

**March 13, 2018**

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 Lange.

Roll call was taken. Present: W. Taranko, C. Lange, L. Squires,  
S. Hull, J. Andersen, T. Posma  
Absent: G. Castonia (excused absence)

Invocation was given by L. Squires. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America followed.

Motion by J. Andersen and seconded by S. Hull to approve the agenda with the addition of the 2018 Medical Marihuana Operation and Oversight Grant. Motion carried.

Motion by S. Hull and seconded by W. Taranko to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2018 Regular Meeting. Motion carried.

Correspondence: No correspondence was read.

Public comment:

- Kathy Wiejaczka, of Empire, Michigan, introduced herself as candidate running for the Michigan 101<sup>st</sup> House of Representatives seat.

Mason County Sheriff Kim Cole presented his 2017 Annual Report which gave an overview of the activities of the Sheriff's Office during the year and offered to answer any questions from the County Board. Commissioner Squires thanked Sheriff Cole for his and his Department's performance keeping the community safe this past year.

Mason County Drain Commissioner Jim Riffle presented his 2017 report which documented the work that has been performed this year by the staff of the Mason County Drain Commission. The Drain Commission continues to have additional work performed in combination with entities such as the Mason County Road Commission and others that resulted in no additional cost to the county. Commissioner Andersen thanked Drain Commissioner Riffle for his efforts and partnerships between the landowners and the Road Commission that continue to have a positive effect for the County.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for March 13, 2018.

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

Jail Operations	\$133,333.00
Insurance - Health, Life, & Pension	\$450,000.00

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) W. Taranko, C. Lange

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there is one vacancy on the Mason County Building Authority Board with a term that expires on April 30, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, there were two responses to the advertisement that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Mr. Joseph Karchnick and Mr. Michael Schneider.

March 13, 2018

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mr. Joseph Karchnick and Mr. Michael Schneider be considered for the one position on the Mason County Building Authority Board for a term ending April 30, 2020.

Moved for your approval.

A roll call vote was taken with Commissioners voting for one: Karchnick: Taranko, Lange, Hull, Andersen, Posma. Schneider: Squires. Position to be filled by Karchnick.

Motion carried. (Signed) W. Taranko

Motion by W. Taranko and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason has selected I.T. Right to perform network administration; and

**WHEREAS**, I.T. Right has requested that the County name a Director of Information Technology to be their technology contact; and

**WHEREAS**, Register of Deeds Diane Englebrecht has agreed to fill this role and perform the tasks outlined in the attached e-mail; and

**WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending that the Board of Commissioners approve this proposal.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the selection of Register of Deeds Englebrecht to serve as Director of Information Technology with compensation as outlined in the attached e-mail.

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

**WHEREAS**, the Mason County Sheriff's Department and the United States Department of Agriculture, Huron-Manistee National Forests have historically worked together to provide for patrolling of the National Forests in the County of Mason.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the 2018 Operating and Financial Plan between the Mason County Sheriff's Department and the United States Department of Agriculture, Huron-Manistee National Forests for the fiscal year of April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019 and further directs the County Chair to sign said agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) W. Taranko

Motion by W. Taranko and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division are planning a statewide tornado drill on Wednesday, April 18th; and

**WHEREAS**, the Division is asking all local emergency management programs to promote the initiative throughout their county to raise awareness for severe weather safety; and

**WHEREAS**, Emergency Management Coordinator Reimink is requesting that county staff be allowed to participate in this drill; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety & Courts Committee is recommending that the county staff be authorized to participate in the drill.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes county staff to participate in the statewide tornado drill on Wednesday, April 18, 2018.

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

**WHEREAS**, there are two positions on the West Michigan Community Mental Health System Board with terms expiring on March 31, 2018; and

March 13, 2018

**WHEREAS**, there were three responses to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Ms. Pat Bettin, Mr. Todd Dancz, and Mr. Michael Schneider.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Ms. Pat Bettin, Mr. Todd Dancz, and Mr. Michael Schneider be considered for the two positions on the West Michigan Community Mental Health System Board for terms expiring March 31, 2021

Moved for your approval.

A roll call vote was taken with Commissioners voting for two: Bettin: Taranko, Lange, Squires, Hull, Andersen, Posma. Dancz: Taranko, Lange, Squires, Hull, Andersen, Posma. Schneider: No votes. Positions to be filled by Bettin and Dancz.

