

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

The meeting was called to order by Chair J. Andersen

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

Invocation was given by N. Krieger followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Motion by G. Castonia and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by S. Hull and seconded by J. Hartley to approve the minutes of the November 09, 2021 Regular meeting. Motion carried.

No correspondence was read.

Public comment: Annette Quillan, Ludington, spoke regarding her opinion the need for a YMCA and county-wide transportation.

Ken Ferwerda, President, Western Michigan Fair Association provided updates for the 2021 calendar year. He introduced new President, John Lammi.

Aaron Myers- Michigan State University 4H- Extension Tech Wizards Program presented a video “Back to the Fair”.

Motion by N. Krieger and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there are two positions on the Mason County Planning Commission with terms expiring on December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, there were two responses to the advertisement that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Ms. Janet Andersen and Mr. Steve Bieniek.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Ms. Janet Andersen and Mr. Steve Bieniek be appointed to positions on the Mason County Planning Commission for terms that expire December 31, 2024.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) N. Krieger.

Amended 2/8/2022

Motion by N. Krieger and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there are four positions on the Mason County Council on Aging with terms ending December 31, 2021 from District #1, District #3, District #4, and District #6; and

WHEREAS, there were no eligible responses to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press for the one position representing District #1; and

WHEREAS, there was one eligible response to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press for the one position representing District #3 from Mr. Randy Belair; and

WHEREAS, there were no eligible responses to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press for the one position representing District #4; and

WHEREAS, there was one eligible response to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press for the one position representing District #6 from Mr. Andrew Kaatz.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Randy Belair representing District #3 and Mr. Andrew Kaatz representing District #6 be appointed to the Mason County Council on Aging for terms expiring on December 31, 2023.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) N. Krieger.

Motion by N. Krieger and seconded by J. Hartley to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the various entities under the umbrella of the Mason County Economic Development Alliance are moving out of the Airport Terminal and they have offered to sell some of their furniture to the county; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, & Airport Committee is recommending the approval of this furniture with funds in the Equipment Replacement Fund.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the purchase of furniture from the Mason County Economic Development Alliance; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) N. Krieger.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Mason County Emergency Management Coordinator Reimink is requesting eighty-one (81) additional hours for her part-time clerical position to perform duties related to the FY 2021-22 Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety and Courts Committee is recommending the approval of eighty-one (81) additional hours for the part-time employee.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves eighty-one (81) additional hours for the part-time Emergency Management employee for 2022; salary consistent with the part-time position salary schedule.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia.

Motion by Public Safety and Courts Committee Chair G. Castonia and seconded by J. Hartley 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, 2021; 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 appointed to the one position on the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan Inc. for a term to expire on December 31, 2022.

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, there is one position on the Mason County Parks and Recreation Commission with a term expiring on December 31, 2021; 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. Steve Begnoche.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Steve Begnoche be appointed to the position on the Mason County Parks and Recreation Commission for a term expiring December 31, 2024.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the appointment of the Amber Township, City of Scottville and the Mason County General Public representatives to the Mason County Board of Public Works is required; and

WHEREAS, there were three responses from the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Mr. Richard Alway representing Amber Township, Mr. Jim Newkirk representing the City of Scottville, and Mr. Matthew Fournier representing the Mason County General Public.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Richard Alway representing Amber Township, Mr. Jim Newkirk representing the City of Scottville, and Mr. Matthew Fournier representing the Mason County General Public be appointed to the Mason County Board of Public Works for terms ending December 31, 2024.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, dog license revenues have been decreasing for a number of years; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 has made the situation worse due to the lockdown causing vet offices to fall behind on rabies vaccinations and has limited the office’s ability to provide Census services; and

WHEREAS, Mason County Treasurer Kmetz is recommending a dog license amnesty program to encourage citizens to become current with the licensing of their dogs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves a dog license amnesty program that allows delinquent licenses to be purchased without penalty from January 1, 2022 until March 31, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the penalty charge will be reinstated on April 1, 2022.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia.

Motion by J. Hartley 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 Emergency Management Programs; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has offered a supplement payment for Fiscal Year 2021.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the Emergency Management Performance Grants American Rescue Plan Act (EMPG ARPA) Grant Agreement for FY 2021 from the State of Michigan and further directs the County Chair to sign said agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Hartley.

Motion by J. Hartley and seconded by N. Krieger to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there is one position on the Mason County District Library Board with a term expiring on December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, this position must be filled by a candidate who resides in the County of Mason and in Hamlin Township or Pere Marquette Charter Township; and

WHEREAS, there was one eligible response to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Ms. Jennifer Doggett.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Ms. Jennifer Doggett be appointed to the position on the Mason County District Library Board that must be filled by a candidate who resides in the County of Mason and in Hamlin Township or Pere Marquette Charter Township for a term expiring on December 31, 2025.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Hartley.

