

June 9, 2020

The regular meeting of the Mason County Board of Commissioners was held at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room located in the Mason County Airport Terminal.

The meeting was called to order by Chair J. Andersen

Roll call was taken. Present: N. Krieger, G. Castonia, C. Lange, L. Squires,
S. Hull, J. Andersen, R. Bacon
Absent: NONE

Invocation was given by C. Lange. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America followed.

Approval of Agenda. Motion by C. Lange and seconded by N. Krieger to have Commissioner Hull bring in the 2020 Budget amendment Resolution that was not listed. Motion carried.

Motion G. Castonia and seconded by S. Hull to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2020 Regular meeting and April 30, 2020 Special meeting. Motion carried.

Chair Andersen read letters from the following individuals regarding the 2nd Amendment Sanctuary item: Barry Matthews, Dan Petterson, Susan Bogart, Karen Opperman, and James Thomas. (Copies of these letters can be found within the Clerk agenda packet.)

Public comment: None

Commissioner Krieger had no committee or agency issues but wished to inform all that the last two Michigan State University Extension meetings were successfully completed via Zoom.

Motion by N.Krieger and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Mason County Sheriff's Office 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 Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement between the Mason County Sheriff's Office and the United States Department of Agriculture, Huron-Manistee National Forests and further directs the County Chair to sign said agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) N. Krieger

Motion by N. Krieger and seconded by G. Castonia to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan and the County of Mason have historically worked together to provide for Marine Safety Programs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached 2020 Marine Safety Grant Agreement between the State of Michigan and the County of Mason and further directs the County Chair to sign said agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) N. Krieger

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Emergency Management Coordinator Reimink and the Public Safety & Courts Committee are recommending the appointment of Mr. Ron Melchert 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. Ron Melchert to the Mason County Local Emergency Planning Committee.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia

Motion by Public Safety and Courts Committee Chair G. Castonia and seconded by N. Krieger to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Friend of the Court Niemeyer and Prosecutor Spaniola are recommending that the Board approve an extension to the Consulting Services Agreement with MGT of America, Inc.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached extension to the Consulting Services Agreement with MGT of America, Inc. and further directs the County Chair to sign said agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for April 14, 2020.

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

Welfare Child Care	\$ 29,400.00
Road Patrol	\$175,750.00
Friend of the Court	\$119,750.00
Indigent Defense	\$ 38,375.00
Jail Operations	\$136,405.00
Law Library	\$ 3,750.00
Social Welfare	\$ 7,000.00
Probate Court Child Care	\$ 67,250.00
Property & Liability Insurance	\$ 10,250.00

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Motion by Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee Chair C. Lange and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the following resolution:

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MASON COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION PLEDGING SUPPORT FOR
THE SECOND AMENDMENT OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION AND
ARTICLE 1, SECTION 6 OF THE MICHIGAN CONSTITUTION OF 1963**

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Mason is vested with the authority to supervise and administer the affairs of Mason County government, and is statutorily defined as a body corporate with powers and immunities provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the first ten amendments of the United States Constitution, commonly known as the Bill of Rights, were ratified in 1791 as a means of securing the individual rights and liberties of the American People; and

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution guarantees the right to keep and bear arms; and

WHEREAS, each constitutional guarantee, including each amendment embodied in the Bill of Rights, is entitled to equal dignity; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court ruled in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S. 570 (2008), that the language of the Second Amendment protects an individual’s right to keep and bear arms, unconnected with service in a militia, for traditionally lawful purposes such as self-defense within the home; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court subsequently ruled in *McDonald v. City of Chicago*, 561 U.S. 742 (2010), that the individual right to keep and bear arms, as guaranteed by the Second Amendment, is incorporated against the states by the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 provides an even more explicit right to keep and bear arms for individual self-defense purposes, stating that “[e]very person has a right to keep and bear arms for the defense of himself and the state”; and

WHEREAS, it is fundamental to our federalist system of government that any state, county, or local statute, act, ordinance, or regulation must be strictly subordinate to and compatible with the state and federal constitutions; and

WHEREAS, elected officials at all levels of Michigan government, including all county commissioners, have taken a solemn oath to support and defend each and every provision of the United States Constitution and Michigan Constitution of 1963; and

WHEREAS, it is the obligation of elected officials at every level of Michigan government, including county commissioners, to support and defend the constitutional rights and liberties of the People, including those guaranteed and protected by the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article 1, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963; and

