

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

December 1, 2016

The County Board of Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Thursday, December 1, 2016 in the Commission Chambers.

Chair Williamson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner File 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: Robert Wagel, Annie File, Dwight Dyes, Robert Ziliak, Bernie Williamson, Roseann Marchetti and E. Clark Cobb.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: County Administrator Karen L. Folks, Finance Director Angie Steinman and Clerk/Register Monica Kennedy.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Visitors introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Wagel moved, seconded by Commissioner Marchetti, to approve the December 1, 2016 Cass County Board of Commissioners Agenda with the amendment of moving the presentation by Tamar Lewis to later in the agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

RECOGNITIONS

R-158-16

Commissioner Marchetti presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Judge Michael Dodge began his judicial career when he was elected to the Cass County Probate Court in 1977 and later appointed in 1982 by Governor William Milliken as Circuit Court Judge in Cass County and has continuously served in that capacity since then; and

WHEREAS, Judge Dodge has richly earned the reputation among Cass County residents and stakeholders as a judicial voice of integrity, wisdom and compassion and has served Cass County and its residents with fairness, compassion and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Judge Dodge often served as a Judge on the Michigan Court of Appeals, worked with the Michigan Judicial Institute in training new judges and, together with his wife Beth, has served the community of Cass in numerous volunteering capacities, including with the Council on Aging, and assisting and supporting the foster care system by serving on the Family Dependency Drug Court Team, and being a member of the Lakeland Healthcare Board; and

WHEREAS, Judge Dodge has become very active in the drug court movement, attending trainings and serving as the presiding judge for the Swift and Sure Sanctions program; and

WHEREAS, Judge Dodge's remarkable dedication and outstanding service to Cass County for the last thirty-four years has established the highest standard of justice, delivered with wisdom and compassion and serves as a legacy that will not only continue to be celebrated in this community, but will enhance the richly deserved exceptional reputation of Cass County's legal system.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Cass County Board of Commissioners recognizes Judge Dodge, his years of service as a Circuit Court Judge in Cass County, his numerous and valuable contributions to a grateful community and the establishment of a legacy of judicial excellence that will long be remembered and emulated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners expresses its sincerest thanks to Judge Dodge for his years of extraordinary service to Cass County and its residents.

R-159-16

Commissioner Wagel presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Joseph M. Underwood, Jr. is a lifelong resident of Cass County; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Underwood served in the military from 1966-1968. He is a recipient of the National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal and in 1967 was awarded the Vietnam Campaign Medal and Purple Heart; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Underwood is a graduate of Cassopolis High School, Lake Michigan College with an Associate in Applied Science, Western Michigan University with a Bachelor of Science; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Underwood graduated from the 149th Session of the Federal Bureau of Investigation training as a National Academy Graduate in June 1987; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Underwood is married to his wife Cindy, has two daughters: Shannon and Sharon, two sons: Carlos and Adam and two grandchildren: Caiden and Olivia; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Underwood has a love and passion for public service, with forty years of law enforcement experience; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Underwood started his law enforcement career in 1972 as a Dowagiac Police Officer, and continued with this endeavor for two years; and

WHEREAS, In 1974, Sheriff Underwood was hired at the Cass County Sheriff's Department, where he served as Deputy Sheriff, Detective, Detective Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, Undersheriff; and

WHEREAS, In 1993, Sheriff Underwood was elected as Sheriff of Cass County, and remains in that capacity to date; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Underwood was chosen as Michigan Credit Union Foundation Volunteer of the year in 2000; and

WHEREAS, In 2001, Sheriff Underwood was honored with Rotary's Paul Harris Fellow Award; and

WHEREAS, In 2003, Sheriff Underwood was appointed by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm to serve as a member on the Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice Bureau, and re-appointed in 2008 and 2010; and

WHEREAS, In 2010, Sheriff Underwood was awarded the Crime Fighter of the Year award by Fight Crime Invest in Kids; and