Motion by J. Hartley and seconded by R. Bacon 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, 2021; 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 and the Mason County Press from Mr. James Gallie.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. James Gallie be appointed to the Mason County EDC Board and the Mason County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board for a term ending December 31, 2027.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Hartley.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there are two positions on the Michigan State University Extension District 5 Advisory Council with terms expiring on December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, there were two responses from the advertisement that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Mr. Nicholas Krieger and Mr. Scott Ward.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Nicholas Krieger and Mr. Scott Ward be appointed to the two positions on the Michigan State University District 5 Extension Advisory Council for terms that will expire December 31, 2023.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) 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, it is in the best interests of the County of Mason and the Mason County District Library and the citizens they serve, that the County continue to provide accounting services for the Library.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Accounting Services Agreement with the Mason County District Library for 2022 and further directs the Board Chair to sign on behalf of the County.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for December 14, 2021.

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

Road Patrol	\$179,400.00
Jail Operations	\$139,100.00
Workers Compensation	\$ 10,000.00

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, the Mason County Computer Network Advisory Board (MCCNAB) and the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee is recommending approval of the attached written Mason County Website Link Policy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached written Mason County Website Link Policy effective January 1, 2022.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, there are fourteen (14) positions on the Mason County Solid Waste Management Planning Committee with terms expiring on December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, there were ten (10) responses to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Mr. Gerald Bleau representing Township Government; Ms. Rita Copenhaver and Ms. Sharon Edgar representing Environmental Interest Groups; Mr. Mitch Foster representing City Government; Mr. Michael Genter, representing the general public; Mr. Todd M. Harland, Mr. Dave Hasenbank, and Ms. Belinda Jabrocki representing the Solid Waste Management Industry; Mr. Gary Castonia representing County Government; and Mr. Ronald Bacon representing Regional Planning.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason appoints Mr. Gerald Bleau representing Township Government; Ms. Rita Copenhaver and Ms. Sharon Edgar representing Environmental Interest Groups; Mr. Mitch Foster representing City Government; Mr. Michael Genter, representing the general public; Mr. Todd M. Harland, Mr. Dave Hasenbank, and Ms. Belinda Jabrocki representing the Solid Waste Management Industry; Mr. Gary Castonia representing County Government; and Mr. Ronald Bacon representing Regional Planning to the fill the vacancies on the Mason County Solid Waste Management Planning Committee with terms expiring on December 31, 2023.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) 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, 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, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee has evaluated the hangar and property lease rates at the Mason County Airport and is recommending increasing the rates for 2022, 2023 and 2024 by the Consumers Price Index for the property leases and both the old and new county hangars.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves a 2022 property lease rate of \$0.6692 per square foot; 2022 rate of \$1,922.56 per year for the old hangar and a 2022 rate of \$2,816.01 for the new T-Hangar and increasing the three rates in 2023 and 2024 by the Consumers Price Index; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached draft lease agreements.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) 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 Western Michigan Fair Association is exploring a project to develop the Mason County Fairgrounds by adding a covered riding arena structure; and

WHEREAS, the Western Michigan Fair Association has requested assistance from the County of Mason to secure a Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Grant and a Michigan Department of Agricultural Grant for the project; and

WHEREAS, the Mason County Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending that the County Board of Commissioners approve assisting the Western Michigan Fair Association by approving the hiring of MCSA Group, Inc. to provide the first \$11,680.00 of services outlined in the attached proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Western Michigan Fair Association has agreed to reimburse the county for the cost of these services.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the hiring of MCSA Group, Inc. to provide the first \$11,680.00 of services outlined in the attached proposal.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull.

Motion by N. Krieger and Seconded by J. Hartley for Unanimous consent to allow a waiving of the reading of the entire resolution due to length.

Motion Carried.

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 County of Mason, Michigan filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court to address the public nuisance that is the Opioid Epidemic, which named, among other companies, the following four Defendants (“Settling Defendants”):

1. Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (a prescription opioids manufacturer);
2. Amerisource Bergen Corp. (a prescription opioids wholesaler distributor);
3. Cardinal Health, Inc. (a prescription opioids wholesaler distributor); and
4. McKesson Corporation (a prescription opioids wholesaler distributor)

AND WHEREAS the lawsuit was subsequently transferred to the United States District Court in the Northern District of Ohio and centralized as part of *In re National Prescription Opiate Litigation*, MDL 2804; Case No. 1:17-md-2804, which is presided over by the Honorable Dan Aaron Polster, United State Federal District Court Judge;

