

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

February 4, 2021

The Cass County Board of Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Thursday, February 4, 2021 via Zoom.

Chair Dyes called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Commissioner Marchetti provided the Invocation.

Clerk/Register Monica McMichael called roll:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Ryan Laylin, Annie File, Skip Dyes, Mike Grice, Roseann Marchetti, Robert Benjamin and Jeremiah Jones.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: County Administrator Jeff Carmen, Finance Director Becky Moore and Clerk/Register Monica McMichael.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items Only)

None.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Laylin moved, seconded by Commissioner Jones, to approve the February 4, 2021 Cass County Board of Commissioner's Agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

RECOGNITIONS

R-16-21

Commissioner Jones moved, seconded by Commissioner Marchetti, to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, February is National Black History month,and;

WHEREAS, Cass County is home to more than 52,000 residents and more than 4,000 are African Americans,and;

WHEREAS, Cass County was a station on the Underground Railroad, and;

WHEREAS, Cass County’s Civil War era Quaker Community welcomed escaped and freed slaves with grants of land many of which are still owned by descendants of the original owners, and;

WHEREAS, Annually the Underground Railroad as well as the repelling of the Kentucky Raiders is an important celebration in our county, and;

WHEREAS, Our Black and African-American brothers and sisters are part of our modern story as leaders and important members of our county community.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Cass County Board of Commissioners upholds and endorses February as Black History Month, and encourages all members of the Community to participate in events surrounding Black History Month and to celebrate all of our heritage in Cass County.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (7): Commissioners Laylin, File, Dyes, Marchetti, Benjamin, Grice and Jones.

No (0): None.

Resolution R-16-21 carried by roll call vote.

PRESENTATIONS

Treasurer Hope Anderson provided an update on the General Property Tax Act.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Chair Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner Benjamin, 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-17-21) A motion to approve Claims dated January 22, 2021.

(M-18-21) A motion to approve the January 21, 2021 Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (7): Commissioners File, Dyes, Marchetti, Benjamin, Grice, Jones and Laylin.

No (0): None.

The Consent Agenda carried by roll call vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioners Marchetti, Benjamin, Jones and Dyes offered Committee Reports.

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Marchetti stated that the committee would meet Monday at 10:30 a.m.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Carmen presented the Administrator's Report.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Sheriff Behnke provided a Public Safety Update.

COUNTY PARTNERS

None.

ELECTED OFFICIALS UPDATE

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

M-19-21

Commissioner Laylin moved, seconded by Commissioner Benjamin, to appoint Jeremiah Jones to the Area Agency on Aging to a two-year term ending on December 31, 2022. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-20-21

Commissioner Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner Benjamin, to appoint Jeremiah Jones to the SWMBH/Substance Abuse Disorder Oversight Policy Board to a three-year term ending December 31, 2023. Motion carried by voice vote.

M-21-21

Commissioner Benjamin moved, seconded by Commissioner Grice, to appoint Joseph Ryan to the Woodlands Board for an unexpired term ending December 31, 2023. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Animal Control Director Ron Butts stated they would hold a Rabies Vaccination Clinic from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on February 20, 2021. Those interested should contact Animal Control for an appointment.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Dyes urged the Ad Hoc Committees to meet before the next quarterly meeting to discuss priorities.

Commissioner Marchetti informed board members that she testified via Zoom at the House Oversight Committee Meeting that day regarding the lack of vaccine available to Cass County. She stated that MDHHS planned to work with FEMA to set up mobile vaccination units in rural areas. The goal was to have all Michigan residents vaccinated before the end of the calendar year. Commissioner Benjamin informed the board that he knew Cass County residents that were vaccinated in Indiana because they worked in the healthcare field.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date

Dwight Dyes, Chair

Monica McMichael, Clerk/Register