

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, G. Castonia, J. Hartley, S. Hull, J. Andersen, R. Bacon, L. Squires.  
Absent: None.

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

Motion by N. Krieger and seconded by R. Bacon to approve the agenda with the removal of the TRP resolution. Motion carried.

Motion by R. Bacon and seconded by S. Hull to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2023 regular meeting. Motion carried.

**Correspondence:** Chair Andersen read into the minutes three letters, one from James Thomas, one from Candice Hook of Custer, and one from Joseph and Bernitta Hurd from Free Soil.

**Public comment:**

Gene Kyle, Ludington, noted that a vote on the Senior Budget would take place today. At no point had anyone requested input from the Council on Aging Committee, nor had any recommendation been seen or given by any senior center, Help Ministries, or MCC Schools. He is concerned that the Finance, Personnel & Rules Committee has decided to move forward without asking questions with two previous recommendations being made by the Council on Aging.

Annette Quillan-Ludington, inquired if there would be a change in the job description for the Senior Service Coordinator, and if so, what will those changes be?

Mary Bedker, Ludington, Read the mission statement of the Council on Aging from the Mason County website. She requested this be considered as the Board moved forward.

Chris Foster, Custer, noted that he has had multiple issues with building violations and noted that Tom Fulker, Mason County’s Building Inspector refuses to acknowledge these code violations. He presented a packet of the code violations to the Board. He notes he took the Builder to court and stated that the Building Inspector Fulker lied under oath to the Judge and that he feels he is 100% incompetent and there are multiple code violation issues not being dealt with. He would appreciate the Board reviewing these issues and speaking with the inspectors.

Wally Cain, Ludington, member of the Council on Aging (COA), notes that the COA is a key function in working with the Senior Centers. Yes mistakes have been made, and things could have been different, but he is passionate about the COA. He encouraged that all parties involved to come together to discuss strategies moving forward.

Bill Kerans, Scottville, spoke in support of the Senior Millage proposal, noting that the changes are reflective of the new contract requirements of the Board. He is in support of the disbanding of the COA and the current contracts.

➤ ***Kevin Hughes, MA Health Officer, District Health Department #10*** passed out the 2022 annual report. He introduced Chelsea Rosow, Epidemiologist, who presented a slide show of infectious diseases. Commissioner Squires inquired how Mason County compared to the other districts within the State and was informed that a comparison was not done as these figures are only representative of the 10 counties within DHD #10.

Commissioner Krieger noted that he did not have any Committee or Agency issues but wished to express how lucky Mason County was to have Kevin as their Health Officer who statutorily reports every month at the meetings.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Mason County Parks and Recreation Commission is exploring a project to develop the Mason County Campgrounds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mason County Parks and Recreation Commission has requested assistance from the County of Mason to secure a Michigan Spark Grant for the project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Buildings, Planning, Drains and Airport Committee is recommending that the County Board of Commissioners approve assisting the Mason County Parks and Recreation Commission by approving the hiring of Spicer Group, Inc. to provide the services outlined in the attached proposal.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the hiring of Spicer Group, Inc. to provide the services outlined in the attached proposal; funds to come from the Park Operation Fund.

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**, Mason County has received the attached request from Ludington Beverage Co., Inc. to serve alcohol at a proposed event at the county fairgrounds; 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 approves the request from Ludington Beverage Co., Inc. to serve alcohol at a proposed event at the county fairgrounds.

Moved for your approval.

Commissioner Krieger noted that this event is being held in conjunction with the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the City of Ludington, as well as the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Anheuser Busch.

Roll Call Vote was requested: AYES: Krieger, Castonia, Hartley, Squires, Hull, Bacon, Andersen  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None

Motion carried. (Signed) N. Krieger.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Sheriff is requesting \$77,647.12 from the Equipment Replacement Fund to purchase and equip a 2023 Ford F150 Pick-up Truck; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety and Courts Committee is recommending the approval of this purchase from the Equipment Replacement Fund 402.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves \$77,647.12 to purchase and equip a 2023 Ford F150 Pick-up Truck; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund 402.

Moved for your approval.

Commissioner Squires noted that he was supportive of the vehicle purchase, but was surprised that the equipment costs are almost as much as the cost of the vehicle required to protect the people of Mason County.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia.

Motion 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 two (2) 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 two (2) rifles; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Commissioner Krieger noted that the resolution was unclear as the title only reflects the request to purchase two rifles; however, the letter and supporting documentation also included the purchase of four pistols as well.

Motion carried. (Signed) G. Castonia.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Mason County Sheriff Cole is requesting approval of the purchase of two radios from the Equipment Replacement Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety and 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 for the Sheriff’s office; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Hartley.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Mason County Sheriff Cole has requested authorization to purchase two (2) tasers and related holsters from the Equipment Replacement Fund; and

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

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the purchase of two (2) tasers and related holsters for the Sheriff’s Office; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Hartley.

