

March 14, 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, T. Posma
Absent: None.

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

Motion made by T. Posma and seconded by J. Anderson to approve the agenda with the addition of the resolution of support for Pere Marquette Charter Township's Dow Property Acquisition Grant Application and remove District Health Department #10 Health Officer Kevin Hughes from the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by B. Carpenter and seconded by S. Hull to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2017 Regular Meeting. Motion carried.

No correspondence was read.

There was no public comment.

Mason County Sheriff Kim Cole presented his 2016 Report for the Mason County Sheriff's Office which gave an overview of the activities of the office during the year and offered to answer any questions from the County Board. Sheriff Cole thanked the board for their continued support and excused himself from the meeting at 9:09 a.m.

District Health Department #10 Health Officer Kevin Hughes was not able to attend the meeting due to a family emergency.

Mason County Drain Commissioner Jim Riffle presented his 2016 report for the Mason County Drain Office which documents the work that has been performed this year by the staff of the Mason County Drain Commission. Drain Commissioner Riffle noted that the Drain Office responded to 812 Miss Dig notifications in 2016. Additionally, the Drain Commission has been able to have additional work performed in combination with the Mason County Road Commission and other entities that resulted in no additional cost to the county. Commissioner Andersen complimented the Drain Office regarding the partnerships between the landowners and the Road Commission that have also been positive and the good work that has been done at this time.

Motion by Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee Chairman W. Taranko and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the following resolution:
HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for March 14, 2017.

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

Jail Operations	\$133,000.00
Probate Child Care	\$ 28,400.00
Insurance-Pension, Health, & Life	\$450,000.00

Moved for your approval.

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

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Motion by W. Taranko and seconded by B. Carpenter 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, Register of Deeds Englebrecht has expressed an interest in entering into an agreement with GPS to offer this payment option at no cost to the county in her office; and

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 and debit card payments by the Register of Deeds Office and authorizes the Chairman of the Board to sign an agreement on behalf of the Board.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) W. Taranko

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

WHEREAS, Magistrate Baker has expressed the need for an additional 25-1/2 hours for the part time clerical position in the District Court Office due to recent staff illness.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves an additional 25-1/2 hours for the part time clerical position in the District Court Office.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) W. Taranko

Motion by Public Safety and Courts Committee Chairman B. Carpenter and seconded by L. Squires to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has applied for a 2017 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 \$9,894.00 to the County of Mason; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety & Courts Committee is recommending approval of this grant.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves accepting a 2017 Medical Marihuana Operation and Oversight Grant for County Law Enforcement Offices; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the original vehicle purchase be from the Equipment Replacement Fund and the grant be receipted back into the Equipment Replacement Fund when it is received from the State of Michigan.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) B. Carpenter

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

WHEREAS, Magistrate Baker is requesting the purchase of a copier from the Equipment Replacement Fund 402; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety, & Courts Committee has reviewed the request and is recommending approval of it.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves \$3,195.00 for the purchase of a copier; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund 402.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) B. Carpenter

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Motion by L. Squires and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Sheriff Cole is requesting authorization to purchase seven tactical protective vests from the Equipment Replacement Fund; and

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

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the purchase of seven tactical protective vests from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) L. Squires

Motion by L. Squires and seconded by S. Hull 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 2017 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, 2017 to March 31, 2018 and further directs the County Chair to sign said agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) L. Squires

Motion by S. Hull and seconded by J. Andersen 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 19th; 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 19, 2017.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Mason County Local Emergency Planning Committee has applied for a FY 2016-17 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has awarded a grant in the amount of \$1,850.00 to the County of Mason.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves accepting the FY 2016-17 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant and directs the Board Chair to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Dow Chemical Company has offered for purchase a 316-acre parcel of land bordering the south side of Pere Marquette Lake and the north channel of the Pere Marquette River mouth to Pere Marquette Charter Township; and

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WHEREAS, the acquisition of this property by Pere Marquette Charter Township would offer the preservation of significant public open space and protect important natural wildlife habitat, including significant wetland resources; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition would also provide significant public recreation development opportunities that would benefit all local citizens and visitors to the area; and

WHEREAS, among those opportunities is the potential for the development of a connected trail system with potential linkage to Mason County Park lands to the south of the Dow Property and potential linkage to the City of Ludington to the north of the Dow Property; and

WHEREAS, a successful Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant is a critical component of Pere Marquette Charter Township's Dow Property acquisition effort.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason supports Pere Marquette Charter Township's Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund acquisition application and recommends that the Trust Fund Board award an acquisition grant to the Township. The County of Mason also looks forward to working with Pere Marquette Charter Township in the future to explore the potential for interconnected trail systems and the public benefit they would provide.

