

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
WORKSHOP  
COUNCIL ON AGING  
July 21, 2021**

Chair Dyes called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Jones offered the Invocation. Commissioner Marchetti led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Ryan Laylin, Annie File, Dwight Dyes, Roseann Marchetti, Mike Grice and Jeremiah Jones. Commissioner Benjamin was absent.

STAFF PRESENT: Administrator Jeff Carmen, Deputy County Administrator Matt Newton, Clerk/Register Monica McMichael, Sheriff Richard Behnke, Dispatch Coordinator Jen Robinson, Information Technology Director Jodi Nestich, Equalization Director Tami Stewart, Treasurer Hope Anderson, Administrative Specialist Jackie Taylor, GIS Director Erika Espeland, Road Commission Manager Robert Thompson and City of Dowagiac Manager Kevin Anderson.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Commissioner Laylin moved, seconded by Commissioner Marchetti, to approve the July 21, 2021, Board of Commissioners Workshop Agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

**CASS COUNTY GIS**

GIS Director Erika Espeland shared a presentation on the abilities of a new, more robust GIS Software that would replace the current MapInfo Software. The software could lead to collaborations with several entities including the Road Commission, cities & townships, the Cass Family Clinic, Woodlands, MEC, local school districts and more.

**COUNTY WEBSITE METRICS**

Information Technology Director Jodi Nestich shared information on the Cass County Website since it began in 1999. She went on to offer statistics from the current website from the last year that included:

- Between July 2020 and July 2021, 215,881 people visited the Cass County Website.
- The average visit lasted 2 minutes and 26 seconds.
- Most visits occurred from desktop computers as opposed to phones.

- The three most visited pages were: the County homepage, Property Tax Search and the Sheriff's Office Page.
- The top five most searched for words were: Inmate, Maps, Lawless Park, Election Results and Property Tax Status.

### **CASS FAMILY CLINIC/DOC BUILDING/FORWARD**

CEO Mary Middleton discussed the evolution of the Cass Family Clinic as well as the path forward. Goals for 2021-2023 included increasing medical, behavioral health and facility spaces. The clinic also wished to purchase the county building that housed the Michigan Department of Corrections. The purchase would provide space for additional employees to provide patient education and outreach.

### **VAN BUREN/CASS DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Deputy County Administrator Matt Newton and Medical Director Dr. Larry Wyle introduced newly appointed Van Buren/Cass County Health Department Officer Danielle Persky. Mrs. Persky went on to offer a glimpse at the Health Department moving forward. As the Chief Officer she planned to work in the Dowagiac Office two days a week and planned to keep the lines of communication open with Cass County.

### **DISCUSSION**

Commissioners discussed the sale of the MDOC Building.

Commissioner Laylin provided information on the bids received for timber sale at the Medical Care Facility.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Grice moved, seconded by Commissioner File, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Dwight Dyes, Chair

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Monica McMichael, Clerk/Register