Manistee County Board of Commissioners

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COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS STUDY SESSION

Tuesday, December 8, 2015
1:00 p.m.

Portage Point Inn
8567 Portage Point Drive
Onekama, MI 49675

MINUTES

Members Present: Mark Bergstrom, Jeff Dontz, Karen Goodman, Ken Hilliard, Alan W. Marshall, Richard Schmidt and Brook Shafer.

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Tim Ervin, Alliance for Economic Success (AES) Resource Development Director; Tamara Buswinka, AES Community Development Director; Tom Kaminski, County Administrator/Controller; Robert Gezon, Owner, Portage Point Inn; Ken Lahey; Jill M Nowak, County Clerk.

The Study Session was called to Order by Chairman Hilliard at 1:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation was given by Mr. Bergstrom

Roll Call – All members present

Tim Ervin, AES Resource Development Director welcomed the County Board of Commissioners and others present to the Historical Portage Point Inn. Mr. Ervin recapped some projects that are in progress such as the collaboration between the Village of Bear Lake and Bear Lake Township, Pre-school attendance by age appropriate children regardless of the family's income and a future housing development. Mr. Ervin then introduced Mr. Bob Gezon, Owner, Portage Point Inn.

Robert Gezon, Owner, Portage Point Inn, appeared before the Board and welcomed all to the Inn. Mr. Gezon explained his dreams and visions for the historical property. After much

analyzing of the site plan, area demographics and working with AES and other entities, he hopes to create a full service year round resort and marina with storage capabilities.

Tamara Buswinka, AES Community Development Director, and Mr. Ervin discussed Manistee County becoming "Development Ready" and plans to work with businesses along the U.S. 31 corridor from county lines north to south. This is one of the next projects to be worked on by AES which will include a walkability study.

Ms. Buswinka then reviewed the County's Strategic Plan by covering each goal, strategy and action and led the Board in discussion on potential revisions and/or additions to the document.

After today's meeting, Ms. Buswinka will take the next steps and edit the document with today's revisions. The Amended County Strategic Plan will be presented at the January 2016 County Board meeting. The County Board at that time will review the amended County Strategic Plan and could take action to adopt it. As this Strategic Plan is fluid, Mr. Ervin suggested that every three (3) years the County reach out to its Stakeholders for their suggested revisions.

Public Comment – None

Adjourn at the Call of the Chair.

_____ Clerk