

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

October 18, 2018

The County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, October 18, 2018 in the Commission Chambers.

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

Clerk/Register Monica McMichael called roll:

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

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Dixie Ann File.

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

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Visitors introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to approve the October 4, 2018 Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Amended Agenda. Commissioner Cobb moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to amend the agenda by removing R-148-18. Motion to approve the amended agenda carried by voice vote.

RECOGNITIONS

Chair Terry Ausra introduced Hope Anderson as the appointed Cass County Treasurer.

PRESENTATIONS

Executive Director Peter Ter Louw offered the Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy – Jones Area Conservation Plan.

Tami Stewart, Equalization Director, provided the 2018 Apportionment Report.

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-155-18) A motion to approve Claims dated October 5, 2018.

(M-149-18) A motion to approve the payment of \$8,541.88 (less 5% discount) to Michiana Recycling & Disposal Services for FY2019 trash disposal services.

(M-150-18) A motion to approve a budget amendment in Fund 267, the Non-Drug Forfeiture Fund to increase the following budgets:

267-301-699-999	Fund Balance Allocation	\$5,675
267-301-675.005	MMRMA Rap Grant Funding	\$4,000
267-301-701.000	Expenditures	\$9,675

The original motion, M-121-18 adopted 9/6/18, was a motion to approve a budget amendment in Fund 267, the Non-Drug Forfeiture Fund. The motion was approved for the fiscal year ending 9/30/18; however, the purchase will take place during fiscal year ending 9/30/19. This charge requires a new motion for the purchase of the tasers.

Approval of the October 2, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes, the October 2, 2018 Work Study Minutes and the October 4, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes.

(M-133-18) A motion to appoint Frederick Kucklick to the Cass County Parks Board for an unexpired term ending January 1, 2020. The appointment is at the recommendation of the Cass County Parks Board.

(M-151-18) A motion to amend the Cass County Board of Commissioners Committee Assignments List.

(R-153-18)

WHEREAS, Todd M. Johnson would like to purchase one (1) year of generic service credit in the MERS retirement program at his cost, and

WHEREAS, the Agreement by and between COAM, the Sheriff and Cass County Board of Commissioners provides that employees shall be permitted to purchase up to five (5) years of generic service as defined by MERS; if they pay one hundred (100%) percent of the employer and employee cost;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Cass County Board of Commissioners grant the one (1) year of generic service credit to Todd M. Johnson provided that he pay the total actuarial cost of 16,519.00.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

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

No (0): None.

Absent (1): Commissioner File.

The Consent Agenda carried by roll call vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioners Dyes, Marchetti, Ziliak, Cobb and Ausra furnished committee reports.

OLD BUSINESS

M-95-18

Commissioner Dyes moved, seconded by Commissioner Ziliak, to approve HRM Innovations, LLC to conduct a classification/compensation study for all county employees at a cost not to exceed \$62,700.00. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-132-18

Commissioner Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to award the sale of real property located at North Broadway Street, Cassopolis, MI and identified as Parcel Number 14-041-117-004-00. Parcel Description: V231 Lot 4 & 26 FT OFF S SIDE LOT 5 B1N-1W Village of Cassopolis, such sale of real property by the County of Cass, Michigan to the Village of Cassopolis, Michigan in the amount of Four Hundred Fifty Dollars and no cents (\$450.00) with the proposed use to remain as a public parking lot for a minimum of ten (10) years with the transfer of ownership by a quit claim deed. Motion carried by voice vote.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (5): Commissioners Grice, Cobb, Ausra, Dyes and Ziliak.

No (1): Commissioner Marchetti

Absent (1): Commissioner File

Motion M-132-18 carried by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

R-154-18

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

WHEREAS, Michigan Compiled Law 211.36 requires each Township Clerk to submit to the County Clerk on, or before, September 30 each year a statement which sets forth the amount of money to be raised in the Township by taxation; and

WHEREAS, Michigan Compiled Law 211.37 requires the County Board of Commissioners to hold an apportionment session and approve an Apportionment Report in October of each year; and

WHEREAS, at the annual apportionment session, the County Board of Commissioners must examine documents and records submitted to the Board that show the amount of money to be raised by ad valorem levies in each Township for school, highway, Township, and all other purposes as authorized by law and authorize and require the correction of any defects or omissions with regard to those levies; and

WHEREAS, the action of the County Board of Commissioners concerning the spread of these levies is final, except in situations where a change is made to the equalization of the County through an equalization appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal; and

WHEREAS, the Apportionment Report approved by the County Board of Commissioners for 2018 will be the official authorization for its 59 taxing authorities within the County to levy property taxes in 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Cass County Equalization Department has prepared an Apportionment Report for consideration by the County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Apportionment Report, if approved, will provide final authorization for the levy of property taxes upon which taxing authorities depend to provide educational, health, economic development, public safety, and other services which are important to the well-being of the county's economy and Cass County residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the attached 2018 Apportionment Report showing the millage levies apportioned to various taxing authorities in Cass County for the year 2018 is hereby approved in accordance with Michigan Compiled Law 211.37; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cass County Board of Commissioners, under the authority of Michigan Compiled Law 211.37, directs that the millage rates specified in the attached 2018 Apportionment Report for Township, school, highway, and all other purposes as authorized by law shall be spread against the taxable value of properties on the proper

Assessment rolls of the Townships, Wards, and Cities in the County.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

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

No (0): None.

Absent (1): Commissioner File

Resolution R-154-18 carried by roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ruth Andrews, Jim Munich, Stacy Langford, Jill Munich spoke regarding the Marijuana resolution (R-148-18).

Scott Wyman, Cass County Parks Director, invited everyone to the Harvest Festival to be held at Lawless Park Saturday, October 20, 2018 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Sheriff Behnke announced that National Drug Take Back Day was Saturday, October 27, 2018 at various locations across the county.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner Dyes, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date

Terry Ausra, Chair

Monica McMichael, Clerk/Register