

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

March 4, 2021

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

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

Clerk/Register Monica McMichael called roll:

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

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Robert Benjamin.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items Only)

None.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

RECOGNITIONS

None.

PRESENTATIONS

Veterans' Services Director Tom Green provided the Annual Report.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Chair Grice 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-36-21) A motion to approve Claims dated February 19, 2021.

(M-37-21) A motion to approve the February 18, 2021 Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (6): Commissioners Laylin, File, Dyes, Marchetti, Grice and Jones.

No (0): None.

Absent (1): Commissioner Benjamin.

The Consent Agenda carried by roll call vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioners Laylin, File, Marchetti and Jones offered Committee Reports.

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Marchetti stated that the Appointments Committee would meet at 9:00 a.m. on March 17, 2021.

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-38-21

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the amendment to the Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health Intergovernmental Contract. Commissioner Marchetti asked that the motion be postponed. Motion M-38-21 died due to lack of support.

R-39-21

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

In Person Meetings

WHEREAS, There is inconsistent practice amongst Public Boards in Cass County relative to Virtual, In-person and Hybrid public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners should make a determination as to its preference for Virtual or In Person.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that effective March 5, 2021 meetings shall be held in person with virtual participation by the Public and also any Commissioner who is unable or unwilling to attend in person.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (6): Commissioners File, Dyes, Marchetti, Grice, Jones and Laylin.

No (0): None.

Absent (1): Commissioner Benjamin.

Resolution R-39-21 carried by roll call vote.

R-40-21

Commissioner File moved, seconded by Commissioner Laylin, to approve the following resolution:

Inmate Communication Services

WHEREAS, ICS Solutions is the current vendor providing Jail Inmate communications; and

WHEREAS, ICS Solutions has provided these services in a reliable and consistent manner; and

WHEREAS, ICS Solutions has submitted a Proposal to continue to provide these services as well as expand by providing optional video communications for inmates; and

WHEREAS, ICS Solutions will absorb all costs to upgrade and maintain these services and continue to share revenue with the County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Sheriff and County Administrator the Cass County Board of Commissioners approves entering into an Agreement with ICS for Inmate Communication Services.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (6): Commissioners Dyes, Marchetti, Grice, Jones, Laylin and File.

No (0): None.

Absent (1): Commissioner Benjamin.

Resolution R-40-21 carried by roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Animal Control Director Ron Butts thanked Dr. Murphy and her staff for helping with the Rabies Clinics at Animal Control.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Marchetti thanked Administrative Assistant Jackie Taylor for the new commissioner badges. She also informed board members that the Solid Waste Planning Committee would meet on March 15th. Commissioners should contact her if they would like to attend the meeting.

Commissioner Jones asked commissioners to be ready to discuss earlier start times for board meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Laylin moved, seconded by Commissioner Jones, to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date

Dwight Dyes, Chair

Monica McMichael, Clerk/Register