WHEREAS, In 2016, Sheriff Underwood was chosen to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Dowagiac Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Underwood has been involved in these law enforcement committees: Community Corrections Advisory Board, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Michigan, Human Services Coordinating Council, Michigan Sheriff's Association, National Sheriff's Association and Law Enforcement Advisory Council; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Underwood is involved with the following community Organizations: Life Member Veteran of Foreign Wars – Cassopolis Chapter Post 10704, Life Member American Legion – Cassopolis Chapter, Vice-President Dowagiac Area Federal Credit Union Board, Volunteer Meals on Wheels driver for Council on Aging; Board Treasurer for Cassopolis Schools Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Underwood is an avid Notre Dame fan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cass County Board of Commissioners hereby acknowledges Sheriff Underwood's dedication to the citizens of Cass County through his services with the Cass County Sheriff's Office, and congratulates him on his forty years of law enforcement service, and wishes him continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is with a strong sense of admiration for all of the sacrifices he has made on behalf of the people of Cass County that we salute Joseph M. Underwood, Jr. on his retirement as the Cass County Sheriff on December 31, 2016.

R-160-16

Chair Williamson presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Michael Grice has resided in Cass County all his life; and

WHEREAS, Michael Grice is a graduate of Dowagiac High School Class of 1972; and

WHEREAS, Michael Grice is married to his wife Julie, has two children, Tina and Duane, and seven grandchildren: Drew, Caitlin, Brylee, Brianna, Duane Jr., Morgan and Jordan; and

WHEREAS, Michael Grice has a love and passion for public service; and

WHEREAS, Michael Grice started his law enforcement career in 1975 as a Reserve Deputy at the Cass County Sheriff's Department, and continued with this endeavor for three years; and

WHEREAS, In 1975, Michael Grice was hired at the Cass County Animal Control Office as a Kennel Worker/Animal Control Officer; and

WHEREAS, In 1976, became a Patrol Officer for the Silver Creek Police Department, in 1982 was promoted to Sergeant and in 1991 became the Police Chief/Coordinator for the Township, and remains in that capacity to date; and

WHEREAS, Michael Grice has worked at Animal Control for forty-one years, with the last sixteen years serving as the Director; and

WHEREAS, Michael Grice is a member of the Michigan Association of Animal Control Officers and has served on the State Board as a District Representative from 2000-2005 and as Secretary/Treasurer from 2005-2012; and

WHEREAS, Michael Grice's leadership skills are also evidenced by his selfless service at his church in the capacity as Secretary, Vice-President and is currently President on the Board Trustees; and

WHEREAS, Michael Grice was voted by the citizens in District 6 to be the next County Commissioner starting January 1, 2017.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is with a strong sense of admiration for all of the sacrifices he has made on behalf of the people of Cass County that we salute Michael Grice on his retirement from the Animal Control Office on December 31, 2016.

M-161-16

Commissioner Marchetti moved, seconded by Commissioner Ziliak, to approve resolutions R-155-16, R-158-16, R-159-16 and R-160-16 by a unanimous acclamation. The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

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

No (0): None.

Motion M-161-16 carried by roll call vote.

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:

FINANCIAL

(M-156-16) A motion to approve Claims dated November 18, 2016

(M-157-16) A motion to approve the contract with Advanced Correctional Healthcare for Inmate Medical Care with a base quote of \$207,444.78, including prescriptions, with an additional \$39,680.61 for a total contract cost of \$247,125.39. In addition, increase the Jail Contractual account line item 101.351.835.010 in the amount of \$46,614.30.

BUSINESS

Approval of the November 17, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes and the November 17, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

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

No (0): None.

The Consent Agenda carried by roll call vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioners Marchetti, Cobb and Williamson furnished committee reports.

PRESENTATION

Tamar Lewis, GFOA Board of Directors, presented a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to Cass County for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2015.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Folks offered the Administrator's Report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director Angie Steinman provided the Financial Report.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Animal Control Director Mike Grice announced the Animal Control Open House Saturday, December 3rd from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Commissioner Cobb thanked Finance Director Angie Steinman for her hard work at the county.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no board member comments or announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date

Bernie Williamson, Chairperson

Monica Kennedy, Clerk/Register