

March 14, 2023

The regular meeting of the Mason County Board of Commissioners was held at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room located at the Mason County Airport Terminal, 5300 W. US 10 Ludington, MI.

The meeting was called to order by Chair J. Andersen.

Roll call was taken. Present: N. Krieger, J. Hartley, S. Hull, J. Andersen, R. Bacon, G. Castonia,

Absent: L. Squires (was present via phone but had no voting authority).

The invocation was given by R. Bacon and the 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 with the addition of the Jury Board appointment, letter of support for Frontier, and removal of item G-Mason County Sheriff Kim Cole. Motion carried.

Motion by R. Bacon and seconded by S. Hull to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2023 regular meeting. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Mr. Maleckas passed out a letter for the Board to review prior to the meeting starting.

Public comments: none.

James Kelly, Michigan State University-MSUE Director, provided the 2022 MSUE Annual Report. Noted was this is the 107th year that Michigan State University has had a formal relationship with Mason County.

Mason County Promise Zone Director Jody Maloney provided an update to the Board of changes regarding the Promise for the upcoming 2023 year. Noted were multiple changes for students to be able to apply and receive Promise Zone awards. Chair Andersen inquired if a tracking mechanism was now established to see if students who have participated in the Promise and returned to the area to work had been implemented, as this was requested in 2022. She was informed by director Maloney this does not exist at this time.

Motion by R. Bacon and seconded by S. Hull to leave regular session and move into public hearing for input regarding the authorization of the submission of a Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application and a Sparks Grant Application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Motion carried.

Marcia Hansen, Western Michigan Fair Association, thanked the Board for their work and also the work of Administrator Knizacky with these grants. She noted that the Equestrian Center has a 25 year history of being a premium facility, which is open to all to use. The Mason County Saddle Club, is the oldest living club in existence and is still using the grounds. She believes that with the grant funding, it would be an economic asset for the Community. It is always the goal of the WMFA to continue to upgrade the grounds and improve with the times. She again thanked the board for their support.

A letter of support from Jacqueline Osgood was read.

Paddy Baker, noted that adding a roof to the arena area would expand the use to other users of the Community.

Motion by S. Hull and seconded by R. Bacon to leave the public input meeting and return to regular session. Motion carried.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has offered a grant agreement for the Mason County Airport; and

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WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending approval of this agreement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Airport Rescue Grant Agreement American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 from the State of Michigan and further directs the County Chair to sign said agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) N. Krieger.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Equalization Director Meyaard is recommending that the Board of Commissioners consider the attached agreement for the purpose of making Geographic Information System (GIS) data and digital orthoimagery data (Imagery) owned and maintained by each party and available to both Parties; and

WHEREAS, the Building, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending approval of the agreement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Mason County approves the attached agreement for the purpose of making Geographic Information System (GIS) data and digital orthoimagery data (Imagery) and directs the Board Chair to sign any related documents on its behalf; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

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, the Mason County Planning Commission held a Public Hearing concerning the attached amendment to the Mason County Zoning Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Mason County Planning Commission voted to approve the attached amendment to the Mason County Zoning Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending approval of the attached amendment to the Mason County Zoning Ordinance.

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

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, Great Lakes Energy is submitting a grant application for the Realizing Opportunity with Broadband Infrastructure Networks (ROBIN) Grant Program and is requesting a letter of support; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending authorization of a letter of support.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes sending a letter of support for Great Lakes Energy's grant application for the Realizing Opportunity with Broadband Infrastructure Networks (ROBIN) Grant Program and directs the Vice Board Chair to submit the letter on its behalf.

Moved for your approval.

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Chair Andersen noted that she currently serves on the Great Lakes Energy Board and will recuse herself from the vote.

Motion carried. (Signed) N. Krieger.

Motion by N. Krieger and seconded by J. Hartley 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) Michigan Sparks Grant and a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant for the project; and

WHEREAS, the 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 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 services outlined in the attached proposal.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) N. Krieger.

Commissioner Krieger wished to respond to Marcia Hansen stating that he thinks the roof at the horse arena would be good for the Community for both horse and non-horse activities.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Mason County Board of Commissioners, Ludington Area School District, Mason County Eastern Schools, and Pere Marquette Charter Township have agreed to fund School Resource Officers; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety & Courts Committee is recommending approving the attached agreement with Ludington Area School District related to services that this officer will be providing to the school.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached agreement with Ludington Area School District and authorizes Board Chair Andersen and Sheriff Cole to sign it on behalf of the County.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia.

