

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

January 9, 2020

The County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, January 9, 2020 in the Commission Chambers.

Clerk/Register Monica McMichael called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Commissioner Cobb provided the Invocation. Commissioner Grice led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Clerk/Register Monica McMichael called roll.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Dixie Ann File, Michael Grice, E. Clark Cobb, Roseann Marchetti and Skip Dyes.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Terry Ausra and Robert Benjamin

STAFF PRESENT: County Administrator Jeff Carmen and Clerk/Register Monica McMichael.

ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

Clerk/Register Monica McMichael opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner File nominated Commissioner Marchetti.

There were no additional nominations. Clerk/Register McMichael closed the floor. Board members elected Commissioner Marchetti Chair of the Cass County Board of Commissioners by voice vote.

Clerk/Register McMichael turned the meeting over to Chair Marchetti.

Chair Marchetti opened the floor for the nomination of Vice Chair.

Commissioner Grice nominated Commissioner Dyes.

Chair Marchetti closed the floor. The motion to elect Commissioner Dyes Vice Chair for a one year term carried by voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Visitors introduced themselves.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only)

Parks Director Scott Wyman announced Discover Winter Nights to begin Saturday, January 18th at Lawless Park.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Dyes moved, seconded by Commissioner Grice, to approve the January 9, 2020 Cass County Board of Commissioner's Agenda. Chair Marchetti asked board members to amend the agenda to include New Business item M-13-20, a motion to approve the Cass/Van Buren Health Department developing an RFP for a grant from MDHHS - Expanding, Enhanceing, Emotional Health (E3) Program for children and adolescents. Commissioner Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to approve the amended agenda.

RECOGNITIONS

None.

PRESENTATIONS

Conservation District Administrator Korie Blyveis provided the County Conservation District Annual Report.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Chair Dyes 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-1-20) A motion to approve Claims dated December 27, 2019.

(M-2-20) A motion to approve the December 19, 2019 Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (5): Commissioners File, Grice, Cobb, Marchetti and Dyes.

No (0): None.

Absent (2): Commissioners Ausra and Benjamin.

The Consent Agenda carried by roll call vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioners File, Dyes, Marchetti, Grice and Cobb furnished committee reports.

Chair Marchetti stated that all board appointments would remain the same as 2019, with the exception of Commissioner Benjamin being appointed as Board Parliamentarian.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

County Administrator Jeff Carmen offered the Administrator's Report. For content, Administrator Carmen introduced Parks Director Scott Wyman and Parks Board Member Robert Parrish who announced that Dr. T.K. Lawless Park was designated as an International Dark Sky Park. Mr. Parrish provided a presentation that included telescopic photos of stars, moons, planets and more.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Medical Care Facility/Elderly Steering Group: Administrator Carmen stated that the group was ready to meet and requested three commissioners volunteer to join. Commissioners File, Dyes and Marchetti offered to participate in the steering group to represent the Board of Commissioners.

NEW BUSINESS

M-3-20

Commissioner File moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to appoint John Harsh to the Board of Public Works for a term ending December 31, 2023. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-4-20

Chair Marchetti moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to appoint Roseann Marchetti to the Board of Public Works for a term ending December 31, 2023. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-5-20

Commissioner Dyes moved, seconded by Commissioner File, to appoint Kevin Claire to the Parks Board for a term ending December 31, 2023. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-6-20

Commissioner Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to appoint Annie File to the Planning Commission for a term ending December 31, 2023. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-7-20

Commissioner Cobb moved, seconded by Commissioner File, to appoint Linda Preston to the Solid Waste Planning Committee to fulfill the Township Government Representative for a term ending June 1, 2020. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-8-20

Commissioner File moved, seconded by Commissioner Grice, to reappoint Doug Tyler to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for a term ending December 31, 2022. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-9-20

Commissioner Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner File, to reappoint Linda Preston to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for a term ending December 31, 2022. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-10-20

Commissioner Dyes moved, seconded by Commissioner File, to reappoint Don DeLong to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for a term ending December 31, 2022. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-11-20

Chair Marchetti moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to reappoint Leon Laylin to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for a term ending December 31, 2022. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-12-20

Commissioner Cobb moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to appoint Mary Middleton to the Woodlands Behavioral Healthcare Network Board for an unexpired term ending March 31, 2022. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-13-20

Commissioner Dyes moved, seconded by Commissioner Grice, to approve a motion that all board members continue their committee assignments from 2019. Commissioners Dyes and Grice would continue to serve on the Woodlands Board. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-14-20

Chair Marchetti moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to approve the Cass/Van Buren Health Department developing an RFP for a grant from the MDHHS Child and Adolescent Health Center Program E3 Grant - Expanding, Enhancing, Emotional Health. Discussion followed. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Korie Blyveis provided the SWxSW Corner Board Report from Nor Serocki. She went on to update commissioners on upcoming projects from the Conservation District.

Prosecutor Fitz announced that January 9th was National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. He thanked all local police departments for their service and dedication.

Parks Director Scott Wyman thanked Robert Parrish for his hard work to obtain the Dark Sky Designation for Lawless Park.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Marchetti announced that the Village of Edwardsburg received a \$25,000 grant to clean up railroad terrain.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date

Roseann Marchetti, Chair

Monica McMichael, Clerk/Register