Motion carried. (Signed) W. Taranko

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Sheriff Cole is recommending the establishment of the Acting Chief Deputy/Jail Administrator position; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety & Courts Committee is recommending that the Board of Commissioners approve this recommendation.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of Mason County approves the temporary establishment of an Acting Chief Deputy/Jail Administrator position with a salary consistent with the approved salary & wage schedule, effective March 14, 2018; funds to come from the attached budget amendment; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners and the Sheriff will review the status of the budget as of December 31, 2018 to determine the effectiveness of this budget amendment.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) L. Squires

Motion by L. Squires and seconded by J. Andersen to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there is one vacancy on the Mason County EDC Board with a term that expires on December 31, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Mason County EDC Board also serve on the Mason County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board; and

**WHEREAS**, there was one response to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Mr. Michael Schneider.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mr. Michael Schneider be appointed to the one position on the Mason County EDC Board and the Mason County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board for a term ending December 31, 2020.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) L. Squires

Commissioner Hull noted that there would be a school safety meeting the evening of March 13, 2018 and encouraged everyone to attend this event.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the State of Michigan has approved a grant to review, verify, and update SARA Title III Off-Site Plans for the Mason County Local Emergency Planning Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, Emergency Management Coordinator Reimink and the Public Safety and Courts Committee are recommending the attached agreement with Meredith Filter.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached agreement between the County of Mason and Meredith Filter and direct the Board Chair to sign it on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

March 13, 2018

Motion by S. Hull and seconded by T. Posma to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Airport Manager has received inquiries about the possibility of monthly hangar rentals at the Mason County Airport; and

**WHEREAS**, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, & Airport Committee is recommending the approval of monthly hangar rentals at the Mason County Airport for a fee of \$250.00 a month.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves monthly hangar rentals at the Mason County Airport for a fee of \$250.00 a month.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Motion by S. Hull and seconded by T. Posma to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Barb Henrickson has served the citizens of Mason County for over 28 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Barb began in the Sheriff Department, moving to District Court in 2001 where she worked on traffic cases, financial matters, and was a certified electronic operator (CER) recording hearings for District Court; and

**WHEREAS**, Barb moved to the Probate Court in 2004 serving as the juvenile register, handling caseload and financial reporting, and was a certified court recorder, recording hearings and preparing transcripts when necessary; and

**WHEREAS**, Barb has dedicated much of her adult life to law enforcement and the administration of justice for Mason County's youth and families, balancing numerous responsibilities in a competent and efficient manner; and

**WHEREAS**, Barb has been dedicated to excellence in her work, displaying consideration and courtesy in working with the public, and cooperation and friendship with her fellow employees, court staff, and attorneys; and

**WHEREAS**, Barb has been a long time member of the Michigan Probate & Juvenile Registers Association (MPJRA); and

**WHEREAS**, Barb is retiring from her position in the Mason County Juvenile Court.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason, does hereby, acknowledge with regret Barb's decision to retire from her position in the Mason County Juvenile Court Office and offers her their best wishes in her 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 she has shown throughout her career; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution become a permanent part of the minutes of the March 13, 2018 County Commission proceedings. Moved for your approval.

---

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 March 13, 2018.

---

Cheryl Kelly, Mason County Clerk

Motion by S. Hull and seconded by L. Squires to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there is one (1) general public position on the Mason County Solid Waste Management Planning Committee with a term expiring on December 31, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, there was one response to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Mr. Michael Schneider.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mr. Michael Schneider be appointed to the one (1) general public position on the Mason County Solid Waste Management Planning Committee with a term expiring on December 31, 2019.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

March 13, 2018

At a regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Mason held in the County Building, Ludington, Michigan, on the 13th day of March, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Commissioner Taranko, Commissioner Lange, Commissioner Squires, Commissioner Hull, Commissioner Andersen, Commissioner Posma

ABSENT: Commissioner Castonia.

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Commissioner Andersen and supported by Commissioner Posma.

**WHEREAS**, the County of Mason (the "County") entered into an Intergovernmental Transfer of Responsibilities Agreement (the "Agreement") between the County and the Municipal Junk Authority of Mason County (the "Authority") as of May 24, 2007; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners has considered proposed Amendment No. 3 of the Agreement, whereby the participation of the Township of Victory as a Constituent Unit of the Authority would be acknowledged, and for other purposes.

**IT IS, THEREFORE, RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Approval of Amendment No. 3. The Board of County Commissioners hereby approves Amendment No. 3 of the Agreement, that 1) allows the Township of Victory to join as a Constituent Unit, 2) allows for the Township of Custer and the Village of Custer to share one representative on the Authority Board and 3) allows for compensation (wages and fringe benefits) from the Authority budget to a County or Authority employee for work performed on behalf of the Authority.

2. Authority to Execute. The Chairperson of the Board of County Commissioners and the County Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign Amendment No. 3 of the Agreement, on behalf of the County.

