

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

November 5, 2015

The County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, November 5, 2015 in the Commission Chambers.

Chairperson Bernie Williamson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner File provided the Invocation. Commissioner Wagel led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Clerk/Register Monica Kennedy called roll:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Robert Wagel, Annie File, Dwight Dyes, Roseann Marchetti, Bernie Williamson, Robert Ziliak and E. Clark Cobb.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Administrator Roger Fraser, Finance Director Angie Steinman and Clerk/Register Monica Kennedy.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Visitors introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Ziliak moved, seconded by Commissioner Marchetti, to approve the November 5, 2015 Cass County Board of Commissioner's Agenda with the addition of M-165-15 under Old Business and motion M-154-15 removed from the consent agenda to appear as a separate vote. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

R-156-15

Commissioner Dyes moved, seconded by Commissioner Ziliak, to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Janet Feick began her career with the Cass County Friend of the Court on August 12, 1991; and

WHEREAS, On July 6, 1993 she was promoted to the newly created position of Enforcement Caseworker and has been the only person to hold the position since its inception; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Feick's expertise, wisdom and endless grace in the performance of her duties have been a valuable asset to the Cass County Friend of the Court, her co-workers and to the citizens of Cass County; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Feick's loyal service and unwavering dedication have been most appreciated and will be greatly missed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Cass County Board of Commissioners recognizes Janet Feick for her 24 years of service to the Cass County Friend of the Court; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board wishes Mrs. Feick success and happiness in this next chapter of her life.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (7): Commissioners Wagel, File, Dyes, Marchetti, Williamson, Ziliak and Cobb.

No (0): None.

Resolution R-156-15 carried by roll call vote.

INTRODUCTION

Friend of the Court Director Carol Bealor introduced April McKee as the new Friend of the Court Enforcement Caseworker.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Ziliak moved, seconded by Commissioner File, that the following items be voted on at one time by roll call vote and be considered as a consent agenda by the Board of Commissioners:

(M-155-15) A motion to approve the Property Description/Address Technician position that will be under the County Treasurer and placed on the non-union pay scale grade 7 effective upon Board approval.

(M-153-15) A motion to approve a budget amendment for Fund 265 Sheriff Drug Forfeiture Fund and to establish Fund 272 K-9 Drug Fund as requested by Sheriff Underwood.

Fund 265 – SHERIFF DRUG FORFEITURE

		Budget Increase
Revenues		
265-301-699.999	Fund Balance Allocation	37,000
Expenses		
265-301-999.272	Transfer to K-9 (272)	37,000

Fund 272 - K-9 Drug Fund

Revenues		
272-301-674.000	Donations	30,000
272-301-699.265	Transfer In - Drug Forfeiture (265)	37,000
		67,000
Expenditures		
272-301-706.000	Overtime	15,000
272-301-715.010	FICA	1,150
272-301-746.010	Uniforms	1,000
272-301-777.000	Motor Fuel/Lubricant	4,500
272-301-811.200	Veterinary Services	2,500
272-301-820.000	Dry Cleaning	400
272-301-850.000	Telephone	600

(M-154-15) A motion to approve the following dates and locations for the 2016 BOC Workshops:

February 26 th	Edward Lowe Facility
July 13 th	Edward Lowe Facility
September 23 rd	To be determined
December 16 th	To be determined

(M-15715) A motion to approve emergency repairs to the generator at the Law and Courts Building with work to be completed by Cummins Crosspoint. The cost for parts and labor will be \$5,822.85 and will be paid out of line item 101-265-930.075.

(M-158-15) A motion to reappoint Kevin Anderson to the Economic Development Corporation Board for a term ending September 30, 2017. This appointment is at the request of the EDC Board.

(M-159-15) The Drain Commissioner requested a motion to adopt a budget for the Drain Fund and Lake Level Fund for 2015/2016, as follows:

Account Name	Account Number	Debit	Credit
Expenditures Drains	801-275-701.000	\$100,000	
Drain Assessments	801-275-400.001		\$58,048
Expenditures Lake Level	841-275-701.000	\$50,000	
Lake Level Assessments	841-275-400.001		--
		\$150,000	\$58,048

(M-160-15) A motion to approve the Third Party Administration contract with Southwest Community Action Agency for the Community Development Block Housing Grant and program income administration.

(M-161-15) A motion to approve the payment of \$69,539.30 to Kalamazoo Building Services for FY2016 janitorial services.

