

August 11, 2015

The regular meeting of the Mason County Board of Commissioners was held at 7:00 p.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 B. Carpenter and seconded by W. Taranko to approve the agenda with the resolution change for the jail air conditioning project and addition of a resolution regarding an extension on the sale of the services building. Motion carried.

Motion by C. VanderWall and seconded by S. Hull to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2015 regular meeting. Motion carried.

Commissioner Lange read a letter received from the US Department of Agriculture inviting Commissioners to an open house for their new office serving the Baldwin/White Cloud area. Dedication ceremony for the building will be 1:00 p.m. on September 21, 2015 at the new District Ranger Station on M-37 in Baldwin.

Public Comment:

- Aldon Malekas of Custer Township voiced his continued concerns with the Wind Turbines especially after reading the editorial in the Ludington Daily News on 8/6/15. He requested compliance be enforced by the Board.

- Evelyn Bergaila of Riverton Township agreed with Mr. Malekas and voiced her concerns regarding the decision making process of the Planning Commission and the Open Meetings Act. She acknowledged additional concerns that have been voiced at Public Hearings involving Agri-Business. She hopes the Board will say "No" to the zoning ordinance amendment to Agri-Business in Mason County.

- Susan Kaiser of Riverton Township has attended the Planning Commission meetings and voiced concerns about the levels exceeding at 45.4 decibels. She also felt they violated the Open Meetings Act.

- Jordan Devries, Mason-Lake Conservation District Administrator, informed the Board that he received a grant for \$424,888 from the National Fish and Wildlife Association to restore the Pere Marquette River. One goal is to restore the levels of Brook Trout and Northern Pike, as well as connectivity throughout the Pere Marquette River. He also reminded everyone that Saturday August 16, 2015 is Hazardous Waste Day.

Michigan State University Extension District #5 Coordinator Michael Krauch wanted to thank board members Curt VanderWall and Bill Carpenter and express his appreciation for their support of the Mason County 4-H Program. He listed various activities that the 4-H program is currently offering and noted the increase in numbers due to the additions of such programs as Tech Wizard and Shooting Sports. He introduced De'Anne Rohr, the new Supervising Educator.

Mason County Road Commission Manager Wayne Schoonover discussed various projects the Mason County Road Commission continues to work on. Two bridge grants were received (for Stephens Road and Decker Road over the South Branch of the Lincoln River) from the Local Bridge Program which is funded through the Federal Highway Administration and the Michigan Department of Transportation. Road funding continues to be a big issue.

Motion by W. Taranko and seconded by B. Carpenter 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.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Agreement for FY 2015 between the State of Michigan and the County of Mason for the fiscal year of October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015 and further directs the County Chair to sign said agreement.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) W. Taranko

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Commissioner Carpenter read correspondence he received from Ludington City Counselor Kathy Winczewski thanking the Board for their support regarding the Civil Rights Attorney Fees issue.

Motion by B. Carpenter and seconded by C. VanderWall to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

The Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee has audited the County's claims dated July 02, 2015 totaling \$299,527.76, July 16, 2015 totaling \$755,606.90, and July 30, 2015 totaling \$243,891.96; 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

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Mason County Council on Aging has recommended fiscal year 2016 funding allocations of \$203,020.00 for the Scottville Senior Center, \$149,460.00 for the Ludington Senior Center, \$31,500.00 for the Tallman Lake Senior Center, \$29,225.00 for Mason County Central Schools Meal Program, \$5,000.00 for HELP, Inc., and \$22,000.00 for the Free Soil Senior Center; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mason County Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the approval of this recommendation.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the fiscal year 2016 funding allocations as recommended by the Mason County Council on Aging.

Motion carried. (Signed) B. Carpenter

Commissioner Andersen thanked the members of the board for supporting the senior citizen millage. Chairman Lange thanked Commissioner Andersen for all of her time and effort with the senior citizen program in Mason County.

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Section 3.13 2.a of the Mason County Zoning Ordinance requires that a performance bond be posted to ensure the landscaping is installed consistent with the Mason County Zoning Ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending a \$18,000.00 performance guarantee for the Ludington Professional Building project.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves a \$18,000.00 performance guarantee for the Ludington Professional Building project.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. VanderWall

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Buildings, Planning, Drains, and Airport Committee is recommending hiring Have Broom Will Travel to perform custodial services at the Mason County Courthouse.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached contract with Have Broom Will Travel to provide contracted custodial services at the Mason County Courthouse and directs the Board Chair to sign on their behalf.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) S. Hull

Commissioner Andersen introduced Paul Griffith, Executive Director of Michigan Works! West Central. Motion by Public Safety and Courts Committee Chairman J. Andersen and seconded by W. Taranko to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, Michigan Public Act 7 of 1967, Michigan Compiled Laws 124.501 et. Seq., hereinafter referred to "P.A. 7," provides for the transfer of functions and responsibilities of two or more political subdivisions to one or any combination thereof; and

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**WHEREAS**, The counties of Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Newaygo and Osceola and the cities of Big Rapids and Ludington have mutually consented to the establishment of Michigan Works! West Central under P.A. 7 pursuant to an Interlocal Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, Oceana County wishes to join this established arrangement; and

