

MICHIGAN WORKS! WEST CENTRAL  
WDB/LEO JOINT MEETING  
LUDINGTON WORKFORCE SERVICE CENTER  
LAKESHORE RESOURCE NETWORK  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018

MINUTES

LEO Members Present

Andersen, Janet  
Byl, Larry  
Emig, Larry  
Hogenson, Tom  
Howard, Linda  
Johnson, Les  
Walls, Karl

WDB Members Present

Eisler, David  
Frey, Amy  
Gustad, Eric  
Marek, Ron  
Massy, Dan  
Pasley, Julia  
Schurkamp, Christine  
Smith-Olson, Debbie  
Thompson, Sheri  
Visser, William  
Vyse-Staszak, Janet

Others Present

Albanesi, Angie – Hope Network  
Bozeman, Jerri – Hope Network  
Clark, Debbie – Hope Network  
Franklin, Amanda – Impact Award Recipient

Call to Order

LEO Chairperson, Larry Emig brought the joint meeting of the Workforce Development Board/Local Elected Officials to order at 12:37 p.m. at the Ludington Workforce Service Center. A quorum is present of both the WDB and the LEO.

LEO Members Absent

Ortwein, Chris  
Willett, Vern

WDB Members Absent

Bell, Tamara  
Cooper, David  
Fisk, Dena  
Griffin, Nancy  
Kosheba, Dan  
Roberts, Carla  
Romanowski, Cynthia  
Splane, Rob  
Stark, Liz  
Trucks, Mary

Michigan Works! West Central Staff

Bennett, Merri	Keene, Shelly
Eppley, Jonathan	Reed, Brigette
Griffith, Paul	Shoemaker, Connie

Morris, Chasity – Community Mental Health  
Snyder, Joshua – Community Mental Health  
Sweigart, Lynda – Hope Network

## Introduction of Guests

Guests were introduced and welcomed.

- ◇ Monica Schuyler, Executive Director, Pennies from Heaven Foundation

Paul explained that Monica would be stepping in briefly when she was free to welcome the Boards and to say a few words about Pennies from Heaven.

## Consent Agenda (Action Item)

- ◇ Minutes of February 7, 2018 WDB/LEO Joint Meeting – Emailed Prior
- ◇ February Financial Report – Emailed Prior/Handout (Goldenrod)

**Sheri Thompson moved to accept the Consent Agenda as presented; supported by Eric Gustad; motion accepted unanimously by both the WDB and the LEO. 12:41 p.m.**

NOTE: Karl Walls left at 12:41 p.m.

## Showcase: Amanda Franklin, Impact Award Recipient & Joshua Snyder, West Michigan Community Mental Health – Handout

Merri Bennett in Shayla Savich's absence introduced Amanda Franklin who earned the Impact Award for Michigan Works! West Central. Merri met Amanda last fall and wrote her story for the Impact Award. Amanda was enrolled in the PATH program and that's when she met Shayla.

Amanda Franklin thanked the Boards for basically being there when she needed help. She hit rock bottom on August 4, 2012, the day her then 7-year-old son found her suffering from an overdose in the bathtub. He turned the water off and kept her from drowning. Amanda said, "I got clean and sober for my son in 2012. My main focus was keeping my family."

Amanda thanked Shayla Savich for her support including coordinating rides to work every day including between the three different counties she now works in. Shayla provided support and gave

her confidence and didn't give up on her. Amanda is “eternally grateful” for the help, support and guidance.

She is now a Certified Peer Recovery Coach for the Recovery Management Services at West Michigan Community Mental Health. This is a new service that started a year ago and has been a huge blessing in her life not only from a career standpoint but as an addict and recovery point of view as well. She “loves” her job, so much so that it doesn't feel like one. She works with an impressive team of individuals that have a passion for their work and works for an agency that she's proud to have in the community. West Michigan Community Mental Health believed in her and she is grateful to each person who gave her a chance and continue to do so. Her position is one that she has the joy of walking someone's recovery journey with them; to believe in them until they start to believe in themselves; to show them that she may not know how to do everything but she does know how to live life sober. She knows what it's like to go through that darkened place in life being freshly sober and not know how to feel in your own skin. She is blessed each time someone comes to her and says, “I'm sick and tired of being sick and tired.”

