

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

August 8, 2024

The Cass County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, August 8, 2024, in Commission Chambers.

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

Circuit Court File Room Supervisor Emily Bogue called roll:

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

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items Only)

None.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Commissioner Laylin asked to remove item 6 and replace it with resolution R-105-24 under New Business.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Laylin moved, seconded by Commissioner Marchetti, to approve the August 8, 2024, Cass County Board of Commissioner's Agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

RECOGNITIONS

R-104-25

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

A RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE CASS COUNTY EQUALIZATION DEPARTMENT AS THE RECIPIENT OF MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF EQUALIZATION DIRECTOR'S DEPARTMENT OF THE YEAR

WHEREAS, Equalization Director Tami Stewart and Equalization Specialist LeeAnn Mroz have devotedly served the Cass County community since March 2009 and February 1997 respectively, holding various positions in the tax and equalization departments;

WHEREAS, the Cass County Equalization Department was recognized as Equalization Department of the Year by the Michigan Association of Equalization Directors on July 30, 2024;

WHEREAS, the association selects one county per year to receive the award, based on nominations and peer review from fellow equalization directors, assessors, and treasurers throughout the state of Michigan;

WHEREAS, the award is bestowed to the county that has instituted a technical, procedural, or administrative program which is, for the affected jurisdiction, an improvement over prior programs, and which is generally recognized as a component of model assessment system and a contributing factor to the equity in property taxation; and

WHEREAS, this award reinforces the values of hard work, collaboration, and dedication to serving our residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cass County Board of Commissioners extends its heartfelt congratulations to the Cass County Equalization Department for receiving the Equalization Department of the Year Award from the Michigan Association of Equalization Directors.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (8): Commissioners Laylin, Lawrence, Locke, Jones, Howie, Barrera, Marchetti and Lee.

No (0): None.

Resolution R-104-24 carried by voice vote.

PRESENTATIONS

Tracy Wesaw and Korie Blyvies shared an update on the Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Program.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice-Chair Barrera moved, seconded by Commissioner Laylin, 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:

1. A motion to approve Claims dated July 6th through August 2nd
2. A motion to approve the July 11, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes
3. A motion to approve the appointment of Todd Haberland to the Cass County Planning Commission for a term expiring July 31, 2027.
4. A motion to approve the quote from Infinium Flooring to complete floor replacement at the 911 Center/EOC at a cost of \$49,102.00.
5. A motion to approve the funding request from Woodlands for two refurbished paper boxes in the amount of \$1,074.84.
7. A motion to approve the purchase of two Animal Control Patrol Vehicles at a cost not to exceed \$115,000 as presented.
8. A motion to approve the Proposal for the BS&A Cloud Migration and commit the \$35,000 required under the agreement to lock-in pricing with the remaining \$184,930 plus travel expenses being paid upon the actual transition to the cloud system anticipated in 2025 or 2026.
9. A motion to approve FY 24 Budget Amendments as presented.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Yes (8): Commissioners Locke, Howie, Barrera, Marchetti, Lee, Lawrence, Laylin and Jones.

No (0): None.

The Consent Agenda carried by roll call vote.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners Howie, Marchetti and Lee shared committee reports.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Newton relayed the Administrator's Report.

COUNTY PARTNERS

None.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Sheriff Behnke, Judge Bealor, Prosecutor Fitz, Drain Commissioner VanBelle, Treasurer Anderson and Clerk/Register McMichael offered updates.

NEW BUSINESS

CCIEA LOU #002

Commissioner Laylin moved, seconded by Commissioner Marchetti, to approve LOU #002 as presented. Discussion followed. Motion carried by voice vote.

R-105-24

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

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, there has been a request to amend the Interlocal Agreement between Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren County to establish a multicounty Materials Management Plan and designate the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission as the Designated Planning Agency for Plan Administration;

WHEREAS, the current Interlocal Agreement outlines the procedures for appointing members to the Materials Management Planning Committee (MMPC), including the involvement of individual counties in the appointment process;

WHEREAS, it has been proposed that the appointment process be revised to ensure that the counties collectively confirm recommendations with three confirmations required for an appointment to be finalized;

WHEREAS, the individual counties shall appoint two members to the committee: one elected County official and one representative of a business that generates a managed material;

WHEREAS, individuals or representatives of agencies recommended for appointment by the SWMPC will require confirmation by the counties, and once three counties have confirmed the recommendations, the members will be appointed to the Planning Committee;

WHEREAS, it has also been proposed to expand the composition of the MMPC to include a representative of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indian tribe, headquartered within the three-county region, to ensure the inclusion and representation of the tribe in the planning process;

WHEREAS, this proposed amendment aims to enhance collaborative decision-making, ensure a

balanced representation on the MMPC, and include the perspectives of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi; and

WHEREAS, the amendment will revise the relevant section(s) of the Interlocal Agreement to reflect these changes in the appointment process and the inclusion of the additional representative.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cass County Board of Commissioners approves the amendment to the Interlocal Agreement between Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren County to

1. modify the appointment process for the Materials Management Planning Committee as described above.
2. Add an additional member to the MMPC: k. A representative of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indian tribe headquartered within the three-county region.

Discussion followed.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call roll:

Commissioners (8): Lee, Marchetti, Layling, Barrera, Jones, Howie, Locke and Lawrence.

Commissioners (0): None.

Resolution R-105-24 carried by roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment occurred.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioners Barrera and Marchetti shared comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Laylin moved, seconded by Commissioner Lee, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date

Chair Jeremiah Jones

Monica McMichael, Clerk/Register