

February 10, 2015

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 Lange.

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 C. Lange. Pledge to the flag followed.

Motion by T. Posma and seconded by J. Andersen to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by C. VanderWall and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the minutes of the December 30, 2014 special meeting and the January 13, 2015 regular meeting. Motion carried.

No correspondence was read.

Public Comment: Tom Rotta of Ludington spoke of his concern regarding the treatment of a passenger that was arrested during a January 17, 2015 traffic stop in which the driver, who is a state police trooper, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Mr. Rotta felt Mason County Officer, Mike Fort, was not properly trained and his actions caused the female passenger involved to be hurt during the incident. Mr. Rotta asked board members to review the video from the in-car cameras from the incident and to encourage the sheriff to make an apology and drop all charges against the female passenger.

Motion by W. Taranko and seconded by B. Carpenter 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 Thursday, April 16th; 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 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 Thursday, April 16, 2015.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) W. Taranko

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Deb Morgan has served the residents of Mason County for twenty-one (21) years as a Court Reporter for the 51st Circuit Court; and

WHEREAS, Deb previously served as Court Reporter for twenty (20) years for the Superior Court in Lake County, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, Deb is a member of the National Court Reporters Association and the Michigan Association of Professional Court Reporters; and

WHEREAS, Court Reporters create word-for-word transcriptions at trials, depositions, and other legal proceedings and play a critical role in maintaining the completeness and accuracy of the testimony during a trial and Deb's commitment to detail has allowed her to keep meticulous and thorough records of the court proceedings of the 51st Circuit Court; and

WHEREAS, Deb's position as Court Reporter required long hours of transcription to provide accurate records for citizens, attorneys, prosecutors, appellate courts, and posterity; and

WHEREAS, Deb's dedication and professionalism both in and out of the Courtroom has served the citizens of Mason County well throughout her career; and

February 10, 2015

WHEREAS, Deb has contributed to the community by volunteering as a member of the Ludington Optimists club; and

WHEREAS, Deb is retiring from her position as the 51st Circuit Court Reporter to pursue her passions of fishing, hunting, traveling, boating, riding Harley motorcycles and cheering for the Green Bay Packers.

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 Mason County 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 February 10, 2015 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 February 10, 2015.

Jim Riffle, Mason County Clerk

Commissioner Carpenter announced that the West Michigan Regional Shoreline Development Commission would be meeting at the Pere Marquette Charter Township Hall on March 16th at 10:30 a.m. Motion by B. Carpenter and seconded by C. VanderWall to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for February 10, 2015.

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

Jail Operations	\$122,000.00
Airport Improvement	\$ 34,750.00
Employee Vacation & Sick Leave	\$ 20,000.00
Health & Life Insurance	\$390,000.00

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) B. Carpenter

Motion by B. Carpenter and seconded by W. Taranko to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, County Clerk Riffle is requesting authorization to dispose of excess voting equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending approval of this request.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes County Clerk Riffle to dispose of surplus voting equipment.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) B. Carpenter

Motion by Building, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee Chairman C. VanderWall and seconded by J. Andersen to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the County of Mason has obstruction mitigation issues at the Mason County Airport; and

WHEREAS, Airport Manager Dave Johnson and the Buildings, Planning, Drains, & Airport Committee are recommending the approval of option #1 of the options provided by Prein & Newhof.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves option #1 for obstruction mitigation at the Mason County Airport.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. VanderWall

February 10, 2015

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason has accepted the responsibility for mechanical inspection services in the county; and

WHEREAS, the Zoning and Building Director is recommending the attached updated contract with the Mechanical Inspector.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Contract for Mechanical Inspection Services and directs the Board Chair to sign it on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. VanderWall

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Airport Manager Johnson is recommending that the Mason County Airport Non Directional Beacon be permanently decommissioned; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, & Airport Committee is recommending approval of this recommendation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes Airport Manager Johnson to proceed with the decommissioning of the Mason County Airport Non Directional Beacon; and further directs the Board Chair to sign any necessary documents.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Motion by S. Hull and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Emergency Management Coordinator Reimink and the Public Safety & Courts Committee are recommending the appointment of Mr. Steve Ruba and Ms. Julie Bulson 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 Mr. Steve Ruba and Ms. Julie Bulson to the Mason County Local Emergency Planning Committee.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Motion by Public Safety and Courts Committee Chairman J. Andersen and seconded by W. Taranko 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 is 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.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Michigan Public Act 280 of 1995 authorizes counties to accept payments by financial transaction devices such as credit cards, debit cards and electronic funds transfer cards; and

WHEREAS, Government Payment Systems (GPS) offers a service in which citizens can make payments by credit card for an additional fee that is assessed to the cardholder; and

WHEREAS, Zoning & Building Director Reilly has expressed an interest in entering into an agreement with GPS to offer this payment option at no cost to the county in her respective offices; and

February 10, 2015

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 3 of the Act, the Treasurer has determined that this type of financial transaction device payment is acceptable subject to the internal policies and procedures that have been developed by the involved offices.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes the acceptance of credit card payments by the Zoning and Building Offices and authorizes the chairman of the Board to sign an agreement on behalf of the Board.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Motion by J. Andersen and seconded by T. Posma to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason has accepted the responsibility for plumbing inspection services in the county; and

WHEREAS, the Zoning and Building Director is recommending the attached updated contract with the Plumbing Inspector.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Contract for Plumbing Inspection Services and directs the Board Chair to sign it on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Motion by Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee Chairman 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 January 15, 2015 totaling \$434,798.28, and January 29, 2015 totaling \$322,896.88; 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 T. Posma and seconded by J. Andersen to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Mason County Board of Commissioners approved a project to replace the air conditioning system at the Mason County Jail; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending that the Board of Commissioners approve the attached proposal for engineering services.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached proposal for engineering services at the Mason County Jail; funds to come from the Jail Construction Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) T. Posma

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Mason County Board of Commissioners approved the purchase of a new phone system; and

WHEREAS, Mason County Administrator Knizacky is requesting authorization to sell excess telephones; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending that the Board approve the sale of these telephones.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the sale of the telephones requested by Administrator Knizacky.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) T. Posma

February 10, 2015

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County Mason has previously approved the addition of a sign on the Mason County Fairgrounds; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has negotiated the attached note with the Western Michigan Fair Association.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached note with the Western Michigan Fair Association; funds to come from contingency.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there is one vacancy on the Mason County Economic Development Corporation (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, Mr. Chris Burns has expressed his desire to be reappointed.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Chris Burns be appointed to 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) C. Lange

Treasurer Shirley Smith reviewed the December 29, 2014 and the January 2015 Treasurer’s report and answered questions.

Clerk Jim Riffle reviewed the December 29, 2014 and the January 2015 Clerk’s Report and answered questions.

Administrator Knizacky reported that the Finance, Personnel & Rules Committee had sent 2016 Preliminary Budget Requests to all elected officials and department heads. He encouraged any board member not on the committee that wished to give input regarding priorities or changes from the current budget priorities to contact him or a member of the committee. The Preliminary Budget will be approved at the April County Board of Commissioners meeting. The final inspection for the new t-hangar at the Mason County Airport will take place in the month of February. Administrator Knizacky also reported he was recently re-elected to the position of Vice-Chairman of the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Association Board of Directors (MMRMA) and the MMRMA Finance Committee is recommending a net asset distribution of \$34 million at the upcoming February 19th meeting.

Public comment: None.

Any Unfinished Business: None.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

JIM RIFFLE, COUNTY CLERK

CHARLES LANGE, BOARD CHAIRMAN