She again thanked Michigan Works! and Shayla Savich for making this dream a reality. Also a special thank you to West Michigan Community Mental Health for allowing her to be part of this awesome family; a special thanks to her supervisor Josh Snyder for his guidance on this journey and for showing support at all times. She thanked all those present who are here to hear about how the PATH program works because “I am living proof.”

Josh Snyder explained that from his perspective the list of things that Michigan Works! did for Amanda to prep her for the interview about a year ago and then once she was hired to provide the transportation. She literally could not have kept the position without that help.

Josh explained that hiring for a Peer Recovery Coach position is a very unique experience because where else does someone with a “checkered past” considered a “good thing” and even a requirement for the position. This is really not common, so as part of that he actually gets to ask questions that are almost illegal to ask which is about their addiction and history. In the interview Mandy shared her story with him in great detail. What he was looking for when he interviewed several people was someone who could show evidence that they genuinely have been in addiction and have done the hard work of getting out of that and working through it. It had to be someone who really “gets” it, who understands addiction. The reason for that is because they use that experience with other people; they didn't go to college to get this information; they lived it. When Mandy interviewed it was so very clear that she had that and was able to do that with people. She is very good at what she does.

Josh listed a few things that she “brings to the table”: Gratitude, she is grateful for each day, and is able to communicate that gratitude to those she works with – the opposite of gratitude is resentment, anger, self-pity, if ever there was a recovery killer – it's those things. She is able to demonstrate what gratitude looks like. She also brings toughness, she comes across nice but she can also be tough with people when she needs to; she knows how to shoot straight; she can cut through the fog of self-deceit that often comes with addiction; and she is able to get the credibility almost instantaneously because she has lived it herself and this is an awesome tool she brings to this position. She also brings hope, and people who have an addiction really need hope because when they are really in the throes of addiction, they literally cannot envision a life different from what they are currently living. She can read a person and figure out what hope looks like for them and she can kind of show them what that looks like. These are the things I saw in the interview and it has been born out over the last year.

Josh said on behalf of CMH and for the people who are sober today in large part because of what Amanda does, thanked Michigan Works! and the Boards for supporting this program.

Merri showed a brief clip of Amanda's interview with TV 9&10.

Larry also acknowledged Chasity Morris from CMH who came to support Amanda today.

NOTE: Amanda Franklin, Joshua Snyder and Chasity Morris left at 12:57 p.m.

Service Provider Contract Recommendations – Oversight Committee – Handout – Yellow

(Action Item)

Debbie Smith-Olson explained the process used by the Oversight Committee to evaluate services by the Service Providers and to make recommendations to the full Boards. The Oversight Committee met in November and again the 20<sup>th</sup> of March.

The Oversight Recommendation for Hope Network: Remove Hope Network from probationary status and renew the Contract for one additional year, July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019.

**Janet Andersen supported the recommendation of the Oversight Committee to Remove Hope Network from probationary status and renew the Contract for one additional year, July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019; motion accepted unanimously by both the WDB and the LEO.**

1:03 p.m.

Debbie further explained the Oversight Recommendation for Newaygo County Regional Educational Service Agency (NC RESA); NC RESA and the Committee members have mutually agreed that the Contract for Employment Services and Trade Act programs will expire on June 30, 2018. Those services will be brought in-house. Committee members and NC RESA have further mutually agreed that our partnership will take a new direction, focusing on the development of the

local talent pipeline for both youth and adult populations via pre-apprenticeships, apprenticeships, and other innovative training opportunities.

Debbie did also state that NC RESA asked that this information not be shared until all Employment Service staff have been made aware of this change.