WHEREAS, this responsibility includes the duty to refrain from adopting any statute, act, ordinance, or regulation which would violate or be incompatible with the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution or Article 1, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the members of the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Mason to reaffirm their oaths and declare their support of the abovementioned individual constitutional right to keep and bear arms; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mason County Board of County Commissioners hereby declares its full support of all individual freedoms and liberties safeguarded by the United States and Michigan Constitutions, including those secured by the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article 1, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mason County Board of County Commissioners urges members of the United States Congress, members of the Michigan Legislature, and the governor of Michigan to take all necessary steps to safeguard the individual freedoms and liberties safeguarded by the United States and Michigan Constitutions, including those secured by the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article 1, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mason County Board of County Commissioners urges all federal and state officials, including members of the United States Congress, members of the Michigan Legislature, and the governor of Michigan, to refrain from supporting any bill or amendment, or taking any other action, which would violate or be incompatible with the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution or Article 1, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the offices of Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Senator Curt VanderWall, and Representative Jack O’Malley at Lansing, Michigan, and to the offices of Senator Debbie Stabenow, Senator Gary Peters, Congressman Jack Bergman, and Congressman Bill Huizenga at Washington, D.C.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Roll call vote: AYES: Lange, Squires, Hull, Bacon, Castonia, and Andersen
NAYS: Krieger

Motion by Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee Chair 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 2019 delinquent taxes by advancing funds from the General Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee Chair C. Lange and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy on the Mason/Ocean 911 Board of Directors due to the retirement of Chief Barnett; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the appointment of Ludington Police Chief Tim Kozal to represent Mason County Chiefs of Police and Scottville Police Chief Matt Murphy as alternate.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason appoints Ludington Police Chief Tim Kozal to represent Mason County Chiefs of Police and Scottville Police Chief Matt Murphy as alternate..

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee Chair C. Lange and seconded by L. Squires to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for June 9, 2020.

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

Road Patrol	\$175,750.00
Jail Operations	\$136,405.00

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Administrator Knizacky noted that the State Courts Administrative Office requires the public to wear masks for any building a courtroom is located. Discussion ensued regarding this procedure.

Motion by C. Lange and seconded by L. Squires to amend the Proposed Mason County Preparedness and Response Plan with the State Court Administrative Order that is applicable to the Courthouse building only, and keep all other buildings as the plan is currently written.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Commissioner Squires asked if the Judges were going to comply with this order and was informed by Administrator Knizacky “yes” to the best of his knowledge.

Motion by Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee Chair C. Lange and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, various Executive Orders from Governor Whitmer require the approval of a Preparedness and Response Plan prior to reopening operations to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the approval of the attached Plan to facilitate opening county facilities to the public on June 15, 2020.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached proposed Preparedness and Response Plan and directs Board Chairwoman Andersen to sign it on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee Chair C. Lange and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

The Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee has audited the County’s claims dated

- April 02, 2020 totaling \$428,771.36; and
- April 16, 2020 totaling \$740,535.89; and
- April 30, 2020 totaling \$740,535.89; 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, S. Hull.

Commissioner Lange clarified that a Yes vote for the consideration of an agreement for collection of summer taxes was to deny the request. All Commissioners noted understanding the voting process.

Motion by Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee Chair C. Lange and seconded by L. Squires to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Pere Marquette Charter Township has requested that Mason County approve the attached agreement; and

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

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason denies the request for an Agreement for Collection of Summer Property Taxes.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Commissioner Squires wished to thank the Chair of the Board, Administrator Knizacky, the Elected Officials, and the Department Heads for continuing to run the County for the last three months, noting an excellent job. He also expressed his thanks to the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee for their work on the 2nd Amendment Resolution.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the improvement to the Ludington sewer system resulted in the need to make improvements to Lift Station No. 1 located on US 10; and

WHEREAS, the Mason County Board of Commissioners approved the purchase of 26.71% of Lift Station No. 1 for an amount not to exceed \$257,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Mason County’s bond counsel has drafted the attached 2020 Advance Agreement and 2020 Supplement to the Mason County Sewage Disposal System (City of Scottville – Township of Amber-Township of Victory Area) Bond Contract to address this purchase and to provide for the advance of funds to the City of Scottville for the City’s share of the lift station and a future I&I project; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending approval of the agreement and supplement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached 2020 Advance Agreement and 2020 Supplement to the Mason County Sewage Disposal System (City of Scottville – Township of Amber-Township of Victory Area) Bond Contract.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) L. Squires

