

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

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 R. Bacon and pledge to the flag followed.

Approval of the Agenda with the addition of the closed session minutes. Motion by S. Hull and seconded by J. Hartley to add the item to the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion was made by N. Krieger and seconded by S. Hull to approve the minutes of the 8-2-21 Closed Session minutes. Commissioner Squires Abstained from the vote due to his absence at that meeting. Motion carried.

No correspondence was read.

Public comment: Gene Kyle, Ludington, is requesting answers regarding funding for the senior services and the millage. He asked multiple questions regarding the senior millage and how the County decides what to levy. He submitted the document he read at the meeting to the County Clerk to become part of the official record for the August meeting.

James Kelly, Michigan State University Extension, informed the Board on events taking place at this time within the MSU-E organization. He thanked Commissioner Hull for attending the new fruit and vegetable research station in Hart, Michigan. He noted that he will be emailing the information he spoke about this evening to the Commissioners in the near future and to share the information with the public.

West Michigan Community Mental Health System Director, Lisa Hotovy-Williams, spoke to the Board regarding Senate Bills 597 and 598, as well as House Bills 4925-4929, and her request of the Mason County Board to approve a resolution opposing those bills. She provided historical information regarding the current programs and why the passing of the new bills should not be supported.

Commissioners Castonia, Squires, and Hartley asked further questions regarding these bills.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**MICHIGAN COMMUNITY RESOLUTION AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AGREEMENT TO MANAGE FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT
FOR THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM**

Community A: Summit Township

Community/Entity B: Mason County

WHEREAS, **Summit Township** currently participates in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) by complying with the program's applicable statutory and regulatory requirements for the purposes of significantly reducing flood hazards to persons, reducing property damage, reducing public expenditures, and providing for the availability of flood insurance and federal funds or loans within its community; and

WHEREAS, the NFIP requires that floodplain management regulations must be present and enforced in participating communities, and utilize the following definitions which also apply for the purposes of this resolution:

- **Flood or Flooding** means:
 - A general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from: 1) the overflow of inland or tidal waters, 2) the unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source, 3) mudflows, and
 - The collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels or suddenly caused by an unusually high water level in a natural body of water, accompanied by a severe storm, or by an unanticipated force of nature, such as flash flood or an abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding, as defined in paragraph (a)(1) of this definition.
- **Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)** means an official map of a community, as may have been issued by the FEMA, where the boundaries of the areas of flood, mudslide (i.e., mudflow) related erosion areas having special hazards have been designated as Zone A, M, and/or E.

- Floodplain means any land area susceptible to being inundated by water from any source (see definition of flooding).
- Floodplain management means the operation of an overall program of corrective and preventive measures for reducing flood damage, including but not limited to emergency preparedness plans, flood control works, and floodplain management regulations.
- Floodplain management regulations means zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations, building codes, health regulations, special purpose ordinances (such as a floodplain ordinance, grading ordinance, and erosion control ordinance) and other applications of police power that provide standards for the purpose of flood damage prevention and reduction.
- Structure means a walled and roofed building that is principally above ground, gas or liquid storage facility, as well as a mobile home or manufactured unit.

WHEREAS, the Stille-Derossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act”, Act No. 230 of the Public Acts of 1972, as amended, (construction code act), along with its authorization of the state construction code composed of the Michigan Residential Code and the Michigan Building Code [and its Appendices (specifically Appendix G)] contains floodplain development and management regulations that comply with the FEMA NFIP minimum floodplain management criteria for flood prone areas as detailed in Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (44 CFR), Section 60.3, and

WHEREAS, by the action dates of this document or an existing historical agreement dated August 24, 2021, Mason County affirms/agrees on behalf of Summit Township to function as the designated enforcing agency to discharge the responsibility of administering, applying, and enforcing the construction code act and the state construction code, specifically the Michigan Residential Code and the Michigan Building Code, and the Michigan Rehabilitation Code for Existing Buildings to all development within Community A’s political boundaries, and

WHEREAS, Summit Township and Mason County enforce floodplain regulations of the construction code act, and Summit Township wishes to ensure that the administration of that code complies with requirements of the NFIP, and

