

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

The meeting was called to order by Chair J. Andersen

Roll call was taken. Present: N. Krieger, C. Lange, L. Squires,
S. Hull, J. Andersen, R. Bacon
Absent: G. Castonia

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

Motion by R. Bacon and seconded by S. Hull to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Commissioner Krieger noted that he would like to amend one line on the October 13, 2020 board notes regarding the amendment to the Brownfield Policy. Motion by L. Squires and seconded by C. Lange to approve the October 13, 2020 meeting with the above amendment. Motion carried.

Motion by L. Squire and seconded by C. Lange to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2020 regular meeting and November 24, 2020 special meeting with changes to the October 13, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Andersen read two letters:

- A letter from Democratic Chair Ed Miller with a request from the Mason County Democratic Party to have the County require the wearing of masks. This issue was referred to Administrator Knizacky to seek legal counsel from the County Prosecutor for an opinion.
- Also a Thank you note from the Squires Family.

Public comment: None

Motion by N. Krieger and seconded by C. Lange to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there are two positions on the Mason County Parks and Recreation Commission with terms expiring on December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, there were two responses to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Ms. Charity Johnston and Mr. Jeff Schwass

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Ms. Charity Johnston and Mr. Jeff Schwass be appointed to the positions on the Mason County Parks and Recreation Commission with terms expiring December 31, 2023.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) N. Krieger

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there are three positions on the Mason County Council on Aging with terms ending December 31, 2020 from District #2, District #5 and District #7; and

WHEREAS, there were three eligible responses to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Mr. Wallace Cain representing District #2, Ms. Mary Bedker representing District #5 and Ms. Charity Johnston representing District #7.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Wallace Cain representing District #2, Ms. Mary Bedker representing District #5 and Ms. Charity Johnston representing District #7 be appointed to the Mason County Council on Aging for terms expiring on December 31, 2022.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) N. Krieger

Motion by N. Krieger 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 has 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 38 CBRN NIOSH Filters for Millenium Gas Mask; and

WHEREAS, the County of Mason needs to adopt the attached Transfer of Ownership Agreement/Equipment receipt and acceptance for purchases under Federal Award Number 97.067.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Transfer of Ownership Agreement/Equipment receipt and acceptance for purchases under Federal Award Number 97.067 between West Michigan Regional Medical Consortium and Mason County and authorizes the Board Chair to sign these documents and all related forms on behalf of the County.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) N. Krieger

Motion by Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee Chairman C. Lange and seconded by N. Krieger to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, it is necessary to set a date for the annual Budget Amendment Meeting.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason establishes, December 29, 2020 at 7:00 PM as the date and the time for the annual Budget Amendment Meeting.

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

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for December 8, 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
Law Library	\$ 3,750.00
Airport Improvement	\$ 25,000.00
Workers Compensation	\$ 10,000.00

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, the State of Michigan is currently offering Medical Marihuana grant opportunities to counties for the education, communication, and outreach programs related to the 2008 Michigan Medical Marihuana Act.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes the submittal of an application for grant funding for the education, communication, and outreach programs related to the 2008 Michigan Medical Marihuana Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners authorizes County Administrator to be the County Grant Administrator and to sign any necessary documents.

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, Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee requested bids for transporting autopsy candidates to the morgue at Spectrum Health-Ludington Hospital; and

WHEREAS, Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the selection of Beacon Cremation and Funeral Service, Inc. to perform this service.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Transportation Agreement with Beacon Cremation and Funeral Service, Inc. and directs the Board Chair 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

WHEREAS, there is one position on the Mason County Road Commission Board with a term expiring on December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, there were two responses to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Mr. Jeff Conklin and Mr. Doug Robidoux.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Jeff Conklin and Mr. Doug Robidoux be considered for the one position on the Mason County Road Commission Board for a term ending December 31, 2026.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Commissioner Lange noted that a committee was formed to do interviews of the candidates This Committee was comprised of two commissioners, two township supervisors, and the County Administrator. This board voted unanimously for Jeff Conklin and is recommending Mr. Jeff Conklin for this position.

Roll call vote for Mason County Road Commission was taken:

Conklin: Krieger, Lange, Squires, Bacon, Andersen.

Robidoux: Hull

ABSENT: Castonia

Position to be filled by Mr. Jeff Conklin

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there is one position on the Mason County Tax Allocation Board with a term expiring on December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, there were two responses to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Mr. Scott Biggs and Mr. Tom Posma.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Scott Biggs and Mr. Tom Posma be considered for the one position on the Mason County Tax Allocation Board with a term expiring December 31, 2021.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Roll Call vote was taken for Tax Allocation Board:

Biggs: None

Posma: Lange, Squire, Hull, Bacon, Krieger, Andersen

ABSENT: Castonia

Position on Tax Allocation Board to be filled by Mr. Tom Posma.