AND WHEREAS the Settling Defendants have negotiated proposed national settlement agreements (“Proposed Settlements”) with the State Attorneys General, and a Plaintiff Executive Committee-designated

negotiating committee that represents approximately 4,000 local governments that have brought lawsuits similar to the County of Mason, Michigan’s lawsuit;

AND WHEREAS the Proposed Settlements contain significant equitable and monetary relief, including:

1. An agreement by Janssen that it will discontinue the manufacture and distribution of prescription opioids products for at least the next ten years;
2. An agreement by Janssen that it will suspend any lobbying efforts that concern prescription opioids products;
3. The creation of a National Clearinghouse for wholesale distributors that will assist in the detection, suspension and reporting of suspicious orders of prescription opioids products; and
4. The payment of up to \$26 billion (depending upon the level of participation of state and local governments in the Proposed Settlements) in funding installments over the next 18 years, the bulk of which will be dedicated to funding abatement and prevention strategies associated with the opioids public nuisance.

NOW THEREFORE, the County of Mason, Michigan authorizes the execution of Participation Agreements for: 1. the Master Settlement Agreement with Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; and 2. the Master Settlement Agreement with the three wholesale distributor defendants (Cardinal, Amerisource Bergen and McKesson), both of which are listed and available to the public at <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/>. Specimen copies of the material terms of the participation agreements are attached as an exhibit to this resolution.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Squires, Hull, Bacon, Krieger, Castonia, Hartley, and Andersen.

NAYS: NONE

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 County’s excess reinsurance contract for its Worker’s Compensation program expires December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the approval of Midwest Employers Casualty Company’s one year quote of \$64,986.00 a year with a specific retention of \$650,000 for law enforcement and \$450,000 for all other employee classifications.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the one year contract with Midwest Employers Casualty Company beginning January 1, 2022 and further directs the County Chair to sign said contract.

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 2022 Survey and Remonumentation Grant for the County of Mason; and

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

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the 2022 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 S. Hull 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 27, 2021 at 7:00 PM as the date and the time for the annual Budget Amendment Meeting.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) R. Bacon.

Motion by R. Bacon and seconded by N. Krieger 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, 2021; 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. Tom Posma.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Tom Posma be appointed for the one position on the Mason County Tax Allocation Board with a term expiring December 31, 2022.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) R. Bacon.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending approval of the attached proposal for auditing services.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the proposal from Clark Schaefer Hackett, for the audit of the County of Mason for the year ended 2021 and directs the Board Chair to sign said proposal.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) R. Bacon.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Friend of the Court phone system needs to be upgraded; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee is recommending the purchase of a new system that will integrate with the system used by the rest of the courthouse.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the purchase of a phone system; funds to come from the Friend of the Court Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) R. Bacon.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Prosecuting Attorney Kreinbrink has reached an agreement with the City of Ludington to provide misdemeanor ordinance prosecution services.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the agreement with the City of Ludington to provide misdemeanor ordinance prosecution services.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) R. Bacon.

Motion by R. Bacon and seconded by J. Hartley 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) R. Bacon.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

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

November 11, 2021 totaling \$425,568.63; and
November 24, 2021 totaling \$277,200.27; 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) J. Andersen, S. Hull, R. Bacon.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Lenz-Balder Insurance Inc. (LBI) has served as the insurance agent for the county’s Blue Cross/Blue Shield insurance coverage for a number of years; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending that the Board approve the attached Employee Benefits Consulting Services Agreement with Lenz-Balder Insurance Inc.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Employee Benefits Consulting Services Agreement with Lenz-Balder Insurance Inc. and directs the County Administrator to sign said agreement 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, the Board of Commissioners made the decision to eliminate two positions in the Maintenance Department and to use contracting to offset some of the workload; and

WHEREAS, snow plowing and removal are areas where contracting can be effectively utilized; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has solicited bids for a snow plowing and removal contract; and

WHEREAS, the Committee is recommending approval of the bid submitted by CIS of Ludington.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the snow plowing and removal contract with CIS for the 2021/22 winter season and directs the Board Chair to sign said contract.

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, there are two positions on the Mason County Zoning Board of Appeals with terms that expire on December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, there were two responses to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Mrs. Lois Krepps and Mr. Nick Krieger.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mrs. Lois Krepps and Mr. Nick Krieger be appointed to fill the two positions on the Mason County Zoning Board of Appeals for terms ending December 31, 2024.

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, there is one position on the Mason County District Library Board with a term expiring on December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, this position must be filled by a candidate who resides in the County of Mason exclusive of the City of Ludington, Hamlin Township, or Pere Marquette Charter Township; and

WHEREAS, there was one eligible response to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News and the Mason County Press from Ms. Deanne Gancarz.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Ms. Deanne Gancarz be appointed to the one position on the Mason County District Library Board that must be filled by a candidate who resides in the County of Mason exclusive of the City of Ludington, Hamlin Township, or Pere Marquette Charter Township for a term expiring on December 31, 2025.