Administrator Knizacky made mention that Scottville, Amber, and DPW have all approved the 2020 Advance Agreement and 2020 Supplement Agreement to the Mason County Sewage Disposal System.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Homeland Security Grants are now being given on a regional basis; and

WHEREAS, the County of Mason is a member of the Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board; and

WHEREAS, the Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board had designated West Michigan Regional Medical Consortium as the Fiduciary for the 2017 Homeland Security Program; and

WHEREAS, the Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board has authorized the purchase of 2 Avator II Replacement Batteries; and

WHEREAS, the County of Mason needs to approve the attached Certification of Goods Received.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Certification of Goods Received and authorizes the Board Chair to sign this document.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) L. Squires

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Larsen’s Landscaping, LLC has agreed to provide mowing services at the Mason County Airport in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the County has been satisfied with the services provided by Larsen’s Landscaping, LLC; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee recommends extending the contract with Larsen’s Landscaping, LLC for one year.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves extending the contract with Larsen’s Landscaping, LLC for one year to provide grass mowing services and further directs the Chair to sign the contracts on its behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Commissioner Castonia asked if other bids were reviewed for the lawn service. The Board was informed that in the current contract there was a clause that could extend the current contract up to 5 years to do the work as long as there was not an increase in the cost.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

The Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee has audited the County’s claims dated
March 04, 2020 totaling \$122,596.21: and
March 19, 2020 totaling \$371.126.19; 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, S. Hull.

Motion by Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee Chair S. Hull and seconded by C. Lange to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, H.R. 6201, the “Families First Coronavirus Response Act: of 2020 requires expanded family medical leave and paid sick leave benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the attached policies to define the leave provided to the employees of Mason County..

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Emergency Leave and COVID-19 Sick Leave Policies.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Commissioner Squires inquired if any County employees have had to utilize the new COVID leave policy and was informed no.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Mason County received a Crime Victim Rights Funding Agreement with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services with an increase in funding from \$23,408.00 to \$39,326.00.

WHEREAS, Mason County Prosecuting Attorney Spaniola is recommending increasing the hourly wages for the part-time crime victims advocate and to increase the hours allocated to this positon.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves a hourly wage of \$16.20 for the part-time crime victims advocate and to authorize an additional 25 hours for training in 2020.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Commissioner Krieger inquired as to why more hours and an increase in salary was necessary. He was informed that the position was initially created with the understanding that it was to be utilized with grant funding, but did not prepare for the necessary training that was required, nor allowed for a raise as this was a dedicated staff position.

Motion by Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee Chair S. Hull and seconded by C. Lange to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Emergency Management Coordinator Reimink has requested that the Mason County Board of Commissioners change her job classification related to the Mason County Planner portion of her position; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the job classification change for Emergency Management Coordinator Reimink.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves changing the job classification of Emergency Management Coordinator Reimink retroactive to March 19, 2020 until June 26, 2020.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Administrator Knizacky elaborated on the reasons for a job classification change which was due to the current hours being used for the COVID-19 pandemic that are not eligible for submission to FEMA and therefore would be coming out of the County’s general fund.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

The Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee has audited the County’s claims dated

May 14, 2020 totaling \$529,702.64; and

May 28, 2020 totaling \$136,056.12; 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, S. Hull.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Prosecuting Attorney Spaniola is recommending the purchase of three desktop scanners; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending paying for the attached scanners out of the Equipment Replacement Fund.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the purchase of the attached scanners; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Motion by Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee Chair S. Hull and seconded by C. Lange to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Mason County Board of Commissioners has approved a loan to the West Michigan Fair Association; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee is recommending the attached budget amendments to provide funding for the project.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached budget amendments.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, it is necessary to adopt a 2021 Preliminary Budget for the County of Mason; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has requested and received the proposed 2021 Preliminary Budget requests from the various Department Heads of the County of Mason; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the proposed 2021 Preliminary Budget requests and after careful deliberations have made the necessary adjustments which allow the Committee to recommend a balanced 2021 Preliminary Budget that will meet the collective needs of the citizens served by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason adopts the attached 2021 Preliminary Budget 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, it is necessary, from time to time, to review and update the adopted rules of the Mason County Board of Commissioners.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the adopted rules of the Mason County Board of Commissioners.

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, Mason County has applied to the State of Michigan for funding of a Veteran’s Affairs Department; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has offered the attached grant award to Mason County; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending that the county approve the attached grant award from the State of Michigan.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached grant award from the State of Michigan for the funding of a Veteran’s Affairs Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners authorizes Board Chair Andersen to sign any necessary documents.