Commissioner Squires thanked the board for the peace lily that was sent on behalf of his family.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Prosecutor Paul Spaniola has served the citizens of the County of Mason for seventeen (17) years in the Prosecutors Office first as Assistant Prosecutor from 2001 until 2008 and then as elected prosecutor in 2009 until present; and

WHEREAS, Paul’s career accomplishments include the successful prosecutions of the Katherine Phillips homicide and Trooper Paul Butterfield’s homicide; and

WHEREAS, Paul’s compassionate mind coupled with his willingness to spend many hours reviewing cases and supporting documentation, meeting with witnesses and victims resulted in him becoming very passionate as a prosecutor for the County of Mason; and

WHEREAS, Paul 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, court staff, attorneys, and law enforcement personnel; and

WHEREAS, Paul is very involved with the community by officiating local high school soccer, the local running club, and St. Simons Catholic Church. Paul also is an active member of Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan (PAAM), the Mason /Lake Bar Association, and so much more; and

WHEREAS, Paul Spaniola is retiring from his position as Prosecutor of the County of Mason; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason, does hereby, acknowledge with regret Paul’s decision to retire from county government service 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 December 8, 2020 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 December 8, 2020.

Cheryl Kelly, Mason County Clerk

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, there will be one vacancy on the Mason County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Board due to a resignation.

WHEREAS, members of the Mason County EDC Board also serve on the Mason County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Scott Biggs be appointed to fill one of the vacancies on the Mason County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Board/ Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board for a term ending December 31, 2022.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) L. Squires

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there is one position on the Mason County Board of Public Works with a term expiring on December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, there was one response to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Mr. Robert Allard, Jr.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Robert Allard, Jr. be considered for the one position on the Mason County Board of Public Works for a term ending December 31, 2023.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) L. Squires

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there are two (2) positions on the Mason County Planning Commission with terms expiring on December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, there were three responses to the advertisement that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Dr. Kim Halladay, Mr. Tim Husted, and Mr. Doug Robidoux.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Dr. Kim Halladay, Mr. Tim Husted, and Mr. Doug Robidoux be considered for the two (2) positions on the Mason County Planning Commission for terms that expire December 31, 2023.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Roll call was taken with Commissioners voting for two.

Halladay: Hull, Krieger, Lange, Andersen

Husted: Squires, Bacon

Robidoux: Squires, Hull, Krieger, Lange, Bacon, Andersen

ABSENT: Castonia

Appointment went to: Dr. Kim Halladay and Mr. Doug Robidoux

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

November 12, 2020 totaling \$393,061.67: and

November 25, 2020 totaling \$275,775.34; 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 N. Krieger to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority provides liability, vehicle physical damage, property and crime insurance coverage to the County of Mason; and

WHEREAS, the County’s agreement with the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority expires on January 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending approval of extending the agreement with the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority by two years.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves extending the agreement with the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority by two years and further directs the County Administrator to sign said agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) 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, Airport Manager John O'Connor, Administrator Fabian Knizacky, and Airport Engineer Prein & Newhof met with state and federal representatives to discuss the proposed Airport Capital Improvement Plan for the Years 2021-2025; and

WHEREAS, the plan for 2021-2025 was revised as a result of this meeting.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the amended Airport Capital Improvement Plan for the Years 2021-2025.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Commissioner Squires inquired if there was clarification of the runway issues with the rehabilitation work that was being provided by the State. He was informed by Administrator Knizacky that the State noted that the work being completed was not reconstruction; therefore, the East-West runway will be maintained by the State as a rehabilitation project for another 15-20 years at it’s current 5,000 ft. length. The North-South runway will be shortened to meet the requirements. Commissioner Squires thanked Administrator Knizacky for his work on this project for the County.

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

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has restructured the substance abuse coordinating agency functions around the state; and

WHEREAS, Lakeshore Regional Entity serves that role for Mason County; and

WHEREAS, an intergovernmental agreement is necessary between Lakeshore Regional Entity and Mason County.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached intergovernmental agreement between Lakeshore Regional Entity and Mason County and directs County Board Chair Andersen to sign it on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has approved a 2021 Survey and Remonumentation Grant for the County of Mason; and

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

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the 2021 Survey and Remonumentation Grant Agreement with the State of Michigan and directs the County Administrator to sign said agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) R. Bacon

Motion by R. Bacon and seconded by C. Lange to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there are two vacant positions on the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiring on December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, there was one response to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Mr. Richard Anderson.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Richard Anderson be appointed to one of the positions on the Zoning Board of Appeals with the term ending December 31, 2023.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) R. Bacon