Motion by L. Squires and seconded by N. Krieger to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Emergency Management Office is requesting authorization to purchase supplies for the ID Credentialing Machine; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety and Courts Committee is recommending the 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 supplies for the ID Credentialing Machine for the Emergency Management office; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) L. Squires.

Motion by L. Squires and seconded by N. Krieger to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Mason County Sheriff Cole has requested authorization to purchase nine (9) Bullet Proof Vests and six (6) Bullet Proof Vests Custom Carrier and Suspenders Systems from the Equipment Replacement Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the 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 nine (9) Bullet Proof Vests and six (6) Bullet Proof Vests Custom Carrier and Suspenders Systems; 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

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

April 13, 2023 totaling \$643,856.02: and  
April 27, 2023 totaling \$439,256.76.

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, S. Hull, J. Andersen.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Michigan Public Act 280 of 1995 authorizes counties to accept payments by financial transaction devices such as credit cards, debit cards and electronic funds transfer cards; and

**WHEREAS**, Mason County Equalization Department has received requests to accept credit card payments; and

**WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee is recommending that the Board approve the acceptance of credit cards at the Equalization Department office; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 3 of the Act, the Treasurer has determined that this type of financial transaction device payment is acceptable subject to the internal policies and procedures that have been developed by the involved offices.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the County Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes the acceptance of credit card payments at the Mason County Equalization Department and authorizes the Chairwoman of the Board to sign an agreement on behalf of the Board.

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**, Zoning & Building Director Sanders and the Buildings, Planning, Drains and Airport Committee are recommending that the County Board of Commissioners approve the attached Retention Schedules for the Building & Zoning Department files.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Retention Schedules for the Building & Zoning Department files.

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 Scottville Board of Election Commissioners (“City Election Commission”) is charged with the possession and control of voting equipment owned and used by the city under the provisions of the Michigan Election Law, 1954 P.A. 116, MCL 168.1 *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Election Commission does not have adequate storage space for all of its electronic voting equipment and has asked the County Clerk to store some equipment on its behalf; and

**WHEREAS**, Mason County Clerk Kelly has offered to store these items for the City Election Commission and is willing to hold the equipment in safekeeping in a locked, secure area; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of the people of Mason County for the County Clerk to store this electronic voting equipment in a safe, secure facility where it will be protected from damage and available for the statutorily required public tests; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached Agreement to Store Voting Equipment between the County of Mason and the Scottville Election Commission and directs the Mason County Clerk and Chairperson of the Mason County Board of Commissioners to sign said agreement on its behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Director of Information Technology Diane Englebrecht is recommending the purchase of an extended warranty for the BSA server; and

**WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the purchase be made out of the Computer Network Operation & Maintenance Fund.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the purchase of an extended warranty for the BSA server; funds to come from the Computer Network Operation & Maintenance 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**, Mason County Clerk Kelly is requesting approval of the updating of the mailbox system in the Clerk’s office from the Equipment Replacement Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety and Courts Committee is recommending that the Board of Commissioners approve this update.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the updating of the mailbox system in the Clerk’s office; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement 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**, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for May 9, 2023.

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

Road Patrol	\$187,100.00
Jail Operations	\$168,250.00
Airport Operations	\$ 38,200.00

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) R. Bacon.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, May is Mental Health Awareness month; and

**WHEREAS**, mental health is important for our individual well-being and vitality, as well as that of our families, communities and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, the pandemic has been a reminder of the importance of integrating mental health into preparedness and response for public health emergencies; and

**WHEREAS**, younger adults, racial/ethnic minorities, essential workers, and adult caregivers reported having disproportionately worse mental health outcomes, increased substance use, and elevated suicidal ideation associated with COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, one out of every five adults in the U.S. will have a diagnosed mental health condition in any given year; and

**WHEREAS**, one in six U.S. children aged 2 to 8 years will have a diagnosed mental, behavioral, or developmental disorder; and

**WHEREAS**, mental illness is a biologically based brain disorder that cannot be overcome through “will power” and is not related to a defect in a person’s “character” or intelligence; and

**WHEREAS**, West Michigan Community Mental Health is a federally certified community behavioral health clinic; and

**WHEREAS**, West Michigan Community Mental Health serves as the public behavioral health care provider for people with mental health conditions, developmental disabilities, and/or substance use disorders in Mason, Lake and Oceana counties; and

**WHEREAS**, West Michigan Community Mental Health served 3,535 individuals during Fiscal Year 2022.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason hereby recognizes May 2023 as Mental Health Awareness Month and calls upon our citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to recommit our state to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illness, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illness to promote recovery.