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 County Board of Commissioners advertised for and hired a contractor to provide lawn mowing services in 2019; and

WHEREAS, that contract included an option to extend the contract for up to five additional years; and

WHEREAS, the successful contractor Larsen’s Landscaping, LLC has agreed to provide the services in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the County has been satisfied with the services provided by Larsen’s Landscaping, LLC; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee recommends extending the contract with Larsen’s Landscaping, LLC for one year.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves extending the contract with Larsen’s Landscaping, LLC for one year to provide grass mowing services and further directs it’s Chair to sign the contract on its 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, new accounting standards established by Governmental Accounting Standards Board require the calculation of a liability for retiree health care benefits by an actuarial firm; and

WHEREAS, Gabriel Roeder Smith & Company performs the actuarial services for the County’s retiree health insurance; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending that the County approve the attached proposal.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached proposal from Gabriel Roeder Smith & Company; funding to come from the Health, Life, & Pension Insurance Fund.

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, Mason County is authorized under the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893, as amended, to levy and collect County allocated property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the General Property Tax Act has been amended by Public Act 357 of 2004, being MCL 211.44a, to require all Michigan Counties to impose a summer tax levy, with the summer tax levies for 2005 and 2006 to be in the amount of 1/3 and 2/3, respectively, of the total County allocated tax, with the full amount of County allocated tax to be levied and collected as a summer tax levy in 2007 and thereafter.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Public Act 357 of 2004, the Mason County allocated tax shall be levied and collected on July 1, 2020, at the rate of 5.0967 mills; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Treasurer of each city, village and township in Mason County is directed to account for and deliver the County allocated tax collections for 2020 in accordance with the provisions of Public Act 357 of 2004; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution constitutes certification of the levy of the County allocated tax and authorized collection of the County allocated tax on July 1, 2020, at the rate of 5.0967 mills; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded by the County Administrator to the Treasurer of each city, village and township in Mason County.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Roll Call vote for 2020 Tax Levy: AYES: Lange, Squires, Hull, Bacon, Krieger, Castonia, and Andersen
NAYS: None

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for April 14, 2020.

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

Road Patrol	\$175,750.00
Jail Operations	\$136,405.00
Airport Operations	\$ 37,450.00

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, Mason County has been awarded a Veterans’ Affairs Service Grant for the 2019/2020 state budget year; and

WHEREAS, this grant is for more than the county budgeted for this department; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee is recommending the attached budget amendment to increase the 2020 budget.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached budget amendment.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Treasurer A. Kmetz presented the monthly Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer Kmetz also noted that the foreclosure deadline had been moved to June 30, 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Thirty parcels are at risk. Seven or eight of these parcels have principal residence exemption. He briefly discussed HB5761 and HB5810 and their impacts. Commissioner Squires asked if any Mason County resident would lose their home due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Treasurer Kmetz notes that he is doing everything in his power to get extensions and enroll people into programs to assist so as not to lose their homes.

Clerk C. Kelly presented the monthly Clerk’s Report and would be happy to answer any questions. Since the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the Clerk’s office has continued operating and providing services to Mason County residents, utilizing all forms of services: fax, phone, email, texting and by appointment at the door. During this time, our office has finished up as of last week, the March 10, Presidential Primary, completed the new ARLO-risk limiting audit, performed the May 5 Special Election primarily via absentee ballots, trained and implemented the new State VERA system for birth registrations, working full-swing on the August election, and have started working on the November election.

Administrator Knizacky presented the Administrator’s Monthly Report. Administrator Knizacky notes he is working on the 2019 Audit and it has been a unique year, in that everything is being done virtually. He is continuing his work on the audit report.

There was no public comment:

Other business: Commissioner Castonia agrees with Commissioner Krieger regarding the 2nd Amendment but noted that having the resolution was not meaningless in his opinion.

Commissioner Andersen thanked Administrator Knizacky and the Elected Officials for their work during these unprecedented times with keeping employees and the public safe.

Commissioner Krieger noted that he did not intend for use of the word “meaningless”. He fully supports the 2nd amendment, is a gun owner, and is not anti-gun, but also an attorney. He notes that the final language is better than the language provided in February and does agree with the resolution, but feels one resolution cannot capture the entire 2nd amendment. He notes that the main reason for voting no is that it is not the place of this board to decide the laws.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

JANET S. ANDERSEN, BOARD CHAIR