

August 9, 2016

The regular meeting of the Mason County Board of Commissioners was held at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room located in the Mason County Courthouse in the City of Ludington.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Curtis VanderWall

Roll call was taken. Present: W. Taranko, B. Carpenter, C. Lange, C. VanderWall,  
S. Hull, J. Andersen, T. Posma  
Absent: None.

Invocation was given by T. Posma. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America followed.

Motion by T. Posma and seconded by C. Lange to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by B. Carpenter and seconded by S. Hull to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2016 regular meeting. Motion carried.

Correspondence: No correspondence was read.

Public comment:

- Henry Rasmussen of Bertha Lane, Ludington, expressed dissatisfaction with the Road Commission's recent resurfacing of Jebavy Drive.
- Lewis Squires of Crystal View Drive, Scottville, indicated he was pleased with the August Primary election results and was looking forward to working with the County Board again.
- Patsy Hagerman of the City of Ludington is the Mason County representative on the Area Agency on Aging Board of Directors. She thanked the Commissioners for their continued support but addressed several areas of concern including: expanding Ludington Mass Transit/Dial-a-Ride to all townships to enable the elderly to get to doctor appointments, and the fact that phone companies can discontinue land line service starting January 1, 2017 and this will be a concern for the elderly in areas of the county that receive poor cell reception.

Michigan State University District #5 Coordinator Michael Krauch introduced Yutaro Takeda who brought 31 4-H exchange students from Japan to Michigan for several weeks this past month. Coordinator Krauch then reviewed the 2015 Annual Report covering various areas from 4-H programs, teaching residents food safety, and strengthening Michigan's financial capacity. He spoke about several new positions including a Fruit Tree Educator and answered questions.

Motion by Public Safety and Courts Committee Chairman W. Taranko and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the County of Mason has a Paramedic Ambulance Service Agreement with Life EMS, Inc.; and **WHEREAS**, Life EMS, Inc. has requested that the Service Agreement be amended to increase the base rates and mileage charge; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety and Courts Committee is recommending that the Board of Commissioners approve the attached rate schedule.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached rate schedule for the Paramedic Ambulance Service Agreement between the County of Mason and Life EMS, Inc.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) W. Taranko

Motion by B. Carpenter and seconded by C. Lange to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, good budget management practice recommends the amendment of the budgets as necessary; and **WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the attached budget amendments as proposed by the various Department Heads.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached 2016 General Fund and Special Revenue Funds budget amendments as recommended by the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) B. Carpenter

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Motion by C. Lange and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for August 9, 2016.

**THEREFORE**, we, your Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee, request your approval of the following transfers:

Jail Operations	\$126,000.00
Airport Operations	\$ 38,550.00

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by C. Lange and seconded by W. Taranko to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there is one vacancy on the Mason County Computer Network Advisory Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mason County Computer Network Advisory Board is recommending the appointment of Treasurer Andrew Kmetz to fill the vacancy.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the appointment of Treasurer Andrew Kmetz to the Mason County Computer Network Advisory Board for a term expiring on December 31, 2016.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by C. Lange and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Homeland Security Grants are now being given on a regional basis; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Mason is a member of the Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board has designated West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission as the Fiduciary for the 2014 Homeland Security Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board has authorized the purchase of the attached goods and services; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Mason needs to adopt the attached Transfer of Ownership Agreement/Equipment receipt and acceptance for purchases under Federal Award Number 97.067.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Transfer of Ownership Agreement/Equipment receipt and acceptance for purchases under Federal Award Number 97.067 between West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission and Mason County and authorizes the Board Chair to sign these documents and all related forms on behalf of the County.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by S. Hull and seconded by J. Andersen to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Mason County Emergency Management Coordinator Reimink has worked cooperatively with the fire authorities and West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission to develop a Community Wildfire Protection Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety & Courts Committee is recommending that the Board authorize the County Board Chair to sign.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason agrees to the final contents of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan for Mason County and directs the Board Chair to sign the attached Executive Summary on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

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Motion by S. Hull and seconded by J. Andersen to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the County of Mason has a tower lease agreement with Synergy Media Inc. that expires on October 1, 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending that the County Board approve the attached lease to them at a lease rate of \$125.00 per attachment, per month, plus utilities.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves leasing space on the south tower to Synergy Media Inc. at a lease rate of \$125.00 per attachment, per month, plus utilities and directs the Board Chair to sign the necessary agreements on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Motion by Buildings, Planning, Drains, & Airport Committee Chairman J. Andersen and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the following application for Farmland (Act 116 of the Public Acts of 1974) has been filed with the County Clerk.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Township</u>	<u>Section</u>
5-0716	Raymond and Audrey Keith	Victory	12

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the application for Farmland (Act 116 of the Public Acts of 1974), in the County of Mason.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Motion by Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee Chairman T. Posma and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the 2015 Audit Report has been presented.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the receipt of the 2015 Audit Report.

