

July 11, 2017

The regular meeting of the Mason County Board of Commissioners was held at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room located in the Mason County Courthouse in the City of Ludington.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman C. Lange.

Roll call was taken. Present: W. Taranko, B. Carpenter, C. Lange, L. Squires,  
S. Hull, J. Andersen.

Absent: T. Posma.

Invocation was given by C. Lange. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America followed.

Motion by T. Posma and seconded by S. Hull to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by J. Andersen and seconded by S. Hull to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2017 Regular Meeting. Motion carried.

No correspondence was read.

Public comment:

- Michigan State University Extension District 5 Coordinator Mike Krauch wished to thank Commissioners Andersen and Taranko for coming out to the open house held at the new office. He also wished to personally thank Commissioner Carpenter for his work as an At-Large member involved with MSU Extension and it has been a privilege to have worked alongside Commissioner Carpenter.

- City of Ludington Mayor Kay Ferguson-Holman thanked Commissioner Carpenter for his service as District #2 Commissioner. Additionally, she gave a recommendation on behalf of Gary Castonia who applied to the open seat, stating the County would be receiving a wonderful asset should they appointment him. He would dearly be missed on City of Ludington Council.

Emergency Management Coordinator Liz Reimink gave her annual report and highlighted potential changes in the way that the Homeland Security Grant funding will be processed. She briefly reviewed with the Commissioners many of the topics that she has worked on over the past year.

Coordinator Reimink also noted that she and intern Dr. Kristopher Appler had the privilege to assist Isabella County for three days after their recent inclement weather that created extreme flooding in Isabella County. This work provided insight on ways to improve disaster response capabilities in Mason County.

Commissioner Andersen noted that she was able to participate in a recent table top exercise and commended Emergency Manager Reimink on her work.

Motion by Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee Chairman W. Taranko and seconded by J. Andersen to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan has requested that the Mason County Board of Commissioners review and approve the Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Implementation Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending approval of the plan.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Implementation Plan of the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) W. Taranko

Commissioner Taranko deferred all questions regarding the audit to County Administrator Knizacky. Administrator Knizacky stated that the County received an unqualified opinion, which is the highest opinion a county can receive. The County's unrestricted fund balance is at 19.4%, which is within the target range set by the board. Audit findings and recommendations have been implemented on three of the auditor's noted items and work continues on two other noted items to implement audit recommendations.

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Commissioner Squires thanked Administrator Knizacky and the Finance, Rules, & Personnel Committee for all of their work and commended them on the efforts.

Motion by W. Taranko and seconded by L. Squires to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the 2016 Audit Report has been presented.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the receipt of the 2016 Audit Report.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) W. Taranko

Motion by W. Taranko and seconded by J. Andersen to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

The Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee has audited the County's claims dated June 1, 2017 totaling \$337,727.14, June 15, 2017 totaling \$289,978.58, and June 29, 2017 totaling \$517,442.94; 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) W. Taranko, C. Lange, T. Posma

Commissioner Squires thanked Commissioner Carpenter for his service. Motion by L. Squires and seconded by W. Taranko to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Bill Carpenter has served the residents of Mason County for four (4) years as County Commissioner for District #2; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill has served on the Public Safety & Courts Committee; the Finance, Personnel & Rules Committee; the Mason County Parks and Recreation Commission, the Area Agency on Aging Board of Directors, Inc., the Mason County Solid Waste Planning Committee, District Health Department #10 Board, the Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) District 5 Advisory Council, and the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission Board; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill and his wife Jane have owned and operated the Lamplighter Bed and Breakfast in Ludington since 2003; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill has contributed to the community in many ways as a member of the Ludington Rotary Club, past president of Habitat for Humanity of Mason County, a past board member of the Ludington Area Convention & Visitors Bureau and the West Shore Community College Foundation; and his work as president of the Ludington Area Arts Council led to the creation of the Ludington Area Center for the Arts and this work resulted in Bill being chosen as Ludington's Citizen of the Year in 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill has been a strong advocate for the 4-H program and other services provided by Michigan State University Extension and has urged the Board to allocate more budget resources towards the MSUE budget; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill is leaving county government service.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason, does hereby, acknowledge Bill's many years of county government service and offers him their best wishes in his future endeavors; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason, speaking for the citizens of the County of Mason and for themselves, offers their sincere thanks and gratitude for the dedication and professionalism that he has shown throughout his career; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution become a permanent part of the minutes of the July 11, 2017 County Commission proceedings. Moved for your approval.

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Charles Lange, Board Chairperson

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct statement taken from the proceedings of the Mason County Board of Commissioners' meeting of July 11, 2017.

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Cheryl Kelly, Mason County Clerk

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Emergency Management Coordinator Reimink and the Public Safety & Courts Committee are recommending the appointment of Ms. Kathy Winczewski, Ms. Amanda Lutz, and Mr. John O'Connor to the Mason County Local Emergency Planning Committee.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the appointment of Ms. Kathy Winczewski, Ms. Amanda Lutz, and Mr. John O'Connor to the Mason County Local Emergency Planning Committee.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there is a vacant position on the Mason County Construction Code Board of Appeals with a term expiring on December 31, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Mike Janowiak has agreed to be appointed to fill this vacancy.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mr. Mike Janowiak be appointed to the position on the Mason County Construction Code Board of Appeals with terms to expire on December 31, 2019.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for July 11, 2017.

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

Welfare Child Care	\$ 30,000.00
Friend of the Court	\$109,000.00
Employee Vacation & Sick Leave	\$ 20,000.00
Jail Operations	\$133,000.00
Law Library	\$ 3,750.00
Social Welfare	\$ 6,400.00
Probate Child Care	\$ 58,925.00
Property & Liability Insurance	\$ 10,250.00

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by Chairman C. Lange and seconded by L. Squires to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there is a vacancy on the Mason County Board of Commissioners with a term expiring on December 31, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, there was one (1) response, to the advertisement notices that were published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press, from Mr. Gary Castonia.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mr. Gary Castonia be appointed to the District #2 vacancy on the Mason County Board of Commissioners.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Treasurer Kmetz presented the June 2017 Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Kmetz is currently working to implement a new credit card company which may take up to a month to complete.

Clerk Kelly presented the June 2017 Clerk's Report. She informed the Board that a set of the new election equipment arrived on Monday and her goal is to start training with the local clerks and election inspectors as soon as possible, as well as to get out to the public so they can see how the new equipment works.

**July 11, 2017**

Administrator Knizacky reminded the Board of the following upcoming meetings: the West Central Michigan County Alliance Meeting in Mecosta County on July 31st and the Township Officers Meeting on July 20, 2017 at Summit Township Hall. Commissioners should contact with him if they wish to car pool to either of these meetings. Additionally, he had been working on a five and ten year capital improvement plan for the county and hopes to present it at the August Board meeting. He is also working on mid-year budget amendments.

Public Comment:

- City of Ludington Mayor Kay Ferguson-Holman thanked Gary Castonia for his work on City of Ludington Council. She noted again he was a great worker and she accepted his resignation letter.
- Michigan State University Extension District 5 Coordinator Mike Krauch congratulated Gary Castonia on his appointment to the District #2 Commission seat. He has enjoyed working with him over the past few years.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

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CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

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CHARLES LANGE, BOARD CHAIRMAN

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