

**March 10, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Mason County Board of Commissioners was held at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room located in the Mason County Courthouse in the City of Ludington.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lange.

Roll call was taken. Present: W. Taranko, B. Carpenter, C. Lange, C. VanderWall,  
S. Hull, J. Andersen, T. Posma  
Absent: None.

Invocation was given by C. VanderWall. Pledge to the flag followed.

Motion by C. VanderWall and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by J. Andersen and seconded by W. Taranko to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2015 regular meeting. Motion carried.

No correspondence was read.

Public Comment:

- Western Michigan Fair Association Board President Kirk Meyers stated he was in attendance to answer any questions regarding the proposed project at the fairgrounds that was the reason to submit a Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.
- Riverton Township resident Evelyn Bergaila spoke in support of the proposal for the post mitigation sound survey for the Lake Winds Energy Park.

Mason County Sheriff Kim Cole reviewed the events that had occurred within the county in 2014 that had major impacts on the Mason County Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff stated that as of August 14 all the patrol cars have in-car cameras and the department continues to work especially hard on increasing traffic safety on the US-10 corridor.

District Health Department #10 Health Officer Linda VanGills gave her annual report (her last as she will be retiring in June after 35 years of service) and spoke about the goals and strategic plan as well as the quality improvement projects for 2014. District #10 Health Department anticipates being the 3rd health department in Michigan to receive National Accreditation in the near future. The department currently employees 180 employees.

Drain Commissioner David Hasenbank gave his 2014 report (his last report as he will be retiring on March 31st) and reviewed the activities within county drainage districts as well as Inland Lake Boards and the Department of Public Works.

Motion by T. Posma and seconded by C. VanderWall to close the regular session and go into a public hearing on the submission of a Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Motion carried. Chairman Lange asked Western Michigan Fair Association Board President Kirk Meyers to explain the proposed project to expand the campground at the Western Michigan Fairgrounds in order to further provide recreational facilities at the site. Mr. Meyers gave a brief history of the project and the need to scale down the initial project due to the costs of a proposed bathroom/shower facility. The proposed project includes 26 new full service campsites and a new dump station. During the discussion it was pointed out that the grant requested amount would be \$266,500 with the county committing \$95,000 toward the park improvements if the grant is awarded. Mr. Meyers stated the Western Michigan Fair Association Board has already begun discussions and will plan to raise the \$95,000 through fund-raising efforts and proceeds from planned activities. Chairman Lange expressed that he felt past experience for these types of projects had been very positive. With no other discussion or comments from the public a motion was made by T. Posma and seconded by W. Taranko to close the public hearing and go back to regular session. Motion carried.

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Motion by W. Taranko and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Mason County Local Emergency Planning Committee has applied for a FY 2014-15 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Michigan has awarded a grant in the amount of \$2,110.00 to the County of Mason.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves accepting the FY 2014-15 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant and directs the Board Chair to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) W. Taranko

Motion by B. Carpenter 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 February 12, 2015 totaling \$284,216.82, and February 26, 2015 totaling \$485,512.82; 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) B. Carpenter, C. Lange, T. Posma

Motion by B. Carpenter and seconded by T. Posma to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for March 10, 2015.

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

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Jail Operations | \$122,000.00 |
|-----------------|--------------|

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) B. Carpenter

Motion by Building, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee Chairman C. VanderWall and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Dave Hasenbank has served the residents of Mason County for twenty seven (27) years including eighteen (18) years as Mason County Drain Commissioner; and

**WHEREAS**, Dave has been an active member of the Michigan Association of County Drain Commissioners (MACDC); and

**WHEREAS**, Dave has served on the lake boards for Bass, Pleiness, Lincoln, Round, Ford, Hackert, and Thunder Lakes trying to contain the spread of Eurasian milfoil; and

**WHEREAS**, Dave also served the County as Director of the Department of Public Works and was instrumental in the completion of the extension of the sewer lines to West Shore Community College and the City of Scottville; and

**WHEREAS**, Dave was also responsible for the post closure care of Mason County's two landfills in the City of Scottville and Pere Marquette Charter Township and kept the county compliant with state regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, Dave was a long time member of the Free Soil Fire Department, is an active member of Our Savior Lutheran Church of Scottville, served on the Mason County Department of Public Works Board, the Parks and Recreation Board, the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), the Local Planning Team (LPT), and was an agency representative in the Mason County Emergency Operations Center; and

**WHEREAS**, Dave has maintained a high level of integrity, dedication, professionalism, and fiscal responsibility that has served the citizens well throughout his career; and

**WHEREAS**, Dave is retiring from the positions of Mason County Drain Commissioner and Director of the Department of Public Works.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason, does hereby, acknowledge with regret Dave's decision to retire from the position of Mason County Drain Commissioner and offers him their best wishes in his future endeavors; and

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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason, speaking for the citizens of the County of Mason and for themselves, offers their sincere thanks and gratitude for the dedication and professionalism that he has shown throughout his career; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution become a permanent part of the minutes of the March 10, 2015 County Commission proceedings. Moved for your approval.

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Charles Lange, 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 10, 2015.