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 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>
23-9	Daniel & Sarah Briggs	Sherman	22

**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) J. Andersen.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, budget presentations by the various entities providing senior services have historically been made to the Mason County Council on Aging; and

**WHEREAS**, the directors from the senior centers in Scottville, Free Soil and Tallman Lake have requested that the Board of Commissioners change the process and allow the entities to make their presentations directly to the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending that the County Board of Commissioners approve this change in the budget process for the allocation of the senior millage.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the change in the budget process for the allocation of the senior millage as outlined in the attached proposal.

Roll Call Vote was requested: AYES: Castonia, Hartley, Squires, Hull, Bacon, Andersen.  
NAYS: Krieger.  
ABSENT: None.

Significant discussion then ensued regarding this resolution and the role of the Council on Aging. When the Council of Aging was established in 1986, contracts were not a part of that process. Moving forward, it appears to have become one of the most broken down systems in the County with senior centers overlapping of potential services. All were in agreement that Senior Services are important and as such all entities need to work together. Concerns regarding Open Meetings Act violations were also brought up with regards to the COA. These violations were the precipitating factor to request the COA be dissolved at which point a motion was then made by J. Andersen and seconded by J. Hartley to disband the Council on Aging.

Roll Call vote was requested: AYES: Hartley, Hull, Bacon, Castonia, Andersen.  
NAYS: Squires, Krieger.  
ABSENT: None.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Mason County Sports Hall of Fame and Museum is a not-for-profit historical recognition institution dedicated to honoring those who have made outstanding contributions to our local sports; and

**WHEREAS**, this year, 2023, marks the 19th such class of individuals and teams to be inducted in its illustrious hall through its unveiling at Historic White Pine Village through a partnership with the Mason County Historical Society and an induction banquet at Lincoln Hills Golf and Country Club; and

**WHEREAS**, its Board of Directors has selected six former athletes to be inducted into the Mason County Sports Hall of Fame; and

**WHEREAS**, the 19th class of inductees includes **Caleb Anthony**, a 2001 Ludington graduate and three-sport athlete. As an all-state tight end in football, he was awarded a full-ride scholarship to Central Michigan University. In wrestling, Anthony was a state-qualifier and four-time Conference Champion. He was a seven-time Greco-Roman and freestyle State Champion, winning his first title at age eight. Anthony was a two-time wrestling All-American at the Cadet National Championships. A two-time track & field Regional Champion, Caleb was all-state in shot put and discus. In 2001, Anthony was a finalist for the “Michigan High School Male Athlete of the Year”. In 1993, at age 10, Caleb was the youngest person to run the Lakestride Half Marathon; **Dan Aultman**, a 2000 Mason County Central graduate, earned basketball All-State (BCAM) 2<sup>nd</sup> team honors, was named to the Muskegon Chronicle All-Area team and twice was awarded all-conference first team honors. A two-year starter at Muskegon Community College, Dan was MVP, MCCA Western Conference First Team, Western Conference All-Star and selected NJCAA Region XII. Aultman’s Calvin University team finished third in the NCAA D-3 Tournament. A two-time All-MIAA first team selection, Aultman scored over 1,000 career points in just two years at Calvin. He was named NABC All-District twice, All-Sectionals MVP in the 2005 NCAA tournament and 2005 D3 Honorable Mention All-American. His Calvin teams won the MIAA Tournament, qualifying for the NCAA tournament twice. Aultman played professional basketball in Norway and France from 2006-2018. In 2009, his team won the Champions of France National 2 (N2) title. Dan also competed in track & field at Mason County Central; **Nannette (Gillispie) Clearing Sky-Christensen**, a 1984 Ludington graduate, earned 11 varsity letters. As a two-time All-State First-Team basketball selection, she scored 1,312 career points. Nannette was the first Ludington girls' basketball player to score 1,000 points. She went on to play basketball for two years at the University of Michigan. Nannette was the starting first baseman on the 1983 Ludington Class B State Runner-up softball team and she was a starter in volleyball; **Steve Hull**, a 1975 Ludington graduate, was named First Team All-State in basketball, scoring 890 career points. Playing at Grand Valley State University for four years, Steve was a leader on the 1977 Laker team that finished fourth place nationally with a 30-4 record. In high school, he was an all-conference football player and ran track for the Orioles. In 1975, Hull was voted Senior Male Athlete of the Year. Steve coached at Ludington and Mason County Eastern; **Fred Reid**, a 1956 Free Soil graduate, earned 14 basketball awards and was the first Free Soil player to score 1,000 points. His school record of 45 points in a game stood for 10 years. In his career, Reid scored 1,052 points. In 1955, Fred earned two state medals in track & field. In 1956, he was second in the 880-yard dash and third in the pole vault. Reid earned 28 awards in track & field and cross country. He played basketball at Northwestern (UNAU) in Traverse City; **Joel Trim**, a 1997 Ludington graduate, was a four-time state qualifier in wrestling. In 1996, he was state runner-up. In the 1997 MHSAA D2 Tournament, wrestling at 160 pounds, Trim won the State Championship and was named the D2 Tournament’s Outstanding Wrestler. Joel’s high school record was 177-14 with 126 career pins and a perfect 51-0 record his senior year. His 51 consecutive wins is a Ludington school record. Trim went on to wrestle at Central Michigan University.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason, does hereby declare June 24, 2023, as Mason County Sports Hall of Fame Day and that this resolution become a permanent part of the minutes of the May 9, 2023, County Commission proceedings; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason, speaking for the citizens of the County of Mason and for themselves, offers their sincere congratulations to the 2023 inductees to the Mason County Sports Hall of Fame. Moved for your approval.