**Sheri Thompson supported the recommendation of the Oversight Committee and NC RESA to the mutual agreement that the Contract for Employment Services and Trade Act programs will expire on June 30, 2018. Those services will be brought in-house. Committee members and NC RESA have further agreed that our partnership will take a new direction, focusing on the development of the local talent pipeline for both youth and adult populations via pre-apprenticeships, apprenticeships, and other innovation training opportunities; motion accepted unanimously by both the WDB and the LEO. 1:12 p.m.**

Introduction of Guest – Monica Schuyler, Executive Director, Pennies from Heaven Foundation

Paul introduced Monica Schuyler who was very instrumental in Michigan Works! collocation here at the Lake Shore Resource Network.

Monica welcomed everyone and explained that the Pennies from Heaven Foundation is a local place based family foundation working to solve the greatest needs of the community by thinking differently. They mainly serve Mason County but also support the surrounding region. They study best practices and use innovative and collaborative approaches to help build bridges in the community to help struggling families connect to resources to meet their immediate needs and opportunities to access lasting solutions. Their work has supported a wide-variety of initiatives from childcare, k-12 skills based education, affordable housing, placemaking, workforce development, and more as they aim to be flexible as needs and opportunities present themselves.

NOTE: Monica Schuyler left at 1:18 p.m.

Plans/Modifications Summary – Handout *Blue (Action Item)*

1. Statewide Rapid Response Allocation for Customer Relationship Management (CRM)- ***Action – Signature Required***

For PY 17, the Talent Investment Agency (TIA) has allocated \$4,708 to Michigan Works! West Central (MWWC) to support existing Customer Relationship Management (CRM) systems or for the purchase or renewal of software licenses that will aid in the identification of and information gathering for potential layoffs or opportunities for layoff aversion. This funding is made available on a one-time basis. MWWC will use the funding to assist with the cost of renewing our current Salesforce licenses.

2. Rapid Response Statewide Adjustment Grant (SAG) – ***No action required***

Michigan Works! West Central requested and was awarded \$82,500 in Statewide Adjustment Grant (SAG) money from the Talent Investment Agency (TIA). SAG funds are to support significant dislocation events with temporary time-limited funding. These funds are not intended to replenish general formula shortfalls or fluctuations in annual allocations. Rather, they support services for those dislocation events that have been reported and documented at the State level. The additional funds will allow for additional participants to receive training services.

3. WIOA Local Policy Approval – ***Action Required***

The TIA released the final WIOA Manual for Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth programs on January 29, 2018. In the manual, there is an extensive list of required local policies that must be Board approved, which is a new requirement. The following policies are being presented for approval:

#17-01 – Internal Controls prohibit all staff and Service Providers from the manipulation of data for performance, data validation or reporting benefits.

#17-02 – On-the-Job Training is to set guidelines, processes, and procedures that are in alignment of the law and regulations for providing On-the-Job Training activities.

#17-03 – Service Delivery Policy ensures that Service providers are completing accurate and timely record keeping.

#17-04 – Support Service Policy establishes the limitations for the provision of Supportive Services per funding source.

#17-05 – File Standardization is for consistency and ease of internal and external monitoring, file standardization is required.

#18-01 – Rapid Response Policy outlines the process and procedures that Michigan Works! West Central and the Service Provider will follow when providing Rapid Response Services.

#18-02 – Nepotism Policy meets the requirements of TIA to address the issues of persons in various capacities using their position or having the appearance of using their position for the benefit of individuals they are related to.

#18-03 – Conflict of Interest Policy meets the requirements of the TIA to address the Conflict of Interest.

#18-04 – Incumbent Worker Policy – the purpose is to set guidelines, processes, and procedures that are in alignment of the law and regulations for providing Incumbent Worker training to employers as of regional employers.

#18-06 – Priority of Service for Veterans & Eligible Spouses is to ensure that the Service Providers are providing a “priority of service” under the parameters established for veterans and eligible spouses.