Motion by Public Safety and Courts Chair G. Castonia and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Mason County Prosecutor currently provides legal representation to the Department of Health and Human Services under a contract with the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Mason County Prosecutor and State of Michigan would like to amend this contract.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves an amendment of Contract PROFC 17-53001 with the State of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Sheriff Cole is requesting authorization to purchase eleven (11) rifles from the Equipment Replacement Fund; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety and Courts Committee is recommending approval of this purchase from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the purchase of eleven (11) rifles; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Sheriff Cole has requested the purchase of a computer for the Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety and Courts Committee is recommending the purchase of the computer out of funds in the Equipment Replacement Fund.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason, approves the purchase of a computer for the Sheriff's Office; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

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 Mason County Board of Commissioners, Ludington Area School District, Mason County Eastern Schools, and Pere Marquette Charter Township have agreed to fund School Resource Officers; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety & Courts Committee is recommending authorizing Sheriff Cole to start the hiring process for the second officer.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes Sheriff Cole to hire the second School Resource Officer.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Hartley.

Motion by J. Hartley and seconded by G. Castonia to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Sheriff Cole is requesting authorization to purchase a dryer for the Mason County Jail from the Equipment Replacement Fund; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety and Courts Committee is recommending approval of this purchase from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

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

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Hartley.

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Motion by J. Hartley and seconded by G. Castonia to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Mason County Board of Commissioners, Ludington Area School District, Mason County Eastern Schools, and Pere Marquette Charter Township have agreed to fund School Resource Officers; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety & Courts Committee is recommending approving the attached agreement with Mason County Eastern School District related to services that this officer will be providing to the school.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached agreement with Mason County Eastern School District and authorizes Board Chair Andersen and Sheriff Cole to sign it on behalf of the County.

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, 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 Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency now requires each Region to allocate funding to various national priority area funding requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board has requested each county reallocate a portion of their local allocation from the FY 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program to fund the priority areas; and

WHEREAS, the County of Mason needs to send a letter to the Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division authorizing this reallocation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves reallocation of local funding, the attached budget amendment, sending the attached letter and authorizes the Board Chair to sign this document.

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

The Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee has audited the County's claims dated March 2, 2023 totaling \$184,376.62.

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, R. Bacon, 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, Airport Manager O'Connor has solicited bids for lawn mowing services on the runways at the Mason County Airport; and

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WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending approving the bid from Cooper’s Lawn Care.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the bid from Cooper’s Lawn Care.

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:

WHEREAS, Mason County supports the submission of an application titled, “Mason County Fairgrounds Arena Building” to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for the development of a covered horse arena at the Mason County Fairgrounds; and

WHEREAS, the proposed application is supported by the Community’s 5-Year Approved Parks and Recreation Plan; and

WHEREAS, Mason County is hereby making a financial commitment to the project in the amount of \$1,745,300.00 matching funds, in cash and/or force account.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason hereby authorizes submission of a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application for \$300,000.00, and further resolves to make available its financial obligation amount of \$1,745,300.00 (85.3%) of a total \$2,045,300.00 project cost, during the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

AYES: Krieger, Castonia, Hartley, Hull, Bacon, Andersen.

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Squires

MOTION APPROVED.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing is a Resolution duly made and passed by the Mason County Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting held on March 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Ludington, Michigan, with a quorum present.

Dated: _____

Clerk Cheryl Kelly

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Ludington and Scottville Area Chamber of Commerce is requesting a \$50,000.00 contribution from the County of Mason to help fund economic development services; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee is recommending approval of a \$40,000.00 contribution.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes a \$40,000.00 contribution to the Ludington and Scottville Area Chamber of Commerce to help fund economic development services; funds to come from the fund balance of the General Fund.

Discussion ensued with the following comments: the County having no seat at the table, no communication since 2019 with Chamber, significant amount of funding requested after County budget has been set, where did monies go that the County had given to the Growth Alliance? No contract in place, question to do yearly instead of sign on for three years.

Amended motion made by N. Krieger and seconded by R. Bacon to postpone indefinitely the approval of request for funding until a contract outlining the process, expectations and commitment of funding.

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, District Health Department #10 Health Officer is requesting authorization of the placement of a Narcan vending machine at the District Health Department #10 Building; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending approval of this request.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes the placement of a Narcan vending machine at the District Health Department #10 Building.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull.

Commissioner Krieger noted that this issue came up at the last health board meeting with several different opinions on how to proceed. It was offered to place the dispensary unit at the District #10 Health Department so that access was more limited to individuals coming into the Health Department. The goal being to save lives.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Great Lakes Energy has requested an easement agreement with the county; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending that the Board of Commissioners approve the attached easement agreement with Great Lakes Energy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached easement agreement with Great Lakes Energy and further directs the Board Chair to sign said agreement on its behalf.

Chair Andersen noted that she serves on the board and would recuse herself from the vote.

