



Manistee County Board of Commissioners

Manistee County Courthouse • 415 Third Street • Manistee, Michigan 49660

CHAIRPERSON
Jeffrey Dontz
VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Brook Shafer

Mark Bergstrom
Karen Goodman
Ken Hilliard
Alan Marshall
Richard Schmidt

CLERK

Jill Nowak
(231) 723-3331

CONTROLLER/ADMINISTRATOR

Thomas Kaminski
(231)398-3504

JOINT MANISTEE-BENZIE COURT COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 18, 2016
3:00 p.m.

Manistee County Courthouse & Government Center
Board of Commissioners Meeting Room

MINUTES

- Members Present: Jeff Dontz, Chairman, Manistee County Commissioner; Richard Schmidt, Manistee County Commissioner; Frank Walterhouse, Benzie County Commissioner.
- Members Absent: Karen Goodman, Manistee County Commissioner; Vance Bates, Benzie County Commissioner; Coury Carland, Benzie County Commissioner. (Mr. Walterhouse substituting for one of the Benzie Commissioners).
- Others Present: Tom Kaminski, Manistee County Administrator/Controller; Mitch Diesch, Benzie County Administrator; David Thompson, Chief Judge; Connie Krusniak, Friend of the Court; Pat Heins, Circuit Court Administrator; Lisa Sagala, Human Resources Manager/Asst. County Administrator; and Jill M. Nowak, Manistee County Clerk.

The meeting was called to Order at 3:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 JOINT MANISTEE-BENZIE COURT

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Schmidt to approve the Joint Manistee-Benzie Court Committee Minutes of Tuesday, October 13, 2015.

Motion Carried

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EXTRADITION COST REIMBURSEMENT AND PROBATION ABSCONDERS

Judge Thompson explained that extradition costs are paid from the Prosecutor's budget and when they are reimbursed they should go back into the Prosecutors budget. Mr. Kaminski explained that putting the money in the General Fund is just like putting it in the Prosecutors budget. He also explained that they had put \$5,000 in the budget each year but it wasn't used so they lowered it. If more money is needed to cover these costs, just ask. Judge Thompson reiterated we just want to be mindful of the Prosecutor's budget. Mr. Kaminski stated maybe adding an extradition reimbursement line item number would be helpful.

EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS

Judge Thompson is in the process of implementing annual employee performance evaluations. These evaluations are a tool used to identify an employee's strengths, address weaknesses, set goals and achieve the mission of the court.

BENZIE COUNTY JAIL/BAILIFF SUPPORT

This issue has been resolved.

SCHEDULE MEETINGS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2016

The Joint Manistee/Benzie Court Committee will meet on the following dates alternating between Counties:

- Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in Benzie County
- Thursday, June 16, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in Manistee County
- Thursday, July 21, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in Benzie County
- Thursday, August 18, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in Manistee County
- Thursday, September 15, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in Benzie County
- Thursday, October 20, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in Manistee County

OTHER ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS, JUDGES AND STAFF

The courts are using polycom more often for hearings. The system could also be used for Joint Court meetings if needed.

E Filing Fees are being implemented by the State Court effective March 1, 2016 whether or not the Courts accept e-filings. Manistee County does not currently accept e-filing but will request to be placed on the waiting list.

Judge Thompson mentioned that one of his Court Stenographers is on long term leave of absence. The Judge confirmed that short-term and long-term disability run concurrent. The short-term disability costs are not from the Circuit Court budget and therefore the substitute court reporter will be covered from the Courts budget.

Judge Thompson discussed additional Medicaid dollars called a Blended Fund appropriated through the Child Care Fund and Centra Wellness Network.

Mr. Schmidt also spoke of the 21 County Liquor Tax money that is being preserved by the state. Mr. Schmidt is looking into the disbursement of it.

The meeting was adjourned at the Call of the Chair at 3:26 p.m.

MANISTEE COUNTY

Absent
Karen Goodman
Manistee County Commissioner

Jeff Dontz
Manistee County Commissioner

Richard Schmidt
Manistee County Commissioner

BENZIE COUNTY

Frank Walterhouse
Benzie County Commissioner

Absent
Benzie County Commissioner