NOW THEREFORE, to maintain eligibility and continued participation in the NFIP,

- Summit Township and Mason County agree that Mason County’s officially designated enforcing agency for the construction code act, Mason County Building Inspector, be directed to administer, apply, and enforce on Summit Township’s behalf the floodplain management regulations as contained in the state construction code (including Appendix G) and to be consistent with those regulations, by:
 - Obtaining, reviewing, and reasonably utilizing flood elevation data available from federal, state, or other sources pending receipt of data from the FEMA to identify the flood hazard area, and areas with potential flooding, and
 - Ensuring that all permits necessary for development in floodplain areas have been issued, including a floodplain permit, approval, or letter of no authority from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality under the floodplain regulatory provisions of Part 31, "Water Resources Protection," of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, and
 - Reviewing all permit applications to determine whether the proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding. Where it is determined that a proposed building will be located in a flood hazard area or special flood hazard area, Mason County shall implement the following applicable codes according to their terms:
 - All appropriate portions and specifically the floodplain management regulation portions and referenced codes and standards of the current Michigan Residential Code.
 - All appropriate portions and specifically the floodplain management regulation portions and referenced codes and standards of the current Michigan Building Code.
 - Appendix G of the current Michigan Building Code.
 - All appropriate portions and specifically the floodplain management regulation portions and referenced codes and standards of the current Michigan Rehabilitation Code for Existing Buildings.
 - Reviewing all proposed subdivisions to determine whether such proposals are reasonably safe from flooding and to ensure compliance with all applicable floodplain management regulations.
 - Assisting in the delineation of flood hazard areas; provide information concerning uses and occupancy of the floodplain or flood-related erosion areas, maintain flood proofing and lowest floor construction records, and cooperate with other officials, agencies, and persons for floodplain management.
 - Advising FEMA of any changes in community boundaries, including appropriate maps, and

- Maintaining records of new structures and substantially improved structures concerning any certificates of floodproofing, lowest floor elevation, basements, floodproofing, and elevation to which structures have been floodproofed.
- Summit Township and Mason County assure the Federal Insurance Administrator (Administrator) that they intend to review, on an ongoing basis, all amended and revised FHBMs and Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and related supporting data and revisions thereof and revisions of 44 CFR, Part 60, Criteria for Land Management and Use, and to make such revisions in its floodplain management regulations as may be necessary to assure Summit Township’s compliant participation in the program.
- Summit Township further assures the Administrator that it will adopt the current effective FEMA Flood Insurance Study (FIS), FHBMs, and/or the FIRMs by reference within its Floodplain Management Map Adoption Ordinance or similarly binding ordinance documentation.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, both communities declare their understanding that, until this resolution is rescinded or Summit Township makes other provision to enforce the construction code act:

- Mason County must administer and enforce the construction code act in accordance with the terms and the conditions contained herein, and
- For Summit Township to continue its participation in the NFIP, the construction code act must be administered and enforced according to the conditions contained herein.

Community A: Summit Township Date Passed: August 2, 2021

Officer Name: D. Wayne Kelly Title: Township Supervisor

Signature: _____ Date: 8/2/2021

Witness Name: Kay Deanda Title: Clerk

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Community/Entity B: Mason County Date Passed: August 10, 2021

Officer Name: Janet S. Andersen Title: Board Chairwoman

Signature: _____ Date: August 11, 2021

Witness Name: Cheryl Kelly Title: County Clerk

Signature: _____ Date: August 11, 2021

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, 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 the attached work agreement/quarterly report for Fiscal Year 2022.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) work agreement/quarterly report for Fiscal Year 2022 from the State of Michigan and further directs the County Chair to sign said agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Mason County Director of IT Englebrecht has requested authorization to purchase a telephone from the Equipment Replacement Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety and Courts Committee is recommending purchasing this telephone from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

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

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER CASTONIA AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HULL THAT THE MASON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HEREBY ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION: RESOLUTION TO REALIGN THE CIRCUITS AND DISTRICTS OF LAKE, MASON, NEWAYGO, AND OCEANA COUNTIES

WHEREAS, the Revised Judicature Act of 1961 establishes the Circuit and District Court systems for the State of Michigan, and