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, Circuit Court Judge Sniegowski has requested that the Board of Commissioners change the job classification of one of her positions from Clerical to Circuit Court Administrator; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee would like to eliminate the Circuit Court Administrator supplement and the Circuit Court Technology Supplement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves changing the job classification of one of the Circuit Court positions from Clerical to Circuit Court Administrator and eliminating the Circuit Court Administrator supplement and the Circuit Court Technology Supplement effective December 31, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 2022 salary for the Circuit Court Administrator position will be \$51,000.00 to start, \$55,500.00 with satisfaction and one year experience, \$60,000.00 with satisfaction and two years of experience for a 40 hour salaried position; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this position will receive the same percentage of increase for 2023 as other nonunion employees.

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 of Mason, Michigan filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court to address the public nuisance that is the Opioid Epidemic, which named, among other companies, the following four Defendants (“Settling Defendants”):

1. Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (a prescription opioids manufacturer);
2. Amerisource Bergen Corp. (a prescription opioids wholesaler distributor);
3. Cardinal Health, Inc. (a prescription opioids wholesaler distributor); and
4. McKesson Corporation (a prescription opioids wholesaler distributor)

AND WHEREAS the lawsuit was subsequently transferred to the United States District Court in the Northern District of Ohio and centralized as part of In re National Prescription Opiate Litigation, MDL 2804; Case No. 1:17-md-2804, which is presided over by the Honorable Dan Aaron Polster, United State Federal District Court Judge;

AND WHEREAS the Settling Defendants have negotiated proposed national settlement agreements (“Proposed Settlements”) with the State Attorneys General, and a Plaintiff Executive Committee-designated negotiating committee that represents approximately 4,000 local governments that have brought lawsuits similar to the County of Mason, Michigan’s lawsuit;

AND WHEREAS the Proposed Settlements contain significant equitable and monetary relief, including:

1. An agreement by Janssen that it will discontinue the manufacture and distribution of prescription opioids products for at least the next ten years;
2. An agreement by Janssen that it will suspend any lobbying efforts that concern prescription opioids products;
3. The creation of a National Clearinghouse for wholesale distributors that will assist in the detection, suspension and reporting of suspicious orders of prescription opioids products; and
4. The payment of up to \$26 billion (depending upon the level of participation of state and local governments in the Proposed Settlements) in funding installments over the next 18 years, the bulk of which will be dedicated to funding abatement and prevention strategies associated with the opioids public nuisance.

NOW THEREFORE, the County of Mason, Michigan authorizes the execution of Participation Agreements for: 1. the Master Settlement Agreement with Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; and 2. the Master Settlement Agreement with the three wholesale distributor defendants (Cardinal, Amerisource Bergen and McKesson), both of which are listed and available to the public at <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/>. Specimen copies of the material terms of the participation agreements are attached as an exhibit to this resolution.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Krieger, Castonia, Hartley, Squires, Hull, Bacon and Andersen
NAYES: NONE

Treasurer A. Kmetz presented the monthly Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer Kmetz noted he has hired a new employee, Ms. Coleman.

Clerk C. Kelly presented the monthly Clerk’s Report. Clerk Kelly noted that there will be three elections next year and she is currently working on the May 3, 2022 Election for the City of Ludington and the Mason County Schools Bond. She has been interviewing candidates for the new Election/CPL Specialist and thanked the Commissioners for approval of this position.

Administrator Knizacky presented the Administrator’s Monthly Report. Administrator Knizacky noted vacancies on the following committees: Council on Aging, Hospital Finance Authority, Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Mason County Solid Waste Management with four appointments.

Administrator Knizacky noted that today, December 14, 2021, was the due date for the private sector to submit proposals for County-wide broadband and no bids were received.

There was public comment: Marcia Hansen, Western Michigan Fair Association, thanked the fifteen directors of the fair board, their families, and the Mason County Board of Commissioners, along with Administrator Knizacky for all of their help and assistance regarding the work needed towards obtaining the grants for the roofing project on the horse arena. Mason County and the fairgrounds have become a destination location for horse shows/vacations and this addition will keep Mason County a prime location for

future events. Commissioner Andersen wished Ms. Hansen much success in the grant application process and thanked her for all she does with the Western Michigan Fairgrounds.

There was other business: Motion made by L. Squires and seconded by G. Castonia to have January 11, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. as the date for the 2022 County Board of Commissioners Organizational meeting. Motion carried.

Chair Andersen commented that we are in challenging times and encouraged all to remember the important things in our lives, in our community, and keep hope, peace, love and joy at the forefront and all to have a healthy and Merry Christmas.

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

CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

JANET S. ANDERSEN, BOARD CHAIR