

**Minutes
Isabella County Board of Commissioners
REGULAR BOARD
HYBRID MEETING (IN-PERSON/ELECTRONIC)
Isabella County Commission on Aging Building
2200 S. Lincoln Rd, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
February 18th, 2025
5:00 p.m.**

Call To Order by Chairman Engler in conference room A/B of the Commission on Aging, 2200 South Lincoln Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Hybrid/Meeting (in-person/Electronic).

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America was led by Chairman Engler.

Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Tobin Hope, James Moreno, Frank Engler, Jerry Jaloszynski, Steve Weber, Bob Campbell and Steve Swaney.

Also present: County Administrator/Controller Brian Smith, and County Clerk Minde B. Lux.

Approval of Agenda:

It was moved by Commissioner Jaloszynski and seconded by Commissioner Swaney to move the public comment before the Closed Session. It was moved by Commissioner Swaney and seconded by Commissioner Moreno to accept the agenda with the amendment. Motion carried.

General Public Comments (for agenda items only):

Patti Carrick from Nottawa Township spoke in regards to SAD and the Coldwater Sewer. She has a letter from EAGLE stating that it is not mandatory requirement yet just a request for it to be established. Some residents are not being required to hook up to the sewer system and this is causing problems.

Bree Moeggenberg spoke to the Board of Commissioners against the Body Scanner request through the Sheriff Department and wants the commissioners to focus on finishing the jail project.

Aaron Pestel spoke to the Board of Commissioners regarding the Body Scanner that he feels is not a necessity. He also asked if the commissioners have been through the current building that houses the county departments? Register of Deeds is trying to

function out of half of a garage. If you have not, shame on you. \$200,000 is what it costs us for the buildings we are in right now and yet you want to spend \$200,000 for a body scanner.

Presentations and Special Reports: None

Appointments to Boards and Commissions: None

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Commissioner Jaloszynski and seconded by Commissioner Swaney to approve and place on file the February 4, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes; and the February 11th, 2025 Finance Committee/Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee/Committee of the Whole:

1. It was moved by Commissioner Swaney and seconded by Commissioner Jaloszynski to ratify and place on file the January 31, 2025 Invoice List in the amount of \$221,043.85; the February 7, 2025 Invoice List in the amount of \$2,398,131.12, and the Adjustments List dated January 30, 2025. Motion carried with Yeas: Commissioners Hope, Moreno, Weber, Engler, Swaney, Campbell and Jaloszynski. Nays: None.
2. It was moved by Commissioner Weber and seconded by Commissioner Jaloszynski to approve Prime Contract Change Order No. 33 with Clark Construction, with an amendment of the deletion of the Body Scanner making the net additional amount \$20,074.00, and authorize the Board Chairperson to sign the same. Motion carried with Yeas: Commissioners Hope, Moreno, Weber, Engler, Swaney, Campbell and Jaloszynski. Nays: None.
3. It was moved by Commissioner Hope and seconded by Commissioner Jaloszynski to approve the Nathan Wood Farmland Agreement Application dated December 5, 2024 and instruct the Isabella County Clerk to forward the approved application to the MDA-Farmland and Open Space Program. Motion carried with Yeas: Commissioners Hope, Moreno, Weber, Engler, Swaney, Campbell and Jaloszynski. Nays: None.
4. It was moved by Commissioner Campbell and seconded by Commissioner Jaloszynski to approve the Personal Emergency Response Systems (PERS) Grant Agreement between the Mount Pleasant Area Community Foundation and Isabella County, in the amount of \$4,000.00, for the period of October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025, and authorize the Board Chairperson to sign the

same. Motion carried with Yeas: Commissioners Hope, Moreno, Weber, Engler, Swaney, Campbell and Jaloszynski. Nays: None.

