

**MERCER COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**  
**February 4, 2020**

Board convened at 7:28 p.m.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance roll call showed the following members present: Board Members Flowers, Frieden, Gregg, Hare, Hawn, Moreland, and Sarabasa were present. Board Members DeFrieze, Koepke, and Nelson were absent. There was a quorum present. Also present were Carla Ewing, Montie Schell, Kyle McEwen, Dusty Terrill, Tim Lobdell, Kristin Relander, Teresa Smith, George Howard, Cala Smoldt, John Hoscheidt, Ron Fullerlove, and Sara Blaser.

There was no public comment.

Motion to approve the consent agenda made by Board Member Gregg seconded by Board Member Hare was approved by vote of the Board.

Motion to approve the Sheriff's Department purchase of a new squad car using capital improvement funds made by Board Member Sarabasa seconded by Board Member Hare was approved by vote of the Board.

Motion to approve claims by Board Member Moreland seconded by Board Member Frieden was approved by roll call vote of the Board – 7 ayes, 0 nays. The claims presented for payment on February 15, 2020 are as follows: General Corporate \$58,660.25, Public Health \$34,153.34, Veterans/Bogardus \$955.38, County Highway \$31,093.47, County Aid Bridge \$8,851.73, Federal Aid Matching \$17,237.38, Township Motor Fuel \$3,211.00, Motor Fuel \$16,167.04, Animal Control \$3,635.66, Pet Population \$1,676.19, Special Projects Account \$405.20, AC – Building Fund \$205.59, Law Library \$1,115.94, Liability Insurance \$14,652.65, Probation Fees \$1,504.67, Circuit Clerk Document Storage \$38.49, Drug Crime Lab \$93.85, Assessor GIS \$94.87, GIS Clerk \$100.00 for a total of \$224,558.72.

In other business, Ron Fullerlove stated that he is still researching time tracking software. He stated that he will be watching a presentation on February 7, 2020 regarding same. He then reported that he had received the building feasibility study report from Estes Construction. Estes Construction estimated that it would cost \$9 million to build a new Annex according to the regulations in the statute. Additional land would need to be purchased in order to expand the Annex if kept in its current location. The report was sent to Chief Judge Fuhr and his opinion on same is that building/moving court offices is not necessary. Chairman Sarabasa stated that a plan needs to be established in case the elevator breaks down or for when the elevator is under repair. Montie read a letter that he wrote regarding the feasibility study and gave a copy of it to Chairman Sarabasa. Board Member Flowers told the Board that he had been contacted by an individual who was wanting to farm medicinal marijuana. Board Member Flowers was informed that the individual needed to contact the Department of Agriculture.

**Chairman Sarabasa asked that the room be cleared so that the Board could go into closed session. He asked that Ron Fullerlove, Meeghan Lee, Sara Blaser, and Dusty Terrill stay. Board entered closed session at 7:45 p.m.**

**Board re-entered open session at 8:36 p.m.**

**Motion to adjourn to Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. by Board Member Frieden seconded by Board Member Hawn was approved by vote of the Board at 8:37 p.m.**