

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING**

**March 5, 2020**

The County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, March 5, 2020, in the Commission Chambers.

Chair Marchetti called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Commissioner Cobb provided the Invocation. Linda Preston, leader of the M-40 Hustlers 4-H Club, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Clerk/Register Monica McMichael called roll:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Terry Ausra, Annie File, Skip Dyes, Mike Grice,  
Roseann Marchetti, Robert Benjamin and E. Clark Cobb.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None.

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

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS**

Visitors introduced themselves.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items Only)**

None.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Commissioner Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner Ausra, to approve the March 5, 2020 Cass County Board of Commissioner's Agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

**RECOGNITIONS**

None.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

CPA Alan Panter presented the fiscal year 2019 audit. Questions and discussion followed.

Key Leader Linda Preston introduced M-40 Hustlers 4-H Club members Mason, Addie and Maddie. Each member discussed their favorite project and invited everyone to the 4-H Leaders Auction to be held Saturday, March 21, 2020.

Chief Executive Officer Bali Kumar presented information on the PACE Lean & Green Program.

Commissioner Benjamin left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Vice Chair Dyes moved, seconded by Commissioner Grice, 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-36-20)** A motion to approve Claims dated February 21, 2020.

**(M-37-20)** A motion to approve the February 20, 2020 Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (6): Commissioners File, Grice, Cobb, Marchetti, Dyes and Ausra.

No (0): None.

Absent (1): Commissioner Benjamin.

The Consent Agenda carried by roll call vote.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioners Ausra, File and Marchetti furnished committee reports.

## **APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair Marchetti stated the Appointments Committee had worked hard to fill open appointments. The committee planned to meet once per month in the future.

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

County Administrator Jeff Carmen provided the Administrator's Report. He informed commissioners that work on the Historic Courthouse continued. Administrator Carmen stated that maintenance was successful in revealing the dome. He also asked for pictures of the inside of the Historic Building.

Treasurer Hope Anderson and Road Commission Manager Robert Thompson provided updates on their departments.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **M-38-20**

Commissioner File moved, seconded by Commissioner Ausra, to appoint Jeff Nelson to the Economic Development Corporation Board for an unexpired term ending September 30, 2025. Motion carried by voice vote.

### **M-39-20**

Commissioner Dyes moved, seconded by Commissioner Grice, to appoint David Kring to the Historical Commission for an unexpired term ending July 1, 2021. Motion carried by voice vote.

### **M-40-20**

Commissioner Ausra moved, seconded by Commissioner File, to appoint Skip Dyes to the Woodlands Behavioral Healthcare Network Board for a term ending March 31, 2023. Motion carried by voice vote.

### **M-41-20**

Commissioner Cobb moved, seconded by Commissioner Ausra, to appoint Michael Grice to the Woodlands Behavioral Healthcare Network Board for a term ending March 31, 2023. Motion carried by voice vote.

### **M-42-20**

Commissioner Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner Ausra, to appoint Karen Lehman to the Woodlands Behavioral Healthcare Network Board for a term ending March 31, 2023. Motion carried by voice vote.

**M-43-20**

Commissioner File moved, seconded by Commissioner Ausra, to appoint Judy Brown to the Woodlands Behavioral Healthcare Network Board for a term ending March 31, 2023. Motion carried by voice vote.

**R-44-20**

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

WHEREAS, Members of the Cass County Board of Commissioners have taken an oath to uphold the Constitutions of the United States and State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution reads: “A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed,” and

WHEREAS, Article 1 Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution reads, “Every person has the right to keep and bear arms for the defense of himself and the state.” and

WHEREAS, The Cass County Board of Commissioners fully affirms its support of the rights insured and protected by the Constitutions of the United States and State of Michigan including the right of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Board urges all our elected State and Federal Officials to diligently protect and preserve these rights and further that we communicate this intention to them; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is shared with Michigan Counties.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (6): Commissioners Grice, Cobb, Dyes, Marchetti, Ausra, Benjamin and File.

No (0): None.

Absent (1): Commissioner Benjamin.

Resolution R-44-20 carried by roll call vote.

**M-45-20**

Commissioner Ausra moved, seconded by Commissioner File, to approve the Amended Cass County Investment Policy. Motion carried by voice vote.

**M-46-20**

Commissioner Cobb moved, seconded by Commissioner Grice, to approve the Amended Cass County Deposit Policy. Motion carried by voice vote.

**DISCUSSION**

Chair Marchetti opened discussion regarding the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) Conference: The conference would take place April 15-17 in Lansing. Chair Marchetti instructed commissioners interested in attending to notify Administrative Specialist Jackie Taylor.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Korie Blyveis, Director of the Cass County Conservation District, announced current board members of the Conservation District. She also announced the district hired Patrick Boyle as the new Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Inspector. She then discussed events, including the Annual Tree Sale to take place April 16-18, 2020.

**CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioners Cobb and Marchetti offered comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roseann Marchetti, Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Monica McMichael, Clerk/Register