5. It was moved by Commissioner Moreno and seconded by Commissioner Hope to approve the Lease Amendment between Broadway Land Management, LLC and the County of Isabella for additional space, to the current 210 E. Broadway lease, in the amount of \$944.00 per month, and authorize the Board Chairperson to sign the same. Motion carried with Yeas: Commissioners Hope, Moreno, Weber, Engler, Swaney, Campbell and Jaloszynski. Nays: None.
6. It was moved by Commissioner Hope and seconded by Commissioner Swaney to approve the Isabella County Authorized Signature Policy No. 417- Financial Management as presented. Motion carried with Yeas: Commissioners Hope, Moreno, Weber, Engler, Swaney, Campbell and Jaloszynski. Nays: None.
7. It was moved by Commissioner Jaloszynski and seconded by Commissioner Swaney to approve the Isabella County Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Calendar as presented. Motion carried with Yeas: Commissioners Hope, Moreno, Weber, Engler, Swaney, Campbell and Jaloszynski. Nays: None.

Intergovernmental Affairs: None

Administrator/Controller: None

Unfinished Business: None

General Public Comments:

Aaron Pestel stated to the Board of Commissioners that we are currently spending \$275,000 a year to rent the buildings for the county offices. You are looking to spend 11 million for 28,000 square feet of renovation of the current administration building. There is a current building on the market that is a one story, single workable, useable building that is listed at 1.3 million. Why is the remodel so expensive? We need to try and move this to local contractors instead of the larger firms like Clarke Construction. Please do not rush to find the 11 million, please give us time to find something reasonable and please tour the buildings. Talk to the employees and see what can be done to make things more comfortable for them currently.

Bree Moeggenberg thanked the Board of Commissioners for making the right decision and listened regarding the Body Scanner. In the future I hope this discussion comes back up. This is not a punishment; we are asking those county employees is there something that we can do to help them. They are working in no space nor effective areas. I would like to propose that there is OPIOID law suit and it would seem logical that we could use some of that money towards the body scanner.

New Business:

Chairman Engler reviewed the request to consider entering into a Closed Session. It was moved by Commissioner Jaloszynski and supported by Commissioner Swaney to enter into a closed session at 6:20 p.m. under section 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act, to discuss Collective Bargaining Strategy regarding GELC. Motion carried with Yeas: Commissioners Hope, Moreno, Engler, Swaney, Campbell, Weber and Jaloszynski. Nays: None.

It was moved by Commissioner Jaloszynski and supported by Commissioner Moreno to accept the closed session minutes regarding Collective Bargaining Strategy for the GELC. Motion carried with Yeas: Commissioners Hope, Swaney, Moreno, Engler, Campbell, Weber and Jaloszynski. Nays: None.

It was moved by Commissioner Jaloszynski and supported by Commissioner Weber to come out of closed session meeting at 7:19 p.m. Motion carried with Yeas: Commissioners Hope, Moreno, Swaney, Engler, Campbell, Weber and Jaloszynski. Nays: None.

Announcements:

Commissioner Jaloszynski announced that the Opioid money could not be used as an allowable fund for the Body Scanner. He also stated that on Monday, February 24th, 2025 the Opioid Committee will meet for the first time to go over by-laws.

Commissioner Moreno stated that he attended the Clamission Presentation at CMU and there was a great relationship between CMU and the County to better the community.

Commissioner Swaney stated that he attended the Mt. Pleasant Public School Board meeting last night and they are finishing two years of redoing all of their policies line by line. They are currently working on civil rights and Title 9 as it is changing. The board if focused on maintaining their policies that are strictly in line with the law. The are currently protected by the Larson Act.

Commissioner Engler stated that he attended the Deerfield Township meeting last night and they are looking at working with the County on zoning. He also stated that the MRF will be holding their Advisory Committee Meeting on Thursday at Union Township Hall. The tree sales through the Isabella County Conservation Program will be starting up soon at isabellaconservation.com.

Adjournment: It was moved by Commissioner Moreno and seconded by Commissioner Swaney to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. Motion carried.