

March 12, 2019

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 Board Chair J. Andersen

Roll call was taken. Present: G. Castonia, C. Lange, L. Squires,
S. Hull, J. Andersen, R. Bacon
Absent: W. Taranko.

Invocation was given by S. Hull. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America followed.

Motion by G. Castonia and seconded by S. Hull to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by C. Lange and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2019 Regular Meeting. Motion carried.

No correspondence was read.

Public comment:

- John Winfrey of Merit Network introduced himself to the Board of Commissioners. Merit Network is a fiber optic company looking to install fiber optic networking within the County.
- Michigan State University Extension District 5 Coordinator Mr. James Kelley introduced himself and also introduced Mr. Eric Elgin of the Newaygo Office who is in charge of the Aquatic Resources Network. Mr. Elgin presented a brief overview of the insights regarding his position in relation to water resources and education.

Mason County Sheriff Kim Cole presented his 2018 Report for the Mason County Sheriff's Office and gave an overview of the activities of the office during the year and offered to answer any questions from the County Board. Commissioner Squires commended Sheriff Cole regarding the morale of his staff and the cooperation that his office provides when working with other departments and agencies, in addition to making Mason County a safer community.

Motion by Public Safety and Courts Committee Chairman G. Castonia and seconded by C. Lange to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there is one position on the West Michigan Community Mental Health System Board with a term that expires on March 31, 2019 and

WHEREAS, there were two responses from the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Ms. Mary Alway and Mr. Ronald Sanders.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Ms. Mary Alway and Mr. Ronald Sanders be considered for appointment to the one position on the West Michigan Community Mental Health System Board for a term expiring March 31, 2022.

Moved for your approval.

Commissioner Squires asked about the experience of the two candidates prior to the roll call vote being taken. He was informed that Ron Sanders has been on the board for 18 years and that Mary Always has no experience and never served on the board.

A roll call vote was taken with Commissioners voting for one candidate. Alway: C. Lange, L. Squires, S. Hull, J. Andersen. Sanders: G. Castonia; R. Bacon. Position to be filled by Mary Alway.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia

Motion by G. Castonia and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Emergency Management Coordinator Reimink is requesting authorization to purchase a printer from the Equipment Replacement Fund; and

March 12, 2019

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the approval of this purchase from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the purchase of a printer for the Emergency Management Coordinator’s office, funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia

Motion by G. Castonia and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there is one vacancy on the Mason County Council on Aging with a term ending December 31, 2020 representing Commissioner District #2; and

WHEREAS, there was one response to the advertisement that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Mr. Wallace Cain.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Wallace Cain be appointed to the Mason County Council on Aging for a term expiring on December 31, 2020.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there is one position on the Mason County Hospital Finance Authority Board with a term that ended January 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, there was one response from the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Ms. Susan Boes.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Ms. Susan Boes be appointed to the one position on the Mason County Hospital Finance Authority Board for a term ending January 31, 2024.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by C. Lange and seconded by G. Castonia to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for March 12, 2019.

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

Road Patrol	\$174,000.00
Jail Operations	\$135,000.00
Health, Life, & Pension	\$450,000.00

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by C. Lange and seconded by R. Bacon 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 2018 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 L. Squires to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, an employee is retiring from the District Court’s Office; and

March 12, 2019

WHEREAS, Judge Wadel is requesting that the replacement employee be hired early to allow the new employee to be trained by the retiring employee; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending that the board approve the early hiring of the new employee for training purposes.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the early hiring of the new employee for training purposes.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by C. Lange and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Mason County Economic Development Corporation Board and Mason County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board have requested that Mason County provide services that include financial records, minutes, and dissemination of information, keeping of records, and other support duties necessary to keep both entities in order.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the Management Agreement with the Mason County Economic Development Corporation Board and Mason County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners authorizes Board Chair Andersen to sign the attached service agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

The Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee has audited the County's claims dated February 7, 2019 totaling \$285,302.63 and February 21, 2019 totaling \$508,460.90; 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) C. Lange, J. Andersen

Motion by L. Squires and seconded by G. Castonia to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Sheriff is requesting authorization to purchase a canine officer from the Equipment Replacement Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety & Courts Committee is recommending the approval of this purchase from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes the purchase of a canine officer; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Administrator Knizacky noted that the resolution should reflect that Deputy Baum has requested to obtain ownership of Deputy Cash upon his retirement.

