

January 12, 2021

The organizational meeting of the Mason County Board of Commissioners was held at 9:00 a.m. at the Mason County Airport Terminal Conference room.

The meeting was called to order by Clerk C. Kelly.

Roll call was taken. Present: N. Krieger via phone, G. Castonia, J. Hartley, L. Squires,
S. Hull, J. Andersen, R. Bacon
Absent: None.

Clerk C. Kelly gave the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Clerk C. Kelly asked Commissioner G. Castonia to bring forth a resolution for a one-year term for Chairperson. Motion by G. Castonia and seconded by L. Squires to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Public Act 392 of 2000 amends section 3 of Public Act 156 of 1851 specifying that the chairperson of a county board of commissioners shall be elected each odd-numbered year to serve a two-year term, unless the county board of commissioners provides by resolution that the chairperson shall be elected annually for a one-year term; and

WHEREAS, Public Act 392 took effect on January 4, 2001; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason desires to elect its chairperson on an annual basis.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason does hereby determine to elect its chairperson for annual one-year terms in accordance with the terms of Public Act 392 of 2000.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia

Clerk Kelly opened the floor for nominations of the Board Chair position. Commissioner G. Castonia nominated Commissioner J. Andersen and seconded by Commissioner S. Hull.

There were no other nominations from the floor.

Clerk Kelly asked again for nominations. None were given.

Hearing no further nominations, the floor was closed. A unanimous vote was cast to have Janet Andersen serve as Chair for the 2021 Mason County Board of Commissioners. Motion carried.

Chair J. Andersen thanked the Board for their vote of confidence and welcomed Commissioner Jody Hartley to the board.

Chair J. Andersen opened the floor for nominations for the Vice-Chair position of the Mason County Board of Commissioners.

Motion was made by L. Squires and seconded by G. Castonia to nominate Steve Hull for the Vice-Chair position of the 2021 Mason County Board of Commissioners.

Chair J. Andersen asked two times if there were any other nominations. None were given.

Commissioner R. Bacon made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner J. Hartley to close nominations. A unanimous vote was cast for Steve Hull to serve as 2021 Vice-Chair position. Motion carried.

Motion by S. Hull and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the minutes of the December 08, 2020 Regular Meeting and December 29, 2020 Special Meeting. Motion carried.

No Correspondence was read.

Public comment: Kenny and Shondra Wilson, members of the public congratulated the board on their appointments.

Commissioner Krieger: No Committee Reports. N. Krieger thanked the Board for opportunity to participate in the meeting via telephone.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Mason County Sheriff Cole and the Public Safety and Courts Committee are recommending the purchase of two Dodge Durangos.

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

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia

January 12, 2021

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Richard Plowe has served the citizens of the County of Mason for twenty-eight (28) years in various positions; and

WHEREAS, Richard started in 1992 at the Mason County Landfill and transferred in 1997 to his present position at the Mason County Drain Office; and

WHEREAS, Richard served as the administrator of the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program, where he issued permits and inspected completed projects to ensure compliance with state law; and

WHEREAS, Richard worked diligently to stay current with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) state and federal wetland regulations; and

WHEREAS, Richard, also, served as a maintenance technician for the Mason County Department of Public Works and was responsible for the care and maintenance of the Mason County Sewage Disposal System; and

WHEREAS, Richard has been dedicated to excellence in his work, displaying consideration and courtesy in working with the public and cooperation and friendship with his fellow employees; and

WHEREAS, Richard is retiring from his position at the Mason County Drain Office and Department of Public Works.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason, does hereby, acknowledge with regret Richard's decision to retire from county government and offers him their best wishes in his 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 he has shown throughout his career; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution become a permanent part of the minutes of the January 12, 2021 County Commission proceedings. Moved for your approval.

Janet 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 January 12, 2021.

Cheryl Kelly, Mason County Clerk

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) L. Squires

Motion by S. Hull and seconded by R. Bacon 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) S. Hull

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Register of Deeds is recommending the purchase of a Life Cycle Service from the Register of Deeds Automation Fund; and

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

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the purchase of a Life Cycle Service from the Register of Deeds Automation Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Commissioner Castonia inquired as to what a "Life Cycle Plan" was. He was informed by Chair Andersen that this is computer software program used in the Register of Deeds office.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

January 12, 2021

WHEREAS, the 2021 schedule of meetings for the Mason County Board of Commissioners requires approval.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached 2021 schedule of meetings.

