

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

August 15, 2019

The County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, August 15, 2019 in the Commission Chambers.

Chair Benjamin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Marchetti provided the Invocation. Commissioner Ausra 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, Robert Benjamin, Terry Ausra and Dwight Dyes.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None.

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

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Visitors introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Cobb moved, seconded by Commissioner Marchetti, to approve the August 15, 2019 Cass County Board of Commissioner's Agenda with the addition of New Business items M-153-19, a motion regarding the Historic Courthouse, and M-154-19, a motion to approve the 2019-2020 State of Michigan Child Care Fund. Motion carried by voice vote.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (7): Commissioners File, Grice, Cobb, Marchetti, Benjamin, Ausra and Dyes.

No (0): None.

Approval of the Agenda carried by roll call vote.

RECOGNITIONS

Citizenship Washington Focus Delegates Aidan and Addison Ward thanked the board for the opportunity to visit Washington D.C. and discussed what they learned.

PRESENTATIONS

Conservation District Director Korie Blyveis offered an update on the Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Program.

Historic Courthouse Committee Members Commissioner Dwight Dyes and County Administrator Jeff Carmen provided a Report and Recommendation for the County to reuse the Historic Courthouse as a County Administration Center. Chair Benjamin stated the report was received and accepted and that the committee was discharged.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Chair Marchetti moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, 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-147-19) A motion to approve Claims dated August 9, 2019

(M-148-19) A motion to approve the August 1, 2019 Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (7): Commissioners Grice, Cobb, Marchetti, Benjamin, Ausra, Dyes and File.

No (0): None.

The Consent Agenda carried by roll call vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

County Administrator Jeff Carmen provided the Administrator's Report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Financial Report was included in the board packet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

M-149-19

Commissioner Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner Marchetti, to approve the renewal contract with Quantum Leap Communications for the annual support and maintenance of the ShoreTel Telephone System at a cost of \$11,655.00 (budgeted expense) to be paid out of line item 101-233-935.040.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (7): Commissioners Cobb, Marchetti, Benjamin, Ausra, Dyes, File and Grice.

No (0): None.

Motion M-149-19 carried by roll call vote.

M-150-19

Chair Benjamin excused himself from the motion as his employer was a competitor of VMWare.

Commissioner File moved, seconded by Commissioner Ausra, to approve a one-year renewal for maintenance and support for VMWare at a cost of \$12,416.24 (budgeted expense) to be paid out of line item 101-258-987.140.

Vice Chair Marchetti instructed the Clerk to call roll:

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

No (0): None.

Abstain (1): Chair Benjamin.

Motion M-150-19 carried by roll call vote.

M-151-19

Commissioner Marchetti moved, seconded by Commissioner Grice, to approve a one-year renewal of the desktop licenses and technical support for MapInfo Professional GIS Software at a cost of \$5,940.00 (budgeted expense) to be paid out of line item 101-258-987-050. Motion carried by voice vote.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (7): Commissioners Benjamin, Ausra, Dyes, File, Grice, Cobb and Marchetti.

No (0): None.

Motion M-151-19 carried by roll call vote.

M-152-19

Commissioner Dyes moved, seconded by Commissioner Marchetti, to appoint Commissioner Ausra to the Woodlands Board. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-155-19

Commissioner Dyes moved, seconded by Commissioner Grice, to appoint Louis Csokasy to the Woodlands Board. Discussion followed.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (5): Commissioners Dyes, Grice, Marchetti, Benjamin and Ausra.

No (2): Commissioners File and Cobb.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

M-156-19

Commissioner Cobb moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to begin the September 5, 2019 COW to begin at 5:00 p.m. and to interview all remaining applicants (five applicants for two positions) for the Woodlands Board. Discussion followed. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-154-19

Commissioner Marchetti moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to approve the 2019-2020 State of Michigan Child Care Fund for the period of 10/1/19 - 9/30/20 for the Cass County Family/Juvenile Court. Cass County Child Care Fund is managed by Judge Susan L. Dobrich, and a sub-account managed by Charles Rose, head of Cass/St. Joseph Department of Health and Human Services. Discussion followed. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-153-19

Chair Benjamin announced that the Board would allow a full discussion regarding the presentation on the Historic Courthouse. Chair Benjamin then verified with Administrator Carmen and asked minutes reflect that the motion did not preclude public use of the building. Chair Benjamin went on to ask Administrator Carmen to address the fact that the bell tower was not working. Administrator Carmen explained that an appropriation of \$12,000 would fix the clock in the bell tower. Commissioners asked that the money be appropriated in the FY2020 Budget to fix the clock in the bell tower.

Administrator Carmen announced that Ruth Andrews would begin repainting the mural on the Maintenance Garage. The project was funded with donations from County Commissioners and Department Heads.

Commissioner Marchetti moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to authorize the County Administrator to work with a real estate/finance attorney and other professionals to develop a proposal to move forward with the reuse of the historic courthouse as a County Administration Center. Discussion followed. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Zane Langford asked for clarification on Chair Benjamin's instructions to the secretary (Clerk) to note the building use was not restricted; however, the motion still read the building was to be reused as a County Administration Center.

Cathy LaPointe thanked the County for keeping the building and commented on the beautiful presentation. She also requested the leftover space be offered for public use.

Korie Blyveis stated that there was algae bloom on Driskell Lake. She warned the public not to enter bodies of water if the water was not clear.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Dyes announced he would not be at the September 5, 2019 Meeting as he was set to drive a tractor over the Mackinaw Bridge.

Commissioner Marchetti reported the US 12 Garage Sale was well attended.

Chair Benjamin answered Ms. Langford's public comment. He informed her that the motion language in M-153-19 used "County Administration Center" as a title for the building and did not necessarily restrict the use for the building.

Commissioner Cobb commented on the Kalamazoo County Health Department he toured when attending a SMART Meeting. It was a beautifully restored building.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date

Robert Benjamin, Chair

Monica McMichael, Clerk/Register