

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

March 7, 2024

The Cass County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, March 7, 2024, in Commission Chambers.

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

Clerk/Register Monica McMichael called roll:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Ryan Laylin, Joyce Locke, Jeremiah Jones, Mary Howie, Roseann Marchetti and RJ Lee.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: James Lawrence and Samuel Barrera.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Locke moved, seconded by Commissioner Lee, to approve the March 7, 2024, Cass County Board of Commissioner's Agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

RECOGNITIONS

R-025-24

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

**A RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND CONGRATULATE BETH DALY ON
ACHIEVING SHRM-CP CERTIFICATION**

WHEREAS, Beth Daly, Cass County's Human Resources and Payroll Director, has recently achieved the **SHRM Certified Professional (SHRM-CP)** certification;

WHEREAS, this certification underscores Beth's commitment to excellence in the field of human resources, showcasing her knowledge of current laws, regulations, and ethical standards;

WHEREAS, Beth's unwavering dedication and expertise have significantly contributed to our organization's success, fostering a positive impact on our workforce and organizational effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, her achievement reinforces the value of continuous learning and professional development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cass County Board of Commissioners extends our heartfelt congratulations to Beth Daly for her outstanding accomplishment in obtaining the SHRM-CP certification.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (6): Commissioners Laylin, Locke, Jones, Howie, Marchetti and Lee.

No (0): None.

Absent (2): Commissioners Lawrence and Barrera.

Resolution R-025-24 carried by roll call vote.

R-026-24

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

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING GFOA CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

WHEREAS, Cass County has been awarded the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for FY 22;

WHEREAS, Finance Director Jennifer Rentfrow and Deputy Finance Director James Tito play an integral role in the preparation of the County's financial reporting;

WHEREAS, this certificate reflects their commitment to maintaining the highest standards of financial reporting and dedication to transparency, accuracy, and excellence;

WHEREAS, their expertise has significantly contributed to our County's financial stability and reputation; and

WHEREAS, this achievement also marks the 25th consecutive year that Cass County has received this award, underscoring our unwavering commitment to fiscal responsibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cass County Board of Commissioners extend their congratulations to Jennifer Rentfrow and James Tito for their outstanding accomplishment in obtaining the GFOA Certification of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (6): Commissioners Locke, Jones, Howie, Marchetti, Lee and Laylin.

No (0): None.

Absent (2): Commissioners Lawrence and Barrera.

Resolution R-026-24 carried by roll call vote.

PRESENTATIONS

Cass County Land Bank Authority Chair Hope Anderson offered updates on the Blight Elimination, MI-Hope and CHILL Programs. Representatives from the Village of Marcellus and the Village of Cassopolis were present to share details of the prospective projects in each village.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Marchetti moved, seconded by Commissioner Lee, 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-027-24) A motion to approve Claims dated January 26, 2024, through March 1, 2024

(M-028-24) A motion to approve the February 1, 2024, Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes

(M-029-24) A motion to approve the February 21, 2024, Board of Commissioners Special Meeting Minutes

(M-030-24) A motion to adopt the Board of Commissioners Bylaws and Rules of Procedures

(R-031-24) A Resolution to Adopt a One-Year Term for Board Chair

(M-032-24) A motion to approve Budget Amendment of \$30,000.00 to fund salaries of Early Voting Election Inspectors

(M-033-24) A motion to approve IT Services Interlocal Agreement with Cass County Medical Care Facility

(M-034-24) A motion to approve IT Services Interlocal Agreement with Cass County Road Commission

(M-035-24) A motion to adopt Mileage Reimbursement Policy

(M-036-24) A motion to approve FY 24 Budget Amendments

(M-037-24) A motion to appoint Patrick Hansma as Cass County Medical Examiner

(M-038-24) A motion to appoint Amanda Fisher-Hubbard, Edmand Donoghue, Jared Brooks, Anna Tart and Christine James as Deputy Medical Examiners

(M-039-24) A motion to adopt the Opioid Settlement Funding Plan and Request for Funding Application

(M-040-24) A motion to create a Class Compensation Committee to evaluate and propose a draft RFP for a new Class Compensation Study and for the committee to include Treasurer Anderson, Judge Bealor, Sheriff Behnke, Prosecutor Fitz, Clerk/Register McMichael, Drain Commissioner VanBelle, Commissioner Howie, Commissioner Lawrence, Commissioner Locke and Administrator Newton.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (6): Commissioners Jones, Howie, Marchetti, Lee, Laylin and Jones.

No (0): None.

Absent (2): Commissioners Lawrence and Barrera.

The Consent Agenda carried by roll call vote.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners Locke, Marchetti and Jones offered committee reports.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Newton shared the Administrator's Report.

COUNTY PARTNERS

None.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Sheriff Behnke, Clerk & Register of Deeds McMichael, Treasurer Anderson and Prosecutor Fitz shared updates.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Howie offered a comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Laylin moved, seconded by Commissioner Marchetti, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date

Chair Jeremiah Jones

Monica McMichael, Clerk & Register of Deeds