JANUARY 12th	TUESDAY	9:00 A.M.	AUGUST 10 th	TUESDAY	7:00 P.M.
FEBRUARY 9th	TUESDAY	7:00 P.M.	SEPTEMBER 14 th	TUESDAY	9:00 A.M.
MARCH 9th	TUESDAY	9:00 A.M.	OCTOBER 12 th	TUESDAY	7:00 P.M.
APRIL 13th	TUESDAY	7:00 P.M.	NOVEMBER 9 th	TUESDAY	9:00 A.M.
MAY 11th	TUESDAY	9:00 A.M.	DECEMBER 14 th	TUESDAY	7:00 P.M.
JUNE 8 th	TUESDAY	7:00 P.M.	<u>JANUARY 11th, 2022 TUESDAY 9:00 A.M</u>		
JULY 13 th	TUESDAY	9:00 A.M.			

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending the purchase of a Pivot Point Appraisal Software System for the Equalization Department with funds coming from contingency.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the purchase of a Pivot Point Appraisal Software System for the Equalization Department; funds to come from the attached budget amendment

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for January 12, 2021.

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

Welfare Child Care	\$ 29,400.00
Road Patrol	\$179,900.00
Friend of the Court	\$140,000.00
Indigent Defense	\$ 38,375.00
Jail Operations	\$139,500.00
Social Welfare	\$ 6,000.00
Probate Court Child Care	\$ 67,250.00
Property & Liability Insurance	\$ 10,250.00

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen, S. Hull

Motion by Board Chair J. Andersen 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

December 10, 2020 totaling \$308,666.44; and
December 23, 2020 totaling \$404,216; 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 Board Chair J. Andersen 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 expires January 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, there are two responses from the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Mr. Scott Biggs and Dr. Lewis Squires.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Scott Biggs and Dr. Lewis Squires be considered for the one position on the Mason County Hospital Finance Authority Board for a term ending January 31, 2026.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Roll Call vote:

Biggs: None

Squire: Krieger, Castonia, Hartley, Squires, Hull, Bacon, Andersen.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Section IV of the Mason County Remonumentation Plan states that the County Grant Administrator must submit surveyor contracts to the Mason County Board of Commissioners for approval and authorization; and

WHEREAS, Surveyor James Nordlund and the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending the approval of contracts with Mr. Noah Penn, Mr. Craig Stapley, and Surveyor Nordlund.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the related surveyor contracts and further directs the Board Chair to sign said contracts on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

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

WHEREAS, the benefits under H.R. 6201 expired on December 31, 2020.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves paying employees who are required to quarantine due to Covid-19 and are unable to work remotely to be paid up to 10 days at regular pay without having to use any of their paid leave hours; effective January 1, 2021.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Commissioner L. Squires inquired if the Covid-19 leave policy presented was based on a yearly basis for employees or if it impacted the employee differently. He was informed by Chair J. Andersen that this policy was not a one-time exception. That the policy would cover employees for multiple exposures. It was noted that law enforcement could have multiple exposures due to their job. It was also noted that the Board would re-visit this policy as needed. Commissioner Castonia wanted to know if the “ten days” were ten work days and was informed by Chair Andersen that is the intent of this policy. Commissioner J. Hartley also noted that he assumed it was ten working days as the intent of the policy.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there is one position on the Jury Board with a term expiring on April 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Judge Sniegowski is recommending that the Board of Commissioners reappoint Ms. Lyla McClland to the Jury Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Ms. Lyla McClland be reappointed to the Jury Board for a term that expires on April 30, 2027.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Michigan Office of Land Survey and Remonumentation desires that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason appoint a Remonumentation Peer Group; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending approval of the appointment of Surveyor James Nordlund, Mr. Rex Pope, and Mr. Craig Stapley as members and Mr. Dennis Dunlap as alternate to the Remonumentation Peer Group.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the appointment of Surveyor James Nordlund, Mr. Rex Pope, Mr. Craig Stapley, and Mr. Dennis Dunlap, and further directs the Board Chair to sign the related contracts on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

January 12, 2021

Unfinished business: Commissioner L. Squires reflected on the 2020 calendar year and thanked the Board for their work for the residents of Mason County during these unprecedented times. He cited the current situation in Washington with the violence and unrest as not acceptable behavior and he commended the Board of Commissioners for their ability to work together for the best interest of the residents of Mason County.

Chair Andersen reminisced on the 2020 year and where the County has gone this past year and where this Board needs to take the County in the future. She notes that we are currently working in a different environment and areas need to be addressed regarding the virtual world.

She encouraged each Commissioner to review what they wished to work on in the New Year and bring those thoughts and ideas to the Committees.

She thanked the Elected Officials, Department Heads and employees for their continued work in this very difficult year due to the pandemic, noting that everyone has had to adjust their lives hourly due to changes caused by the pandemic and these efforts have not gone unnoticed.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 a.m.

CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

JANET S. ANDERSEN, BOARD CHAIR