AYES: Commissioner Taranko, Commissioner Lange, Commissioner Squires, Commissioner Hull, Commissioner Andersen, Commissioner Posma

NAYS: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

---

County Clerk

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there is one position on the Michigan State University Extension District 5 Advisory Council with a term expiring on December 31, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, there were two responses from the advertisement that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Mr. Nicholas Krieger and Mr. Michael Schneider.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mr. Nicholas Krieger and Mr. Michael Schneider be considered for the one position on the Michigan State University District 5 Extension Advisory Council for a term that will expire December 31, 2019.

Moved for your approval.

A roll call vote was taken with Commissioners voting for one: Krieger: Taranko, Lange, Squires, Hull, Andersen, Posma. Schneider: No votes. Position to be filled by Krieger.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Zoning and Building Department currently has authorization for one part-time fieldman position; and

**WHEREAS**, Zoning and Building Director Reilly has requested that the Board of Commissioners authorize additional part-time fieldman hours to assist with the implementation of the junk ordinance in Victory Township.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes 8 hours a week of fieldman assistance in the Zoning and Building Department; funds to come from the Junk Authority Ordinance Administration Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) T. Posma

March 13, 2018

Motion by T. Posma and seconded by W. Taranko to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

The Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee has audited the County's claims dated February 8, 2018 totaling \$317,319.45 and February 22, 2018 totaling \$363,587.23; 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, W. Taranko

Motion by T. Posma and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there is one position on the Michigan State University Extension District 5 Advisory Council with a term expiring on December 31, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, there was one response from the advertisement that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Mr. Michael Schneider.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mr. Michael Schneider be appointed to fill the position on the Michigan State University District 5 Extension Advisory Council for a term that will expire December 31, 2018.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) T. Posma

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there is one vacancy on the Mason County Building Authority Board with a term that expires on April 30, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, there were two responses to the advertisement that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Mr. Joseph Karchnick and Mr. Michael Schneider.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mr. Joseph Karchnick and Mr. Michael Schneider considered for the one position on the Mason County Building Authority Board for a term ending April 30, 2021.

Moved for your approval.

No roll call vote was taken since Candidate Karchnick had been appointed to the Building Authority Board previously in the meeting. Position to be filled by remaining Candidate Schneider.

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 Tax Allocation Board; and

**WHEREAS**, there were two responses to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Mr. Jack Harper and Mr. Michael Schneider.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mr. Jack Harper and Mr. Michael Schneider be considered for the one position on the Tax Allocation Board with a term expiring December 31, 2018.

Moved for your approval.

A roll call vote was taken with Commissioners voting for one: Harper: Taranko, Lange, Squires, Hull, Andersen, Posma. Schneider: No votes. Position to be filled by Harper.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there is one position on the Mason County Hospital Finance Authority Board with a term ending January 31, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, there was one response from the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Mr. Michael Schneider.

March 13, 2018

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mr. Michael Schneider be appointed to the one position on the Mason County Hospital Finance Authority Board for a term ending January 31, 2023.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by C. Lange and seconded by T. Posma to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Mason County Treasurer has historically purchased the delinquent taxes from the schools and other units of government; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined that this purchase can be funded internally by advancing funds from the General Fund.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves purchasing the 2017 delinquent taxes by advancing funds from the General Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by C. Lange and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Sheriff Office has applied for a 2018 Medical Marihuana Operation and Oversight Grant for County Law Enforcement Offices; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Michigan has awarded a grant in the amount of \$11,228.00 to the County of Mason.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves accepting a 2018 Medical Marihuana Operation and Oversight Grant for County Law Enforcement Offices.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Treasurer A. Kmetz presented the February 2018 Treasurer's Report. He noted that the office is currently working on tax settlement having only four townships left to finish. He also thanked the Board of Commissioners for allowing the delinquent tax purchase to be funded internally.

Clerk C. Kelly presented the February 2018 Clerk's Report.

Administrator Knizacky is starting work on the 2019 preliminary budgets with the goal to have it to Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee for review at their April 5th meeting and to the full Board by the April 10 meeting. He noted that Mason County has received a \$10,000 grant from the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority to be used towards the tasers that were purchased last fall for the Sheriff Department. He has placed an advertisement in the Ludington Daily News for the Promise Board Authority Board applicants. He has re-submitted the indigent defense compliance plan to the State of Michigan with the cost estimate changes.

Public Comment:

- Ken Wiejaczka, of Empire, has served on the Empire Board and expressed to the County Board of Commissioners that this was the most efficient and professionally run meeting that he has ever attended.

There was no other business.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

---

CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

---

CHARLES LANGE, BOARD CHAIRMAN