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 following applications for Farmland (Act 116 of the Public Acts of 1974) have been filed with the County Clerk.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Township</u>	<u>Section</u>
23-001	Burke & Lisa Larsen Trust	Victory	25
23-003	Burke & Lisa Larsen Trust	Custer	6
23-004	Burke & Lisa Larsen Trust	Sherman	20
23-005	Burke & Lisa Larsen Trust	Victory	36
23-006	Burke & Lisa Larsen Trust	Custer	10
23-007	Burke & Lisa Larsen Trust	Custer	7

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the applications for Farmland (Act 116 of the Public Acts of 1974), in the County of Mason.

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 State of Michigan is currently offering grant opportunities to counties for the operation of a Veteran’s Affairs Office; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee is recommending that the county authorize the submittal of a letter of intent and application for grant funding for the operation of the Veteran’s Affairs Office.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes the submittal of a letter of intent and application for grant funding for the operation of the Veteran’s Affairs Office; and

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

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 Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for March 14, 2023.

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

Road Patrol	\$187,500.00
Jail Operations	\$168,250.00
Law Library	\$ 2,500.00

Moved for your approval.

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

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approved the installation of a furnace at the Department of Health and Human Services Building; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the attached budget amendment related to this furnace.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached budget amendment related to the installation of a furnace at the Department of Health and Human Services Building.

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, Tallman Lake Senior Center is asking the County to donate a surplus desk for their facility; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee is recommending board approval of this request.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes the donation of a surplus desk to the Tallman Lake Senior Center.

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

WHEREAS, the following application for Farmland (Act 116 of the Public Acts of 1974) have been filed with the County Clerk.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Township</u>	<u>Section</u>
23-2	Gordon & Susan Briggs	Custer	18

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the application for Farmland (Act 116 of the Public Acts of 1974), in the County of Mason.

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 terms of two positions on the West Michigan Community Mental Health System Board, held by Mr. Ron Bacon and Ms. Jennifer Branning expires on March 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ron Bacon and Ms. Jennifer Branning have indicated a desire to continue to represent the County on the Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Ron Bacon and Ms. Jennifer Branning be appointed to the West Michigan Community Mental Health System Board for terms expiring March 31, 2026.

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, severe weather, in the form of thunderstorms, wind storms, heavy rain, flooding, and tornados, are a threat to the safety and welfare of all Michigan citizens; and

WHEREAS, each year, flooding and rising waters kill more people in the United States than any other thunderstorm related hazard; and

WHEREAS, over the 2022 Christmas holiday week, a lake effect blizzard occurred making some roadways impassable and travel nearly impossible in some areas for several days; and

WHEREAS, all individuals are encouraged to be aware of the warning signs of severe weather and follow proper safety and emergency procedures; and

WHEREAS, Mason County is fortunate to have many natural resources for our citizens and visitors to enjoy, but all should be aware of the warning signs of severe weather and proper safety and emergency procedures since there can be 25 – 40 days of thunderstorm activity each year; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division is promoting a Severe Weather Awareness Week to educate the public about the dangers of severe weather events and the precautions that can be taken to save lives and protect families.

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Mason County urges all county residents to educate themselves and prepare for severe weather and declares March 19 – March 25, 2023 as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Mason County.

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, Larsen’s Landscaping, LLC has agreed to provide mowing services at the Mason County Airport in 2023; and

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

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

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

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approved the hiring of a second school resource officer; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the attached budget amendment related to this officer.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached budget amendment related to the hiring of a second school resource officer.

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 Mason County Board of Commissioners has authorized the development of a Request for Proposals for broadband service in the County of Mason; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee has developed the attached Request for Proposals.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Request for Proposals and authorizes seeking proposals.

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 Mason County Airport Layout Plan has identified surplus property at the Mason County Airport; and

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WHEREAS, the Mason County Board of Commissioners authorized seeking proposals for appraisal services; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending approval of the attached proposal from Appraisal Group West Michigan.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached proposal from Appraisal Group West Michigan.

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, Mason County supports the submission of an application titled, “Mason County Fairgrounds Arena Building” to the Spark grant program for the development of a covered horse arena at the Mason County Fairgrounds; and

WHEREAS, Mason County is hereby making a financial commitment to the project in the amount of \$1,045,300.00 matching funds, in cash and/or force account.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason hereby authorizes submission of a Spark Application for \$1,000,000.00, and further resolves to make available its financial obligation amount of \$1,045,300.00 (51.1%) of a total \$2,045,300.00 project cost, during the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

AYES: Castonia, Hartley, Hull, Bacon, Krieger, Andersen.