Commissioner Bacon questioned there only being one candidate that was appointed. He was informed by Administrator Knizacky that only one candidate applied and the board is still needing a second candidate.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Reverend Wayne Buskirk has served the citizens of Mason County for forty-eight (48) years in the leadership of Oakview Medical Care Facility; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Buskirk has served on the Mason County Department of Health & Human Services Board; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Buskirk’s instrumental leadership of Oakview Medical Care Facility resulted in the building renovation project in 1998 and the addition of the Sutter Living Center in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Buskirk supported numerous millage campaigns and participated in strategic planning efforts to keep Oakview Medical Care evolving; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Buskirk was an advocate for prudent use of resources, and he also championed competitive wages for staff believing in the importance of taking care of the people who take care of the residents; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Buskirk has been an active participant in various activities during over fifty (50) years as pastor of Emanuel Lutheran Church including the Mason County Ministerial Association, Mason County Voluntary Action Center, West Shore Alcohol Abuse Center, Ludington Area Jaycees, CROP Hunger Walk, FEMA Board, United Way, Ludington Area Foundation, Ludington Rotary Club, and West Shore Chapter of the American Red Cross; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Buskirk was honored as the 1999 Ludington Citizen of the Year by the Ludington Area Ambassadors and the Ludington Area Chamber of Commerce for his years of dedicated service.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason, does hereby, acknowledge Wayne’s outstanding service 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 December 8, 2020 County Commission proceedings. Moved for your approval.

Janet S. 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 December 8, 2020.

Cheryl Kelly, Mason County Clerk

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Board of Commissioner Chair Janet Andersen presented Reverend Wayne Buskirk with a plaque for his years of service to the Department of Health and Human Services Board of Mason County. In addition, she presented a bouquet of flowers for his wife, Ronnie for allowing him to serve all of these years. Janice Lamm Administrator of Oakview Medical Care Facility presented a plaque and a retirement pin. Janet Vyse-Stazak Director of Michigan Department Health and Human Services Ludington Office presented Reverend Buskirk with a plaque from the State of Michigan.

Reverend Buskirk noted that being able to serve on the Michigan Department Health and Human Services board for 48 years was in the top five life events for him. He has served his church for 33 years and is still a member at 50 years. He was initially appointed to the board, called the Welfare Board in 1972 and he presented Clerk Kelly a copy of that letter and envelope for the record. He had many thanks for the board for their 16 appointments over the years. He has worked with six administrators and has seen the name change from the Welfare Board to Department of Social Services (DSS) to Family Independence Agency (FIA), to Department Human Services (DHS) to the current name Department of Health and Human Services (DHSS).

Reverend Buskirk was given a standing ovation for his service. He was again thanked by Commissioner J. Andersen for his service.

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 Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan Inc. Board of Directors with a term expiring on December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, there was one response to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Dr. Kim Halladay.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Dr. Kim Halladay be considered for the one position on the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan Inc. for a term to expire on December 31, 2021.

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, 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 November 1, 2020 until January 8, 2021.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Michigan Department of Transportation – Aeronautics require airport project sponsors to perform Independent Fee Estimates to qualify for Federal funding of Airport Capital Improvement Plan projects; and

WHEREAS, Airport Manager O'Connor and the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee are recommending the selection of C&S Companies to perform this estimate.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the selection of C&S Companies to perform Independent Fee Estimates.

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, the Michigan Employee Retirement System (MERS) is consolidating their records on their website and are asking local units of government to confirm the details of their pension plans.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached MERS Defined Benefit Adoption Agreement Addendum; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes Mason County Administrator Fabian Knizacky to sign the required documentations.

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

At a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Mason County, Michigan held on December 8, 2020, Commissioner Andersen offered, and Commissioner S. Hull supported the following resolution.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, MCL 128.381 *et seq* (MPEA) authorizes the Mason County Planning Commission to prepare a Master Plan for the use, development, and preservation of all lands in the County; and

WHEREAS, the Mason County Planning Commission prepared an updated Master Plan and submitted such plan to the Mason County Board of Commissioners for review and comment; and

WHEREAS, on August 11, 2020, the Mason County Board of Commissioners received and reviewed the proposed Master Plan prepared by the Planning Commission, authorized distribution of the Master Plan to the

Notice Group entities identified in the MPEA, and asserted its right to give final approval or rejection of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, notice was provided to the Notice Group entities as provided in the MPEA; and

WHEREAS, the Mason County Planning Commission held a public hearing on November 17, 2020 to consider public comment on the proposed Master Plan and to further review and comment on the proposed Plan; and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing was held, the Planning Commission voted to approve the updated Plan on November 17, 2020 and recommended adoption of the proposed Master Plan to the Mason County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners finds that the proposed Master Plan is desirable, proper, reasonable, and furthers the use, preservation, and development goals and strategies of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Adoption of the 2020 Master Plan. The Mason County Board of Commissioners hereby approves and adopts the proposed 2020 Mason County Master Plan including all of the chapters, figures, descriptive matters, maps and tables contained therein.