WHEREAS, Section 528 (MCL 600.528) as amended by 2012 PA 18 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961 created the Twenty-Seventh Judicial Circuit Court as a circuit court for the counties of Newaygo and Oceana with one judge, and

WHEREAS, Section 549c (MCL 600.549c) of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961 created the Fifty-First Judicial Circuit Court as a circuit court for the counties of Lake and Mason with one judge, and

WHEREAS, Section 8143 (MCL 600.8143) as amended by 2002 PA 92 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961 created the Seventy-Eighth District Court as a first-class district court for the counties of Newaygo and Oceana, and

WHEREAS, Section 8144 (MCL 600.8144) as amended by 2020 PA 82 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961 created the Seventy-Ninth District Court as a first-class district court for the counties of Lake and Mason, and

WHEREAS, proposed law has been drafted to modify circuits and districts for Lake, Mason, Newaygo, and Oceana Counties from Newaygo/Oceana and Lake/Mason to Lake/Newaygo and Mason/Oceana, and

WHEREAS, all judges of Lake, Mason, Newaygo, and Oceana Counties have determined that realignment of the circuit and district courts would better serve the counties’ populations by increasing efficiency and equalizing judicial caseloads and recommended it to the Mason County Board of Commissioners, and

WHEREAS, Section 550a (MCL 600.550a) of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961 requires that, “if a new judicial circuit is proposed by law, that new circuit shall not be authorized or filled by election unless each county in the proposed circuit, by resolution adopted by the county board of commissioners, approves the creation of the new circuit,” and

WHEREAS, Section 8176 (MCL 600.8176) of the Revised Judicature Act requires that, “if a new district is proposed by law, that new district shall not be authorized or filled by election unless each district control unit in the proposed district, by resolution adopted by the governing body of the district control unit, approves the creation of the new district, and

WHEREAS, the Mason County Board of Commissioners and the Oceana County Board of Commissioners are the governing bodies of the counties for which the changes in circuits and districts are proposed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mason County Board of Commissioners does hereby give its approval to adopt the law and modify the 51st Circuit Court to include Mason and Oceana Counties and the 79th District Court to include Mason and Oceana Counties.

FURTHER, THE MASON COUNTY TRIAL COURT CHIEF JUDGE IS DIRECTED TO FORWARD THE RESOLUTION TO SENATOR VANDERWALL, REPRESENTATIVE O’MALLEY AND THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR’S OFFICE.

Commissioner Krieger noted that he would be voting no on this resolution as he feels this request would cost the County more money. He stated this combination would force the Circuit Court Judge’s position to be split and feels this would take away time from Mason County constituents. Commissioner Squires inquired of the Judges’ stand on this and was informed that the Chief Judge came before the Public Safety and Courts Committee to address this, and it was endorsed by that committee. No information, nor discussion has taken place regarding cost sharing between Mason and Oceana County’s at this time. Commissioner Hartley noted that the Judges are in favor of this; therefore, it should be supported.

Roll Call Vote was requested:

Yeas: Castonia, Hartley, Squires, Hull, Bacon, Andersen

Nays: Krieger

Resolution declared adopted.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Mason County Emergency Management Coordinator Reimink is requesting approval of the purchase of two radios from the Equipment Replacement Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety & Courts Committee is recommending that the Board of Commissioners approve this purchase.

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

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Hartley

Motion by J. Hartley and seconded by L. Squires to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Mason County Ordinance No. 12 requires that an organizer of an outdoor assembly event attended by more than 500 attendants must apply for a license to conduct said event; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Bogner has made an application to hold an event the weekend of September 10-11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety and Courts Committee has reviewed the application and has found it to be complete.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the license for an outdoor assembly for Thomas Bogner pursuant to Mason County Ordinance No. 12.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Hartley

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the appointment of the City of Scottville representative to the Mason County Board of Public Works is required.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Jim Newkirk representing the City of Scottville be appointed to the Mason County Board of Public Works for a term ending December 31, 2021.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) L. Squires

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Mason County Sheriff Cole has requested authorization to purchase the attached list of firearms from the Equipment Replacement Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety and Courts Committee is recommending purchasing these firearms from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

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

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, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for August 10, 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
Airport Operations	\$ 38,200.00

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 Economic Development Corporation Board and Mason County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board have requested that Mason County provide services that include financial records, minutes, and dissemination of information, keeping of records, and other support duties necessary to keep both entities in order.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the Management Agreement with the Mason County Economic Development Corporation Board and Mason County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners authorizes Board Chair Andersen to sign the attached service agreement.