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Jim Riffle, Mason County Clerk

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Homeland Security Grants are now being given on a regional basis; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Mason is a member of the Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Region 6 Homeland Security Governing Board has designated West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission as the Fiduciary for the 2014 Homeland Security Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety & Courts Committee is recommending approval of an agreement with West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves an agreement with West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission and authorizes the Board Chair to sign said agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**; Section 19.05 Subsection 7 of the Mason County Zoning Ordinance states that a mandatory condition of a temporary occupancy shall be that a deposit, certified check, irrevocable bank letter of credit or performance bond acceptable to the County, in the full amount necessary to provide the surfaced area, be deposited with the Mason County Treasurer, prior to any occupancy of the facility which it serves; and

**WHEREAS**; the Mason County Planning Commission is recommending a \$16,534.00 performance guarantee for the temporary occupancy required by Cottage Works located at 1795 W. US 10 in Amber Township.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves a \$16,534.00 performance guarantee for the temporary occupancy required by Cottage Works located at 1795 W. US 10 in Amber Township.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Motion by Public Safety and Courts Committee Chairman J. Andersen and seconded by W. Taranko to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Sheriff is requesting \$33,493.50 from the Equipment Replacement Fund to purchase one Dodge Charger; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety & 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 \$33,493.50 to purchase one Dodge Charger; funds to come from the Equipment Replacement Fund 402; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorizes the sale of one vehicle recommended by the Sheriff.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Mason County Sheriff’s Office and the United States Department of Agriculture, Huron-Manistee National Forests have historically worked together to provide for patrolling of the National Forests in the County of Mason.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement between the Mason County Sheriff’s Office and the United States Department of Agriculture, Huron-Manistee National Forests and further directs the County Chair to sign said agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Motion by J. Andersen and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Mason County Planning Commission is recommending that the Board of Commissioners approve the attached proposal for acoustical engineering services with HGC Engineering.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached proposal for acoustical engineering services with HGC Engineering and directs the Board Chair to sign said agreement on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

Motion by Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee Chairman T. Posma and seconded by C. VanderWall to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has available grant funds through the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, Mason County seeks to develop the Campground Expansion to provide recreational facilities, barrier-free access to natural resources, and habitat improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mason County Board of Commissioners, after hearing any and all public comment offered at the public hearing held on this matter, has concluded that it is in the public interest to proceed with the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Mason County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the submission of a Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.
2. The Mason County Board of Commissioners approves seeking the above mentioned grant in the amount of \$266,500 for the above mentioned improvements to the Campground.
3. The Mason County Board of Commissioners commits to contributing \$95,000.00 towards these said park improvements from County general funds if a grant is awarded. This is equal to 26% of the total project costs.

Moved by: Commissioner Posma  
Seconded by: Commissioner VanderWall

AYES: Commissioner Taranko, Commissioner Carpenter, Commissioner Lange, Commissioner VanderWall, Commissioner Hull, Commissioner Andersen, Commissioner Posma

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Mason County Board held at the Mason County Courthouse on March 10, 2015.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

March 10, 2015

Motion by T. Posma and seconded by J. Andersen to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there is one vacancy on the Mason County Building Authority Board with a term that expires on April 30, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, there was one response to the advertisement that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Mr. Chris Burns.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mr. Chris Burns be appointed to the Mason County Building Authority Board for a term ending April 30, 2018.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) T. Posma

Motion by T. Posma and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the attached budget amendments related to the Planning and Zoning Department

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached budget amendments related to the Planning and Zoning Department.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) T. Posma

Motion by Chairman Lange and seconded by B. Carpenter to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there are two positions on the West Michigan Community Mental Health System Board with terms expiring on March 31, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, there is one vacant position on the West Michigan Community Mental Health System Board with a term expiring on March 31, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, there were three responses to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Ms. Diane Boulais, Ms. Pat Bettin, and Dr. Jennifer Branning.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Ms. Diane Boulais and Ms. Pat Bettin be appointed to the two positions on the West Michigan Community Mental Health System Board for terms expiring March 31, 2018 and Dr. Jennifer Branning be appointed to the one position on the West Michigan Community Mental Health System Board for a term expiring March 31, 2017.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by Chairman Lange and seconded by S. Hull to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there is one vacancy on the Tax Allocation Board; and

**WHEREAS**, there was one response to the advertisement notice that was published in the Ludington Daily News from Mr. Jack Harper.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the reappointment of Mr. Jack Harper to the Tax Allocation Board.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by Chairman Lange and seconded by W. Taranko to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there is one vacant position on the Mason County Growth Alliance with a term that expires on December 31, 2015; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Commissioner Curt VanderWall be appointed to the one position on the Mason County Growth Alliance for a term ending December 31, 2015.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

**March 10, 2015**

Treasurer Shirley Smith reviewed the February 2015 Treasurer's report and answered questions.

Clerk Jim Riffle reviewed the February 2015 Clerk's Report and answered questions.

Public comment: There was no public comment.

Any Unfinished Business: There was no other business brought forward.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

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JIM RIFFLE, COUNTY CLERK

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CHARLES LANGE, BOARD CHAIRMAN