(M-162-15) A motion to approve the Telephone System Project with Quantum Leap Communications for a total project cost of \$127,146.58. This is a budgeted capital expense from the 2016 General Fund Account 245-244-975.011.

(M-163-15) A motion to approve the telephone/data wiring project for the County Building and the Sheriff's Office with Midwest Communications. The cost for new telephone/date cabling at the County Building is a not to exceed amount of \$47,233. The cost for new telephone/data cabling at the Sheriff's Office is a not to exceed amount of \$44,893. Both of these projects are budgeted capital expenses from the 2016 General Fund Account 245-244-975.011.

Approval of the October 15, 2015 Special Meeting Minutes and the August 6, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (7): Commissioners File, Dyes, Marchetti, Williamson, Ziliak, Cobb and Wagel.

No (0): None.

The Consent Agenda carried by roll call vote.

M-154-15

Commissioner Ziliak moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to approve Claims dated 10/23/15. Commissioners debated approving to pay the most recent invoice from Miller Canfield for approximately \$12,000. Commissioner Wagel requested a roll call vote.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (4): Commissioners Williamson, Ziliak, Cobb and File.

No (3): Commissioners Dyes, Marchetti and Wagel.

Motion M-154-15 carried by roll call vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioners Marchetti, Ziliak, Williamson and Wagel furnished committee reports.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Fraser provided a written Administrator's Report to board members. Discussion involved the search for an Equalization Director.

FINANCE REPORT

Angie Steinman, Finance Director, supplied board members with the MERS annual cost increase analysis. Commissioner Ziliak stated he would like to move the county from a defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan. Commissioner Dyes stressed the county cannot continue to pay the minimum payment. The county should set up a plan in order to pay off the unfunded liability and become fully funded. Chair Williamson asked Administrator Fraser to add discussion on the MERS unfunded liability to the December BOC Workshop. Commissioner Wagel asked that Elected Officials and various Department Heads/employees be included in any discussion regarding the MERS plans.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

OLD BUSINESS

M-143-15

Commissioner Marchetti moved, seconded by Commissioner File, to approve the Purchasing Policy. Commissioner Marchetti stated she believed the purchasing policy would cause a direct violation of the Administrator's Contract. She also stated she believed it was inappropriate for the County Finance Director to serve as the County Purchasing Agent.

Commissioner Wagel moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to postpone motion M-143-15 until February 1, 2016. Discussion followed. Motion to postpone M-143-15 carried by voice vote.

M-165-15

Commissioner Ziliak moved, seconded by Commissioner File, to proceed with the Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) hearings before the Michigan Employment Relations Commission (MERC) Administrative Law Judge, on November 16 and 17, 2015.

Commissioner Dyes stated the county has spent more than \$100,000 on the law suit. His constituents (Calvin, Porter and part of Mason Townships) do not want the county to proceed with the suit. Commissioner Wagel stated that, out of fiscal responsibility to the taxpayers of Cass County, he would vote to halt all future legal proceedings. There was an agreement offered in mediation that the county should have accepted. Chair Williamson cautioned Commissioner Wagel against divulging information discussed on closed session.

Commissioner Cobb stated that he wished to proceed as 85-90% of the money had already been spent. Commissioner Ziliak agreed that to move forward with the legal proceedings but could not explain his reasoning as it included information discussed in closed session.

Commissioner Wagel reminded board members that the most recent invoice from Miller Canfield totaled \$11,587.

Commissioner Wagel requested a roll call vote.

Yes (4): Commissioners Williamson, Ziliak, Cobb and File.

No (3): Commissioners Marchetti, Wagel and Dyes.

Motion M-165-15 carried by roll call vote.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Ziliak informed Commissioner Marchetti she should attend the agenda meeting set for 11:30 am on November 16th.

PUBLIC COMMENT

CCIEA President Tina Butler addressed the board regarding MERS. She expressed her frustration over the fact that the county has not made additional contributions to the plan in order to decrease the unfunded liability. She went on to explain that by moving to a defined contribution plan no employees would contribute money to the defined benefit plan, leaving that plan underfunded.

Judge Dobrich asked board members to hold MERS meetings at a time when all employees could attend. It is an important enough issue to move a work session to a Saturday.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner File moved, seconded by Commissioner Cobb, to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date Bernie Williamson, Chairperson Monica Kennedy, Clerk/Register