2. Distribution to the Notice Group. Pursuant to MCL 125.3843 the Mason County Board of Commissioners approves distribution of the updated Master Plan to the Notice Group.

3. Findings of Fact. The Mason County Board of Commissioners has made the foregoing determination based on a review of existing land uses in the County, a review of the existing Master Plan provisions and maps, and input from the Planning Commission and the public, as well as the assistance of a professional planning group. The County Board of Commissioners also finds that the updated Master Plan will accurately reflect and implement the County’s goals and strategies for the use, preservation, and development of lands within Mason County.

4. Effective Date. The amended Master Plan shall become effective on the adoption date of this resolution.

Roll Call Vote was taken:

AYES: Hull, Bacon, Krieger, Lange, Squires, Andersen.

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Castonia

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Mason County Board of Commissioners at the time, date, and place specified above pursuant to the required statutory procedures.

Dated: December 8, 2020

Cheryl Kelly
County Clerk

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 Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has negotiated the attached Paramedic Ambulance Service Agreement with Life EMS, Inc. and is recommending approval of the attached five year agreement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Paramedic Ambulance Service Agreement between the County of Mason and Life EMS, Inc. and directs the Board Chair to sign said agreement on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Commissioner Squires noted that Administrator Knizacky has worked diligently over the last ten years on the Life EMS contract. The current contract continues to provide the same level of service the County has had in the past. Changes noted in transportation of remains will be done by Beacon Cremation & Funeral Service. This change is to help Life EMS have better response times. Noted was an increase in penalty charges to Life EMS when they do not make the response times. Financial penalties are noted in the contract. The bottom line is to get response times back to where they were two years ago.

Commissioner Squires again thanked the Administrator for his work on this project.

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 Lakeshore Regional Entity, Regional Oversight Policy Board with a term expiring December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Lakeshore Regional Entity is recommending the reappointment of Ms. Rebecca Lange.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Ms. Rebecca Lange, be appointed for the one position on the Lakeshore Regional Entity, Regional Oversight Policy Board for a term ending December 31, 2023

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Commissioner Lange noted that he had a conflict as the candidate being appointed was his daughter.

- Treasurer A. Kmetz presented the monthly Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer Kmetz noted that it has been a busy month thus far for his office. His Chief Deputy was elected to the City of Ludington Treasurer position and he has hired Caleb Wagner. He thanked the board for allowing to hire early for training purposes. Treasurer Kmetz noted that the State of Michigan has released the new Chart of Accounts and he hopes to be utilizing those in April or May 2021.
- Clerk Kelly distributed the Clerk’s report. The Clerk’s Office is not done with the November 3, 2020 election yet. The office is working on an upcoming recount for the City of Ludington 5th Ward Councilor. This event will be on Friday, December 11, 2020 at 9 a.m. at City Hall. Additionally, the state has issued three audits for Branch, Riverton, and Victory Townships. These audits will be conducted with Clerk Kelly and the Clerk from each respective township on December 15, 2020. Finally the State also will have a Risk Limiting Audit for the November 3, 2020 election scheduled in January 2021. The Clerk Office is in full swing for year-end. Clerk Kelly noted that the State Court Administrator’s Office requested that Mason County be part of a pilot program for the Trial Court. Determination at this time is not final. Clerk Kelly is hoping to hold off this request until after February 2021.
- Administrator Knizacky reported that there are still open seats on the Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate and the Mason County Brownfield Redevelopment Committee. These seats will need to be filled and encouraged commissioners to reach out to residents to apply for these seats.

Additionally, he noted that it has been three years since the Mason County Board of Commissioner’s became the only County Board to sponsor a Promise Zone Board. Under the rules, the Promise Zone was able to fundraise monies for the first two years. Now in year three, funding will come from the State of Michigan and he is happy to report to the Board that the first payment was received this week.

There was no public comment:

Motion was made by L. Squires and seconded by R. Bacon to set the date for the 2021 County Board of Commissioners Organizational Date for January 12, 2021 at 9 a.m. Motion carried.

Chair J. Andersen wished everyone a Merry Christmas and to Stay Safe and Well.

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

CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

JANET S. ANDERSEN, BOARD CHAIR