda. In the mean time, and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, all communications between the Board members are to go through the County Administrator's Office.

There being no further business to come before the Revenue Sharing Board, the Study Session was adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Colleen Kenny, Secretary