Commissioner Krieger inquired as to why the County was participating in this agreement. He was informed by the Administrator that the Mason County Economic Development Corporation does not have staff. There is a requirement for State reporting which necessitates the need for this bookkeeping task to be completed; therefore an agreement needs to be in place.

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 Mason-Oceana 911 Center received the support from the citizens of the County of Mason for a millage of up to 0.14 mill; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending that the Board of Commissioners levy 0.14 mill.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason instructs the County Clerk to certify the levy of 0.14 mill for the 2021 levy.

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, Mason County has received a grant from the State of Michigan to implement the Mason County Indigent Defense Services Compliance Plan.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the grant between the State of Michigan, Michigan Indigent Defense Commission (MIDC), Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and Mason County and directs the Board Chair to sign it on their behalf.

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, Probate Judge Nellis is recommending the attached County Child Care Budget Summary with the State of Michigan.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached County Child Care Budget Summary with the State of Michigan; match funds to come from General Fund appropriations and the fund balance in the Child Care Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes the County Board Chair and County Administrator to sign the County Child Care Budget Summary on their behalf.

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

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

July 08, 2021 totaling \$156,511.29; and
July 22, 2021 totaling \$798,501.98; 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) R. Bacon, J. Andersen, S. Hull.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the appointment of the City of Scottville representative to the Mason County EDC Board of Directors and the Mason County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board is required.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Jim Newkirk representing the City of Scottville be appointed to the Mason County EDC Board of Directors and the Mason County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board for a term ending December 31, 2023.

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 2020 Audit Report has been presented.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the receipt of the 2020 Audit Report.

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, National Preparedness Month is a nationwide effort held each September to increase public awareness about the importance of emergency preparedness in order to reduce injury, loss of personal property, and loss of life in hazardous circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the theme for 2021 is “Prepare to Protect”; and

WHEREAS, week one focuses on Making a Plan. Talk to your friends and family about how you will communicate before, during, and after a disaster. Make sure to update your plan based on the Centers for Disease Control recommendations due to the coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, week two urges everyone to start Building a Kit. Gather supplies that will last for several days after a disaster for everyone living in your home. Don’t forget to consider the unique needs each person or pet may have in case you have to evacuate quickly. Update your kits and supplies based on recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control; and

WHEREAS, week three concentrates on Preparing for Disasters. Limit the impacts that disasters have on you and your family. Know the risk of disasters in your area and check your insurance coverage. Learn how to make your home stronger in the face of storms and other common hazards and act fast if you receive a local warning or alert; and

WHEREAS, week four addresses Teaching Youth about Preparedness. Talk to your kids about preparing for emergencies and what to do in case you are separated. Reassure them by providing information about how they can get involved; and

WHEREAS, as the global pandemic remains it reminds us of the importance of preparing for disasters. Often, we will be the first ones in our communities to take action after a disaster strikes and before first responders arrive, so it is important to prepare in advance to help yourself and your community by visiting www.ready.gov/september or the Mason County Emergency Management web page for information and resources regarding the importance of emergency preparedness in Mason County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Commissioners of Mason County urges all county residents to educate themselves and prepare for emergencies and do hereby proclaim September 2021 as Preparedness Month in Mason County.

Commissioner Hartley appreciates the resolution regarding preparedness. He is teaching himself to utilize a Hamm radio for communication and has prepared a travel kit for his vehicle. The COVID pandemic supply issues have taught a lesson this past year to make sure one is ready.