Motion carried. (Signed) L. Squires

Motion by L. Squires and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Emergency Management Coordinator and the Public Safety and Courts Committee are recommending approval of the attached ONSOLVE Service Agreement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached ONSOLVE Service Agreement and directs the Board Chair to sign it on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) L. Squires

March 12, 2019

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Emergency Management Coordinator and the Public Safety and Courts Committee are recommending approval of the attached memorandum of agreement with Oceana County.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached memorandum of agreement with Oceana County and directs the Board Chair to sign it on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Motion by S. Hull and seconded by G. Castonia 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 Tammy Elizabeth Ringler.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached agreement between the County of Mason and Tammy Elizabeth Ringler and directs the Board Chair to sign it on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there are two vacancies on the Mason County Building Authority Board with terms that expire on April 30, 2019; and

WHEREAS, there were two responses to the advertisement that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Mr. Wallace Cain and Mr. Fabian Knizacky.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Wallace Cain and Mr. Fabian Knizacky be appointed to the two positions on the Mason County Building Authority Board for terms ending April 30, 2022.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Motion by R. Bacon and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Mason County Clerk Kelly is requesting authorization to dispose of obsolete equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending approval of this request.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes Clerk Kelly to dispose of obsolete equipment.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) R. Bacon

Motion by R. Bacon and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, severe weather, in the form of thunderstorms, wind storms, floods, and tornados, is a threat to the safety and welfare of all Michigan citizens; and

WHEREAS, there are an average of 16 tornados reported in the State of Michigan each year – two occurred in Lake County on August 28, 2018; and

WHEREAS, strong storms with winds of 75 to 90 miles per hour on August 28, 2018 in Mason County cut a 20 mile path of destruction from Tamarac Village to Emerson Lake causing extensive tree and power pole damage, and widespread power outages; and

WHEREAS, citizens need to be aware that strong thunderstorms can cause as much or even more damage as tornados with strong winds, hail, and lightning which kills an average of 30 people every year nationwide; and

March 12, 2019

WHEREAS, Mason County is fortunate to have many natural resources for our citizens and visitors to enjoy, but all should be aware of the warning signs of severe weather and proper safety and emergency procedures since there can be 25 – 40 days of thunderstorm activity each year; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan Emergency Management / Homeland Security Division is promoting a Severe Weather Awareness Week to educate the public about the dangers of tornados and other severe weather events and the precautions that can be taken to save lives and protect families.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Mason County urges all county residents to educate themselves and prepare for severe weather and participate in the statewide tornado drill at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday March 27, 2019, and declares March 24 – March 30, 2019 as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Mason County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes county staff to participate in the statewide tornado drill scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 27, 2019, in their respective buildings.

Moved for your approval.

Commissioner Squires wished to thank the past chair and Emergency Manager Reimink for the work involved with preparing Mason County for Severe Weather.

Motion carried. (Signed) R. Bacon

Motion by Board Chair J. Andersen and seconded by C. Lange to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, an employee is retiring from the County Administrator's Office; and

WHEREAS, County Administrator Knizacky is requesting that the replacement employee be hired early to allow the new employee to be trained by the retiring employee; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending that the board approve the early hiring of the new employee for training purposes.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the early hiring of the new employee for training purposes and the additional use of up to ten days throughout the year for specific training needs.

Moved for your approval.

Commissioner Squires inquired if the new hire for the Administrator's office would be full time moving forward. Administrator Knizacky informed him that the position would continue to be split between the Administrator's Office and Emergency Management Office. Commissioner Squires commended the Finance, Personnel & Rules Committee with regards to their looking into making this position full time to assist the Administrator.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Motion by Board Chair J. Andersen and seconded by C. Lange to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the attached budget amendments related to activities approved by the Board of Commissioners that were not in the original 2019 budget.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached budget amendments as recommended by the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Motion by Board Chair J. Andersen and seconded by G. Castonia to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there is one position on the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan Inc. Board of Directors with a term expiring on December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, there were two responses to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Ms. Rayma Burgett and Ms. Peggy Dittmer.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Ms. Rayma Burgett and Ms. Peggy Dittmer be considered for the one position on the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan Inc. for a term to expire on December 31, 2019.

Moved for your approval.

A roll call vote taken with Commissioners voting for one candidate. Dittmer: G. Castonia, C. Lange, L. Squires, S. Hull, J. Andersen. Burgett: R. Bacon.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

March 12, 2019

Motion by Board Chair J. Andersen and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Mason County applied for a grant to be used for education, communication, and outreach regarding the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has awarded the county a grant for \$9,515.00 and the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending approval of the grant.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the grant between the State of Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs and Mason County and directs County Administrator Knizacky to sign said agreement on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Mason County Computer Network Advisory Board has reviewed the performance of I.T. Right and is recommending approval of the attached Network Administration Services Agreement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached service agreement and directs the Board Chair to sign it on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

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

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TOWNSHIP</u>	<u>SECTION</u>
2019-01	Jacob A. Zwagerman Trust	Custer	5

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 Board Chair J. Andersen and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Public Act 236 of 1961, MCL 600.8501 (1) requires that the County Board of Commissioners provide for 1 district court magistrate; and

WHEREAS, Public Act 236 of 1961, MCL 600.8501 (1) requires that all magistrates shall be appointed by the judges of the district and the appointment shall be subject to approval by the County Board of Commissioners before a person assumes the duties of the office of magistrate; and

