

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

July 5, 2018

The County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, July 5, 2018 in the Commission Chambers.

Chair Terry Ausra called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Marchetti provided the Invocation. Commissioner Ziliak led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Clerk/Register Monica Kennedy called roll:

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

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Administrator Karen L. Folks and Clerk/Register Monica Kennedy.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Visitors introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner Marchetti, to approve the July 5, 2018 Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Agenda. Discussion followed. Commissioner Ziliak moved, seconded by Commissioner Cobb, to amend the agenda to add approval of the June 19, 2018 COW Minutes to the Consent Agenda. Motion to approve the amended agenda carried by voice vote.

INTRODUCTIONS

David Pagel, 78th District State Representative and State Senate Candidate, introduced himself and answered questions from the board.

RECOGNITIONS

None.

PRESENTATION

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Cobb moved, seconded by Commissioner Marchetti, 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-83-18) A motion to approve Claims dated June 29, 2018.

(M-84-18) A motion to approve the repairs to the fire suppression piping at the Law and Courts Building. The project will be completed by B.L. Harroun & Son, Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$6,450. Fund Balance allocation will increase the budget in 101-265-930.080 General Repairs L&C for this project.

(M-85-18) A motion to increase the budget for the Treatment Court Drug Testing Fees as to reflect drug test reimbursements and pursuant to the requirements of the Byrne Jag Grant. The amendment will increase the current revenue and expense budgets \$20,000 for the remainder of the fiscal year.

DESCRIPTION BUDGET	GENERAL LEDGER	PROPOSED AMEDNED
<u>Revenue</u>		
Treatment Court Supply Drug Testing	101-000-604.002	\$20,000
<u>Expense</u>		
Treatment Court Supply Drug Testing	101-136-729.402	\$20,000

A motion to approve the June 19, 2018 Committee of the Whole Minutes, the June 19, 2018 Work Study Minutes and the June 21, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes.

(M-86-18) A motion to appoint Jackie Taylor to the Cass County Historical Commission for a three year term ending July 1, 2021 and to reappoint Ron McAdam and Barbara Burton to the Cass County Historical Commission for three year terms ending July 1, 2021. The appointment and reappointments were at the recommendation of the CCHC.

(M-87-18) A motion to approve the Region IV Area Agency on Aging Plan.

(M-88-18) A motion to approve the appointment of Commissioner Robert Ziliak and Commissioner Michael Grice to the Exploratory Committee for the possible Howard/Milton Township Merger.

(R-89-18) THE HONORABLE CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS respectfully approves the following resolution in opposition of HB 6049 and SB 1025:

WHEREAS, House Bill (HB) 6049 and Senate Bill (SB) 1025 seeks to completely restructure the tax assessing qualifications, process and boundaries of local assessing units in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, HB 6048/SB 1025 will impose a huge financial burden on Cass County as well as Michigan's other counties and local units because it mandates will require increased staffing levels and office space while providing a woefully inadequate 1% administrative fee and undefined "start-up funding" to compensate the counties and other local units for the drastic expenses that will surely accompany the new mandates; and

WHEREAS, HB 6049/SB 1025 will put Cass County at odds with its local townships by requiring us to take the 1% administrative fee from the local units to pay for our increased costs; and

WHEREAS, HB 6049/SB 1025 changes the manner in which local boards of review (BOR) are conducted. By putting specialized BORs at the county level, HB 6049/SB 1205 has the potential to strip elected township supervisors and local assessing units of control over the tax assessing process, depriving them of the ability to account for unique conditions and values unknown to county-wide, regional and/or statewide assessing units but well known in the local units; and

WHEREAS, HB 6049/SB 1025 appears to have been designed without any input from existing assessors or their associations and the previous drafts were not made public to the counties and townships directly affected by its sweeping changes until nearly ready for introduction into the Michigan Legislature; and

WHEREAS, there are no guarantees that quality education will be available locally or even regionally to allow for the increased certification levels imposed by HB 6049/SB 1025; and

WHEREAS, HB 6049/SB 1025's proposed levels of certification for assessors will not achieve the results that are being sought. The real problem is bad assessors, not their levels of certification. The solution lies in better policing of assessors by the State Tax Commission, not simply imposing increased educational requirements that may be impossible to achieve and that do nothing to weed out the bad assessors; and

WHEREAS, Cass County views HB 6049/SB 1025 in its current form as an unfunded mandate which does little or nothing to accomplish its stated goals.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Cass County Board of Commissioners hereby opposes HB 6049/SB 1025 and asks that it be referred back to the House Tax Policy Committee and the Senate Finance Committee until the funding issues and other problems identified above can be properly addressed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will be forwarded to Michigan House Representatives David Pagel and Aaron Miller, Senator John Proos and Governor Rick Snyder.

Commissioner Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner Marchetti, to amend M-88-18 to read, "a motion to approve the appointment of District 5 Commissioner Robert Ziliak and District 6 Commissioner Michael Grice to the Exploratory Committee for the possible Howard/Milton Township merger." Motion to amend M-88-18 carried by voice vote.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

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

No (0): None.

The Consent Agenda carried by roll call vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Marchetti furnished a committee report.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Karen L. Folks provided the Administrator's Report. Questions followed.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

M-90-18

Commissioner Dyes moved, seconded by Commissioner File, to approve the following tentative union contracts:

A contract between the FOP, the Cass County Sheriff's Office and the Board of Commissioners for Corrections Officers, Matrons and Secretaries.

A contract between the FOP, the Cass County Sheriff's Office and the Board of Commissioners for Deputies and Dispatchers.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

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

No (0): None.

Motion M-90-18 carried by roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerry Marchetti questioned the status of HB 6049/SB 1025.

Sheriff Behnke invited board members to the 20th Annual CCSO Scholarship Golf Outing on July 27th at Hampshire Country Club.

Candidate for the 21st District State Senate Kim LaSata introduced herself and stated she would stay after the meeting for additional questions.

Louis Csokasy asked if the Medical Care Facility announced a new administrator. Discussion continued regarding an interim manager and the possibility of Christian Lutes completing school in order to qualify for the Administrator position. Discussion followed.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Marchetti provided comments.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date

Terry Ausra, Chair

Monica Kennedy, Clerk/Register