Moved for your approval

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Michigan Community Mental Health Act, Public Act 54, was signed into law in 1963 to create the public behavioral health system; and

WHEREAS, the state’s public behavioral health system supports and serves 300,000 of Michigan’s citizens; and

WHEREAS, the state’s public behavioral health system forms the safety net for some of Michigan’s most vulnerable citizens; and

WHEREAS, Michigan’s public behavioral health system is nationally recognized for its high level of performance – care outcomes, effectiveness, efficiency, proven ability to control costs; and

WHEREAS, Michigan’s public behavioral health system is leading the nation in implementing evidence-based integrated care at the community level; and

WHEREAS, the fundamental components of Senate Bills 597 and 598 and House Bills 4925-4929 would shift Medicaid financing and managed care functions from the public behavioral health system to a private Medicaid health plan system and eliminate public oversight, public accountability and public governance; and

WHEREAS, the proposals specifically incentivize and prioritize profits to private Medicaid health plans at the expense of the public and the citizens served by the public behavioral health system; and

WHEREAS, the current public system is the fiscally responsible way to manage costs. The overhead of a private health plan is 2.5 times higher than the current public system. Privatizing the state’s behavioral health system would mean an immediate \$300 million loss in dollars for persons served; and

WHEREAS, the proposals focus on financial integration. Integration must begin at the patient level; and

WHEREAS, the proposals would threaten the ability of Community Mental Health Service Providers to deliver services thus putting the recovery of a number of Michigan citizens at risk; and

WHEREAS, the drastic and complex overhaul of the public behavioral health system would create new costs, new complexity and other barriers to care, putting the mental wellbeing of thousands of Michigan citizens at risk; and

WHEREAS, navigating this change in the midst of a pandemic will only add to the stress and concerns of those served; and

WHEREAS, state lawmakers are attempting to move the legislation on a short timeline, which does not allow for meaningful stakeholder involvement, proof of concept, or buy-in.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason opposes Senate Bills 597 and 598 and House Bills 4925-4929. We believe any behavioral health redesign must maintain the efficacy, responsiveness and integrity of the community-based behavioral health system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Senator Curt VanderWall, Representative Jack O’Malley, Senator Mike Shirkey and Representative Mary Whiteford.

Chairwoman, Mason County Board of Commissioners

Date

Commissioner Bacon noted that he has sat on the Community Mental Health board for three years, and that he had no idea until his work with this board the services provided to the three-county area residents in need. He thanked Ms. Hotovy-Williams for her work regarding mental health issues.

Moved for your approval

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Treasurer A. Kmetz presented the monthly Treasurer’s Report. He noted that in July his office received and processed all of the Board of Review items and issued refund checks if applicable. He is continuing to work on the chart of accounts update and has scheduled time with the Administrator and Clerk’s Office with regards to the account changes.

Commissioner Castonia inquired of investment income and whether or not Treasurer Kmetz felt they would be down even farther at the end of the year. Treasurer Kmetz noted without the calculations, he could not predict if there would be a decrease or not.

Clerk C. Kelly presented the monthly Clerk’s Report. Clerk Kelly noted that the August election was slow with a 10% voter turnout. There will be a November election with three Jurisdictions involved. Amber Township is requesting a new road millage. Riverton and Summit townships have a school millage involving Pentwater Public Schools.

Administrator Knizacky presented the Administrator’s Monthly Report. Administrator Knizacky has a follow up meeting with regards to union negotiations. He is requesting input from the board regarding budget work sessions for the 2022 final budget, possible dates are September 27 or September 28, 2021. Please let him know what date would work best.

Public comment: Tom Bogner, Fountain, thanked the Board of Commissioners for the approval of the Outdoor Assembly event.

Unfinished business: Chair Andersen reminded board members to turn in their priority lists by August 16, 2021 to her.

Commissioner Squires spoke regarding transparency with good government and inquired of who is in charge to respond back to questions addressed to the board. Chair Anderson noted that Public Comment was a time for the Public to speak, not a question and answer session. The Public is always invited to attend all Committee meetings and speak at that time to Commissioners. She personally invited Mr. Kyle and his parties to attend the next Finance, Personnel & Rules Committee Meeting on August 17, 2021 at 9 a.m. at the Mason County Airport Conference room. It would be at this meeting that the public could address board members and have their questions answered.

Additionally, she noted that the board has always been supportive of services, but sometimes there are breakdowns in services provided. Is the system broken? Yes. How to address the issues have not been changed because the people involved in those issues didn’t want to change.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

JANET S. ANDERSEN, BOARD CHAIR