WHEREAS, Judge Wadel has appointed Glenn Jackson as district court magistrate; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee is recommending that the Board of Commissioners approve this appointment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves Judge Wadel's appointment of Glenn Jackson as District Court Magistrate effective April 1, 2019.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Motion by Board Chair J. Andersen and seconded by C. Lange to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Deb Purtee has served the citizens of Mason County for over 29 years in the Mason County Clerk's Office; and

WHEREAS, Deb's duties included payroll, accounts payable, concealed weapons permits, jury board, elections, birth certificates, death certificates, personal protection orders, and restitution payments; and

March 12, 2019

WHEREAS, Deb took on the extra responsibilities in the office of Cobra, Aflac, flex-spending, and health insurance; and

WHEREAS, Deb's dedication and leadership resulted in her appointment as Chief Deputy Clerk in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Deb 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, attorneys, and law enforcement personnel; and

WHEREAS, Deb was a member of the Citizen's Advisory Committee that was appointed by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason to examine the County's financial situation and to make recommendations for improving it; and

WHEREAS, Deb has also served the community as a member of St. Simons Catholic Church being involved in the Applefest fundraiser, the Adoration Chapel, and the Home and School Association where she served as co-chair for the sub sale fundraiser for many years; as a member of "BOB" (Ludington Schools Band and Orchestra Boosters) which provided fundraising efforts for the Ludington High School music program with a food booth at the Gus Macker Basketball Tournament, concession stand at Oriole Field sporting events, and support for band festivals and other musical events; by providing meals and support at the local homeless shelter; as a check in volunteer for many years for the Ludington Gus Macker Basketball Tournament; as the assistant Girl Scout Cookie Coordinator for many years for the Ludington, Scottville, and Custer areas; and by participating in various cancer awareness and fundraising events including the local Relay for Life and the Munson Breast Cancer Walk; and

WHEREAS, Deb is retiring from her position in the Mason County Clerk's Office.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason, does hereby, acknowledge with regret Deb's decision to retire from her position in the Mason County Clerk's 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 12, 2019 County Commission proceedings. Moved for your approval.

Commissioner G. Castonia congratulated Deb Purtee for her 29 years of service. Commissioner R. Bacon thanked her for her service. Commissioner L. Squires has run for seven terms and thanked Ms. Purtee for her professionalism and smile. Commissioner J. Andersen thanked her for her wealth of information and service to Mason County.

Although, not a normal part of the board meeting, Ms. Purtee was allowed to speak and thanked the chair of the board for the personal invitation and noted that she has had the opportunity to work with many different department heads, but only one County Administrator. She was a part of the transition of the County from paper to computer systems, and she acknowledges that she will miss the many memories that were shared with her co-workers the most.

Janet S. Andersen, Board Chair

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 12, 2019.

Cheryl Kelly, Mason County Clerk

Motion by Board Chair J. Andersen and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Assistant Prosecutor Jackson has been appointed magistrate; and

WHEREAS, Prosecutor Spaniola is requesting that the replacement employee be hired early to allow the new employee to be trained by the retiring employee; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending that the board approve the early hiring of the new employee for training purposes.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the early hiring of the new employee for training purposes.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

March 12, 2019

Board Chair J. Andersen noted that Treasurer Kmetz was unable to attend due to settlement of property taxes with County government entities in his office. The Treasurer's report was provided in their packet and if they had questions, they were instructed to reach out to Treasurer Kmetz.

Clerk C. Kelly presented the February 2019 Clerk's Report. Clerk Kelly informed the Board that due to the reorganization of the Funds because of grant and millage requirements, the Indigent Defense (formerly Court Appointed Attorney) and Road Patrol, Secondary Road Patrol, etc. Funds were no longer included in the General Fund report. She would provide these funds in the future if requested. Additionally, she informed the Board that the Clerk's Office is working on the May 7, 2019 Special Election for the Ludington Area Schools request for a bond proposal. With this election, individuals will start to see the implementation of changes from the passing of Proposal 3 in November 2018.

Administrator Knizacky noted that he had three items to inform the Commissioners:

- The Courtroom painting has been completed this past weekend and Commissioners could take a look at the updated courtroom.
- At his most recent MMRMA (Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority) conference last week, Mason County was approved for two thermal imaging cameras for the Sheriff Department.
- He also informed the board that the new Governor recommended a 3% increase in revenue sharing for counties, which is the largest increase in the past twenty years. Commissioner Squires asked what this increase would provide for Mason County, and was informed that it would add \$20,000 to the County's budget.

There was no public comment:

- Eric Elgin, of Michigan State University Extension, noted that he had a booklet to hand out if anyone was interested in receiving one.
- John Winfrey, noted that West Michigan Community Mental Health, Mason-Oceana 911, and other entities in the county were already partnered with Merit Network.

There was no other business:

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

JANET S. ANDERSEN, BOARD CHAIR