**WHEREAS**, The existing seven political subdivisions listed above support Oceana County joining this arrangement; and

**WHEREAS**, The activities and purposes of Michigan Works! West Central have changed in accordance with changes in and from its funding sources since the adoption of the last restatement of this Agreement in July, 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, The attached Agreement reflects the changes in the activities and purposes of Michigan Works! West Central in accordance with the changes in and from its funding source.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason agrees to the attached Agreement of Michigan Works! West Central; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, this resolution shall have immediate effect.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) J. Andersen

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, good budget management practice recommends the amendment of the budgets as necessary; and

**WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee has reviewed the attached budget amendments as proposed by the various Department Heads.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the attached 2015 General Fund and Special Revenue Funds budget amendments as recommended by the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) T. Posma, B. Carpenter, C. Lange

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Friend of the Court has received approval of a Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement with the Department of Human Services beginning October 1, 2015 and ending September 30, 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, the State is requiring the attached Amendment #2 to this agreement.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves Amendment #2 to the Department of Human Services Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement, in its entirety and further authorizes the Chairperson of the County Board of Commissioners to execute said Agreement on behalf of the County Board of Commissioners.

Moved for your approval.

\_\_\_\_\_
Date

\_\_\_\_\_
Board of Commissioners

\_\_\_\_\_
Date

\_\_\_\_\_
Clerk of the County
County of Mason
51st Circuit Court

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason authorized going out for bids to address the humidity problems at the Mason County Jail; and

**WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending the Board of Commissioners approve the low bid for the base bid, alternate #1, and alternate #2 from Skoog Heating & Cooling.

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**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves the low bid for the base bid, alternate #1, and alternate #2 from Skoog Heating & Cooling; funds for a project budget of \$225,000.00 to come from the Jail Construction Fund.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) T. Posma

Motion by Chairman Lange and seconded by C. VanderWall to approve the following resolution:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, and Rules Committee has reviewed the transfers for August 11, 2015.

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

Jail Operations	\$122,000.00
Public Improvement	\$398,442.00

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**, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason was authorized by the citizens of the County of Mason, to levy a millage of up to 0.2979 mill for the purpose of funding the operation and maintenance of Senior Centers and Senior Citizens Programs in the County of Mason.

**WHEREAS**, the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee is recommending that the Board of Commissioners only levy 0.27 mill.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason requests the County Clerk to certify the levy of 0.27 mill, 2.70 cents per \$1,000 valuation for the 2015 levy.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Motion by Chairman Lange and seconded by T. Posma 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 and loss of life in hazardous circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, the theme for 2015 is “Don’t wait. Communicate. Make Your Emergency Plan Today.”

**WHEREAS**, we are asking all citizens to take action now - make a plan with your community, your family, and for your pets. Plans should include how to stay safe and communicate during disaster that can affect our communities.

**WHEREAS**, National Preparedness Month has designated weekly hazard themes of week 1: Floods, week 2: Wildfires, week 3: Hurricanes, week 4: Power Outages, and the final week focus on the lead up to the National PrepareAthon! Day of September 30th.

**WHEREAS**, Mason County has a history of experiencing negative effects from disasters, and each citizen should identify which hazards will affect them and plan ahead on how to be prepared at home, work, or while they travel.

**WHEREAS**, during this month and throughout the year, Mason County Board of Commissioners encourages the public to “Don’t wait. Communicate. Make Your Emergency Plan Today.” by visiting [ready.gov/September](http://ready.gov/September) or the Mason County Emergency Management web page for information and resource regarding the importance of emergency preparedness in Mason County.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Charles M. Lange, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Mason County urge all county residents to educate themselves and prepare for emergencies and do hereby proclaim September 2015 as Preparedness Month in Mason County.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

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

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the County Board of Commissioners approved the sale of the Mason County Services Building to Russell Carlson; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Russell Carlson is requesting a 60 day extension in the time needed to complete his due diligence process.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Mason approves a 60 day extension in the time needed to complete the due diligence process on the sale of Mason County Services Building.

Moved for your approval.

Motion carried. (Signed) C. Lange

Treasurer Shirley Smith presented the July 2015 Treasurer's report and answered questions. She highlighted the Michigan Dark Store/Big Box Issue. First foreclosure sale will be August 22, 2015. Second one will be October 14, 2015.

Clerk Cheryl Kelly presented the July 2015 Clerk's Report and answered questions. She noted that the election held August 4, 2015 for West Shore Community College and Mason County Eastern School proposals went smoothly and both proposals had passed.

Administrator Fabian Knizacky informed the Board that the window project should be finished up by mid-September. Budget requests for 2016 can be directed to the Finance, Personnel, & Rules Committee or him.

Public comment:

- Michigan State University (MSU) Extension District #5 Coordinator Michael Krauch referring to the Treasurer's foreclosed properties report noted that MSU has a program to assist people from losing their home. Representative is Bill Hendrian.
- Aldon Malekas of Custer Township expressed concerns with post construction low frequency sound testing on the wind turbine noise and wants input from Board of Commissioners.

Any Unfinished Business: None.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

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CHERYL KELLY, COUNTY CLERK

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CHARLES LANGE, BOARD CHAIRMAN