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Squires

MOTION APPROVED.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing is a Resolution duly made and passed by the Mason County Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting held on March 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Ludington, Michigan, with a quorum present.

Dated: _____

Clerk Cheryl Kelly

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 Mason County Board of Commissioners has budgeted for a part-time Senior Services Coordinator; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has developed the attached job description and wage scale.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee to hire a part-time Senior Services Coordinator; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board approves the attached wage schedule and job description for this position.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Burr Caswell moved to the area near the mouth of the Pere Marquette River in 1845 as a location for trapping and fishing and then brought his family to live there in 1847, thus becoming the first permanent residents of European ancestry in the region; and

WHEREAS, Ludington was originally named the Village of Pere Marquette but was later renamed for industrialist James Ludington, whose logging operations developed in and around the village; and

WHEREAS, Ludington was incorporated as a City in 1873, the same year that the county seat was moved from the Village of Lincoln to the City of Ludington; and

WHEREAS, the City boomed in the late 19th century due to the sawmills and the discovery of salt deposits, resulting in Ludington becoming a major Great Lakes shipping port; and

WHEREAS, cross-lake shipping operations began in 1875 to carry freight across Lake Michigan and they were later expanded to carry cars and passengers as well. To this day, the SS Badger continues regular trips across Lake Michigan to Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and watching the Badger come into port in the evening from the Ludington north pierhead lighthouse and north breakwall is a favorite local pastime; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ludington, the largest city in Mason County, has developed into a vibrant community where many people come each year for recreation, including boating and swimming on Lake Michigan and other area lakes, as well as fishing, hunting, hiking, camping in nearby Ludington State Park and golfing at the many golf and disc golf courses in the area; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ludington, consistently ranked as a popular tourist destination in Michigan, hosts one of the largest Gus Macker basketball tournaments, the 4th of July Freedom Festival, the Lakestride Half Marathon, and the West Shore Art League's Art Fair; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ludington is celebrating its Sesquicentennial in 2023.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason, speaking for the citizens of the County of Mason, extends its hearty congratulations and best wishes to the City of Ludington on the occasion of the City's Sesquicentennial; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution become a permanent part of the minutes of the March 14, 2023 proceedings of the Mason County Board of Commissioners. Moved for your approval.

Janet S. Andersen, Board Chairperson

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 March 14, 2023.

Cheryl Kelly, Mason County Clerk

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 is one position on the Jury Board with a term that expires on April 30, 2023; and

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

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Ms. Barbara Nielsen be reappointed to the Jury Board for a term that expires on April 30, 2029.

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, Frontier is submitting a grant application for the Realizing Opportunity with Broadband Infrastructure Networks (ROBIN) Grant Program and is requesting a letter of support.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes sending a letter of support for Frontier's grant application for the Realizing Opportunity with Broadband Infrastructure Networks (ROBIN) Grant Program and directs the Board Chair to submit the letter on its behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen.

Treasurer Kmetz noted that the Treasurer's report was emailed and he would answer any questions. He noted that the office has completed settlement for the 2022 calendar year, except for Pere Marquette Charter Township. Settlement took in \$2.46 million which was \$56,000 less than last year. Fifty-one parcels are at risk of foreclosure. Treasurer Kmetz reassured the Board that the County did not have monies in the two banks that have failed. Commissioner Hartley, member of the 911 Board, thanked Treasurer Kmetz for his assisting the 911 Board with their financial investments and getting the best rates and protection available.

Clerk Kelly noted that she had emailed the report and would answer any questions. She was excited to announce that the On-line ordering computer program, APEX, will go live on April 10, 2023. This will allow individuals who wish to order items from the Clerk's office to do so from the comfort of their homes, provided they have the necessary information.

Administrator Knizacky was pleased to advise that MMRMA approved three small grants for Mason County; interviews will take place at the end of the month for the Emergency Manager's open position; and that the 2024 Preliminary budget process has started.

Public Comment: Annette Quillan, Ludington, wished to invite all Commissioners to Suds for Seniors to be held on March 16, 2023 at the Ludington Bay Brewing. There would be a silent and live auction event as well.

Aldon Maleckas, Custer, previous Air Force Officer, stated he had a bone of contention regarding the armed bailiff at the court house and that when the bailiff is not in session, he is roaming the halls. He stated that a better use of taxpayers' dollars would be to remove security at the courthouse and make them school resource officers.

Jack Bulger, Ludington, noted that he was privileged to be a county employee for 32 years and that he most recently was appointed and then elected to serve Ward 6 in the City of Ludington. He noted that City of Ludington Council members are intending on attending neighboring jurisdictions meetings. He thanked the Board for the Resolution for the City.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 10:48 A.M.

CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

JANET S. ANDERSEN, BOARD CHAIR