Moved for your approval.

Ayes: Commissioner Taranko, Commissioner Carpenter, Commissioner Lange, Commissioner Squires, Commissioner Hull, Commissioner Andersen, and Commissioner Posma

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

I, Cheryl Kelly, Mason County Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the Mason County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting thereof held on the 14th day of March, 2017.

Cheryl Kelly

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, a Citizen's Advisory Committee 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, one of the recommendations made was that the County Board of Commissioners should evaluate fees and charges controlled by the County Board of Commissioners at least annually and adjust them according to increased costs of providing services; and

WHEREAS, Soil Erosion Sedimentation Control Administrator Richard Plowe and the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee has evaluated the Soil Erosion Sedimentation Control permit fees and are recommending the attached fee schedule.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached fee schedule for Soil Erosion Sedimentation Control permit fees effective April 1, 2017.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Buildings, Planning, Drains, & Airport Committee Chairman T. Posma informed the Board that Airport Manager D. Johnson will be retiring, and that 11 candidates have applied to fill the position. A Committee has been put in place to interview the top five candidates and those interviews will take place in the near future.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Register of Deeds is recommending the purchase of additional server memory from the Register of Deeds Automation Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the approval of the purchase of this additional server memory.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the purchase of additional server memory from the Register of Deeds Automation Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) T. Posma

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the County of Mason and Mason County Aviation, Inc. have a Fixed Base Operation and Hangar Ground Rent Agreement at the Mason County Airport; and

WHEREAS, Airport Manager Johnson is retiring from the county and is requesting a revision to the agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee has negotiated a revision to said agreement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves a revised Fixed Base Operation and Hangar Ground Rent Agreement with Mason County Aviation, Inc. and further directs its Board Chair to sign said contract.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) T. Posma

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 9, 2017 totaling \$359,220.38 and February 23, 2017 totaling \$249,464.95; 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 Chairman C. Lange and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there two positions on the West Michigan Community Mental Health System Board with terms expiring on March 31, 2017; and

WHEREAS, there were four responses to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Mr. Ronald Bacon, Dr. Jennifer Branning, Ms. Linda Friedley, and Mr. James Wincek.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Ronald Bacon, Dr. Jennifer Branning, Ms. Linda Friedley, and Mr. James Wincek be considered for the two positions on the West Michigan Community Mental Health System Board for terms expiring March 31, 2020.

Moved for your approval.

A roll call vote was taken with Commissioners voting for two candidates. Bacon: Taranko, Lange, Squires, Hull, Andersen, and Posma. Branning: Taranko, Carpenter, Lange, Squires, Hull, Andersen, and Posma. Friedley: No votes. Wincek: Carpenter. Positions to be filled by Mr. Ronald Bacon and Dr. Jennifer Branning.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there is one vacancy on the Tax Allocation Board; and

WHEREAS, there was one response to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Mr. Jack Harper.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the reappointment of Mr. Jack Harper to the Tax Allocation Board.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by Chairman C. Lange and seconded by W. Taranko 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, 2017; and

WHEREAS, there was one response to the advertisement that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Mr. Thomas Hooper.

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Thomas Hooper be appointed to a position on the Mason County Building Authority Board for a term ending April 30, 2020.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there is one vacancy on the Mason County EDC Board with a term that expired on December 31, 2016; 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. James Wincek.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. James Wincek be appointed to the Mason County EDC Board and the Mason County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board for a term ending December 31, 2022.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Treasurer Kmetz presented the February 2017 Treasurer's Report and answered questions. The Treasurer's office is currently working on settling with the local townships, and is half-way through the settlement process at this time. Commissioner Posma asked how the collections are looking so far and Treasurer Kmetz reports that things are appearing normal as in years past.

Clerk Kelly presented the February 2017 Clerk's Report and had nothing further to report. No questions were asked regarding the Clerk's Report.

Administrator Knizacky informed the Board that the Finance, Rules & Personal Committee will start reviewing the 2018 Preliminary budgets submitted by Department heads and hopes to bring a balanced budget to the April 2017 Board meeting.

Public Comment:

- Drain Commissioner Riffle thanked the Board for the support of the office and for supporting Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Administrator Richard Plowe's request for an increase in the Soil Erosion Sedimentation Control (SESC) permit fees.
- Paul Keson, Supervisor Pere Marquette Charter Township, thanked the board for supporting the resolution to support Pere Marquette Charter Township's efforts with regards to the Dow Property Acquisition Grant Application. He intends on submitting the grant at the end of the week.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 9:42 a.m.

CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

CHARLES LANGE, BOARD CHAIRMAN