Moved for your approval.

County Administrator Knizacky reported on the highlights of the audit report stating that the County received an unqualified opinion which is the highest rating and that the general fund balance was approximately 18.6% of total general fund expenditures which is within the goals that the Board has set. He explained the new reporting requirements on the pension liability of the County, Oakview Medical Care Facility, District Library, and the Road Commission.

Motion carried. (Signed) T. Posma, B. Carpenter, C. Lange

Motion by T. Posma and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

The Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee has audited the County's claims dated July 14, 2015 totaling \$301,499.65, and July 28, 2016 totaling \$1,323,004.37; and

The Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee found these claims to be in order and asks the Board to approve these claims.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) T. Posma, B. Carpenter, C. Lange

Motion by Chairman VanderWall and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, National Preparedness Month is a nationwide effort held each September to increase public awareness about the importance of emergency preparedness in order to reduce injury, loss of personal property, and loss of life in hazardous circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, the theme for 2016 is "Don't wait. Communicate. Make Your Emergency Plan Today" serves as a reminder to take action to prepare, now and throughout the year, for the types of emergencies that could affect where we live, work, learn, and worship. Now is the time to talk about being ready and preparing for the unexpected; and

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**WHEREAS**, citizens are encouraged to focus on family/household plans for disasters that may affect your area and plan where to go and how to communicate with family members if separated (<https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>); and

**WHEREAS**, super storm Sandy and the 2013 bombing of the Boston Marathon caused many Americans to wonder how they can help prepare their communities. With proper training and education, civilian volunteers expand the resources available to states and local communities with such organizations as Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), neighborhood watch programs, amateur radio organizations, etc. (<https://www.ready.gov/volunteer>); and

**WHEREAS**, citizens are encouraged to take individual steps to prepare for disasters like downloading apps to receive emergency alerts, safety reminders, and upload disaster photos to help first responders (<http://www.fema.gov/mobile-app>); and

**WHEREAS**, during this month and throughout the year, Mason County Board of Commissioners encourages the public to “Don’t wait. Communicate. Make Your Emergency Plan Today.” by visiting <https://www.ready.gov/september> or the Mason County Emergency Management web page for information and resources regarding the importance of emergency preparedness in Mason County.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Curtis S. VanderWall, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Mason County, urge all county residents to educate themselves and prepare for emergencies and do hereby proclaim September 2016 as Preparedness Month in Mason County.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. VanderWall

The July 2016 Treasurer's Report was distributed. Treasurer Kmetz was not present at the meeting due to attending the Michigan Association of County Treasurer's Conference in Marquette, Michigan.

The July 2016 Clerk's Report was distributed. Chief Deputy Clerk Debra Purtee reported that the August 2, 2016 Primary Election went extremely well even though there was low voter turnout at 20.90% as compared to August of 2012 at 32.94%. Canvass of the election has been completed by the Canvass Board and results have been submitted to the State.

Chief Deputy Clerk Purtee gave an update on new election equipment. Three companies were given the bid by the State regarding the new election equipment: ES & S, Hart, and Dominion. It is Clerk Kelly's intention to have product demonstrations soon with the local clerks. All are invited to attend the demonstration. Please let Clerk Kelly know if you wish to attend. The cost for equipment is still fluctuating as it was at \$1,000 per precinct and now the state has raised that to \$2,000 contribution from each precinct. Clerk Kelly will continue to monitor the situation and keep the Commissioners informed.

County Administrator Knizacky stated that final budget requests for 2017 are due by September 1st and if Commissioners have input, they should contact the administrator or one of the members of the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee. He stated that the increase in the consumers price index cap for property taxes is currently 0.9%.

At the last Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA) board meeting they voted to increase cyber security coverage from \$1 million to \$5 million, but not increase the premiums which will benefit Mason County.

Commissioner Posma reported that the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee gave approval for the administrator to send a letter of interest for re-election to his position on the MMRMA Board of Directors.

Public comment:

- Michigan State University District #5 Coordinator Michael Krauch thanked the members the Board of Commissioners for the support of the Extension Office.

Any other unfinished business:

Commissioner Posma thanked the Administrator Knizacky, all department heads and elected officials for the work they do to keep the County's in a positive fiscal position.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

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CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

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CURTIS S. VANDERWALL, BOARD CHAIRMAN