

July 25, 2017

A special 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, G. Castonia, C. Lange, S. Hull, J. Andersen, T. Posma
Absent: L. Squires.

Invocation was given by J. Andersen. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America followed.

Motion by W. Taranko and seconded by J. Andersen to approve the agenda without the resolution to appoint a medical examiner. Motion carried.

Administrator Knizacky shared with the Board an email communication received at 5:57 p.m. from Ms. Lisa Kaspriak expressing his concerns about the contract and wanting his attorney to review the contract before signing it. Administrator Knizacky stated that the Board could approve the contract as is, give the Administrator time to work out any differences with Dr. Wagner, or hire a different medical examiner.

Motion made by J. Andersen and seconded by S. Hull to amend the first motion and add additional language allowing Administrator Knizacky to negotiate the medical examiner contract regarding the insurance issues and prosecutor's recommendation, send this information to all the Commissioners, and set a special meeting for August 3, 2017 at 7 p.m. Motion carried.

No other correspondence was read.

Public Comment:

- Randy Wyman, of Wyman Funeral Homes, stressed his concerns regarding communication issues with the Medical Examiner the County wishes to proceed with. Mr. Wyman also stated that he had a copy of a contract from Dr. Brian Hunter and wanted to know why the Board would pick an entity that would cost the county considerably more money. Administrator Knizacky informed Mr. Wyman that Dr. Hunter never submitted a contract to him nor the Mason County Board of Commissioners for them to review when he was asked to come and interview for the position.

- Courtney Davis of Life EMS presented to the meeting representing his wife, Lydania Davis, who is a Medical Examiner Investigator. Mrs. Davis was not able to be present at the meeting but endorsed the Paul Wagner group. Mr. Davis noted his opinions and concerns with the county picking the next medical examiner.

- Randy Wyman wished to add that the Newaygo facility is 100 cases away from affording their own Forensic Pathologist, and should Mason County choose them, they would be at about 25 cases closer. Mr. Wyman left the meeting after passing out a comparison for the Mason County Medical Examiner position.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee are recommending the attached agreement to facilitate the use of the morgue at Spectrum Health Ludington Hospital.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached agreement to facilitate the use of the morgue at Spectrum Health Ludington Hospital and directs the Board Chair to sign it on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

There was no additional public comment.

A special Board meeting was established for Thursday, August 3, 2017 at 7 p.m. to review the Medical Examiner Position.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

CHARLES LANGE, BOARD CHAIRMAN