Commissioner Krieger congratulated Commissioner Hull. He stated that he wished there was a resolution to honor fat kids like me who do not do sports.

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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 May 9, 2023.

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Cheryl Kelly, Mason County Clerk

- Treasurer Kmetz presented the monthly Treasurer's Report for April 2023. He noted that the office is currently preparing for the summer tax season along with collecting Amber Township taxes. He noted once the audit is complete, he will be preparing the F65 report. One foreclosed parcel had excess proceeds that the owner presented to the Circuit Court. The deadline to claim for excess proceeds is July 1 for former owners.
- Clerk Kelly noted the Clerk's Report for April 2023 was emailed. She thanked the Commissioner's for the approval of the new mail box area. The office is finishing up the May Election. She noted that yesterday was the last day for candidates to run for the West Shore Educational School District Board. Three candidates applied: Vincent Greiner, Jim Riffle, and Jason Wolven. The office is continuing the work on the Recall petitions for Karrie Bleau at this time.
- Administrator Knizacky noted that the Veteran's Officer and he applied for a grant for 2024 and was awarded \$68,000.00, which is \$10,000.00 more than the 2023 calendar year. The Horse Arena Grant through the Department of Agriculture received \$100,000.00. The County has hired a new Emergency Manager, Heath Scarborough. He noted that the County Audit will start on Monday. Finally, the broadband proposals are due next Monday as well.

**Public Comment:**

Annette Quillan, Ludington, questioned whether or not the Council on Aging had to follow the Open Meetings Act rules, as if this was true, they would have found meeting minutes filed and they are unable to find any.

Gene Kyle, Ludington, changes made with the COA have upset him. He noted that everyone was aware there were problems but no discussion took place and how are they going to be fixed?

Karla McLouth, Branch, inquired when the 130 year old anniversary pictures would be hung? With regards to the senior services, the COA was disbanded in the heat of the moment, but the question was not called, neither was there a call for discussion. Multiple questions were asked.

Mary Bedker, Ludington, did not know whether to say thank you or agree post mortem on the disbanding of the COA who was purely a volunteer organization which was appointed by the Mason County Board of Commissioners who have given no direction or given them authority either. Nine years she has served as a volunteer and had never seen any evaluations of the services offered by the respective centers who need to be held accountable.

Randy Belair, Ludington, served on the COA for 18 months and worked hard on behalf of the Seniors of Mason County. He felt the current system is broke but knows that moving forward Seniors are our most precious residents.

Charlie Robinson, Branch, noted that Representative Joe Fox serves four townships on the eastern side of Mason County. Representative Fox came and spoke at the Tallman Senior Center in April. Mr. Robinson wondered if he would be an asset for the County as he used to hold a Grant Writing Position in Newaygo and he encouraged Board members to reach out to Representative Fox.

Mary Bedker, Ludington, wondered how and when to communicate to the Board regarding any issues the COA had but are now disbanded.

Bill Kerans, Scottville, complimented and thanked the Board for their logical and sensible process set. He feels the quarterly reports to the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee will be easier for the Senior Centers and he looks forward to working with the Board.

May 09, 2023

**Other business:** Chair Andersen noted that Board will have the following items to look into at their upcoming work session:

1. Chris Foster and the concerns with the inspectors. Issues were noted, but whether or not this Board could offer relief was questioned.
2. The Circuit Court photos, per Judge Sniegowski could not be hung due to lack of materials.
3. The upcoming May 22, 2023 7 p.m. work session will discuss the Administrator's job description and broadband proposals.

Commissioner Squires noted that he appreciated the COA work; although, he is disheartened by the vote today. He thanked those who were present for their past works.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 A.M.

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CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

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JANET S. ANDERSEN, BOARD CHAIR