

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

May 1, 2025

The Cass County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, May 1, 2025, in Commission Chambers.

Chair Jones called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Commissioner Lawrence provided the Invocation. Commissioner Barrera led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Clerk/Register Monica McMichael called roll:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Tom Langley, James Lawrence, Alan Northrop, Jeremiah Jones, Michael Grice, Samuel Barrera, Roseann Marchetti and RJ Lee.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items Only)

None.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Commissioner Barrera amended M-65-2025 to: a motion to decline the purchase of any property on the 2025 Tax Reverted Property List.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Lee moved, seconded by Commissioner Northrop, to approve the May 1, 2025, Cass County Board of Commissioner's Agenda as amended. Motion carried by voice vote.

RECOGNITIONS

None.

PRESENTATIONS

Veterans Services Director Karee Krause presented the 2024 Annual Veterans Report. The report showed 3,194 registered veterans who reside in Cass County. Krause also reported that, since taking over the office in 2021, she had obtained over \$5 million in benefits for Cass County Veterans.

Interim MSU Extension District Director Kai Gritter relayed the 2024 Annual Report. She shared the many programs MSUE offers and also introduced the staff from the Cassopolis Office.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice-Chair Lawrence 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-60-2025) A motion to approve claims dated 04/01/25 to 04/25/25

(M-61-2025) A motion to approve regular meeting minutes from April 10, 2025

(M-62-2025) A motion to approve special meeting minutes dated April 17, 2025

(M-63-2025) A motion to renew the Workshop minutes from April 22, 2025

(M-64-2025) A motion to approve the cleaning contract amendment & budget adjustment

(R-9-2025) A resolution to add April McKee as signer to the Cass County Friend of the Court bank account

A RESOLUTION TO ADD SIGNER TO G.W. JONES EXCHANGE BANK FOR CASS COUNTY FRIEND OF THE COURT

WHEREAS, the Cass County Friend of the Court Office has a Cooperative Reimbursement Program (CRP) contract with the State of Michigan, Office of Child Support (OCS) to provide IV-D establishment-related and enforcement services in Cass County, Michigan;

WHEREAS, as part of its enforcement duties, the Friend of the Court must deposit child support payments received from payers into a bank account to be transmitted to the Michigan State Disbursement Unit (MiSDU);

WHEREAS, the Friend of the Court currently uses G.W. Jones Exchange Bank to deposit and transmit child support payments to MiSDU and has a member of the Law & Courts Security staff make the secure deposits as part of its financial controls;

WHEREAS, G.W. Jones Exchange Bank is designated as a depository of the Cass County Friend of the Court;

WHEREAS, the G.W. Jones Exchange Bank account was opened and has been maintained by Cass County Friend of the Court Director Sarah Mathews, Deputy Friend of the Court Ravan Bakeman, and Casework Supervisor Tracie Kuriata who are authorized to take any actions necessary to maintain the account;

WHEREAS, G.W. Jones Exchange Bank requires a certified resolution for any changes to the individuals named on the account;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Cass County Board of Commissioners that Casework Supervisor April McKee be added to the FOC's account at G.W. Jones Exchange Bank and authorized to take any actions necessary to maintain the account in addition to Cass County Friend of the Court Director Sarah Mathews, Deputy Friend of the Court Ravan Bakeman, and Casework Supervisor Tracie Kuriata.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any future FOC Director, Deputy FOC, and/or Casework Supervisor hired after the date of this resolution shall be added to the G.W. Jones Exchange Bank account and the individual they replaced shall be removed upon presentation of a letter of the Friend of the Court Director on official FOC letterhead.

(M-65-2025) A motion to decline the purchase of any property on the 2025 Tax Reverted Property Report

(M-66-2025) A motion to approve the 2025 Remonumentation Grant Contracts

(M-67-2025) A motion to appoint Tabitha Schafer to the Cass District Library Board for a term ending December 31, 2026

(M-68-2025) A motion to appoint Tami Stewart to the Parks and Recreation Commission for a term ending January 1, 2026

(M-69-2025) A motion to appoint Mary Howie to the Economic Development Corporation/Brownfield Development Corporation Authority for a term ending September 30, 2031

(M-70-2025) A motion to approve budget amendments

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (8): Commissioners Langley, Lawrence, Northrop, Jones, Grice, Barrera, Marchetti and Lee.

No (0): None.

The Consent Agenda carried by roll call vote.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners Lawrence and Marchetti offered committee reports.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Interim Administrator Jennifer Rentfrow provided the Administrator's Report.

COUNTY PARTNERS

None.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Drain Commissioner VanBelle and Clerk/Register McMichael offered updates.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment occurred.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioners Barrera, Lee and Jones added comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jones adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date

Chair Jeremiah Jones

Monica McMichael, Clerk/Register