3. DTE Energy Foundation Grant/United Way of the Lakeshore – ***No Action Required***

Funding is through United Way of the Lakeshore in Muskegon. The intent is to assist disadvantaged youth with obtaining summer employment working with non-profit agencies. The

funding is \$29,000 and is designated for all six counties for 24 youth to work a minimum of 32 hours for a minimum of six weeks.

**Ron Marek moved to approve the Statewide Rapid Response Allocation for Customer Relationship Management (CRM) and the WIOA Local Policy Approval as presented by Shelly Keene; supported by William Visser; motion accepted unanimously by both the WDB and the LEO. 1:24 p.m.**

Creation of Career & Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) (*Action Item*)

Shelly explained that the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) encourages local Boards to establish a committee to focus on youth services and to provide a voice and perspective for youth. The CEAC will replace the former Educational Advisory Group (EAG) and the Talent District Career Council (TDCC) that were previously required and will advise the Workforce Development Board on career and education issues.

The objective of the CEAC is to assist the WDB in seeking solutions to Michigan's talent challenges and to improve collaboration between employers, educators, and the workforce.

The Council is required to meet three times a year and report back to the WDB; the anticipated first meeting is expected to be this summer.

**David Eisler moved to approve the CEAC nominations including the non-WDB employers that will be approved by the WDB Chair & Vice Chair and the LEO Chair & Vice Chair; supported by Tom Hogenson; motion accepted unanimously by both the WDB and the LEO. 1:28 p.m.**

PY'17 Final Budget – Emailed Prior/Handout (Action Item)

Brigette explained that the PY'16 section recaps last year's initial and final allocations as well as the final expenditures for July 2016 through June 2017.

The total unexpended/obligated total is comprised of funding balances that carry into the next Program Year. These balances include funding sources with more than one year spending life and funding that is on a Fiscal Year rather than a Program Year cycle. It becomes part of the July 1, 2017 Initial Allocation for the next Program Year.

The Final Budget distributes all available PY'17 funding between the Administrative agency and the Service Providers.

In the PY'17 Section Column 1 includes carry in from prior year and planning allocations for the first quarter.

Column 2 is the estimated final available funding through June 30, 2018.

Column 3 is the estimated final expenses for July 2017 through June 2018.

Page 3 gives a better understanding of the cost categories and their definitions.

**Tom Hogenson moved to approve the PY'17 Final Budget as presented by Brigitte Reed; supported by Janet Vyse-Staszak; motion accepted unanimously by both the WDB and the LEO. 1:35 p.m.**

February Program Reports – Handout

◇ Enrollment/Expenditures Reports

Paul explained that this is through February so Hope Network's portion of the \$82,500 that was just approved is not going to show on Hope Network's budget yet. That will be in April's report.

The enrollments and expenditures are listed.

NCRESA report has very few “participants” because they are up front working with customers who come in to develop their resume, work with unemployment claims, etc.

### Outreach Activities

#### ◇ USDOL Apprenticeships

In response to the US Department of Labor Registered Apprenticeships, Merri has received a number of calls and emails from training providers wanting to know how they can start an apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship program. Dave Jackson, USDOL Representative will be coming from Lansing on April 19<sup>th</sup> to our Big Rapids Center from 10:00 to 12:00 and then meet with the team from West Shore Community College and those interested from Oceana County in the afternoon at West Shore Community College.

#### ◇ Higher Ground Workshops

Evert is part of the Rising Tide Project but has not graduated from the project yet. On April 5<sup>th</sup> Merri will be leading the second night of workshops in Evert. Love Inc. in Evert holds free eight week classes twice a year at the Methodist Church and West Central offered to teach a workshop on soft skills and communication skills. Since transportation is a problem for many of them in Evert, Merri offered to lead this workshop.

### Business Activity

#### ◇ Job Fairs

- ✓ Merri said that on March 8<sup>th</sup> Adecco Staffing from East Lansing held interviews for staffing at the Meijer Store in Ludington. Renee, the AARP worker, called job seekers who had come to the Service Center in the past and asked them to come in and apply. They hired about 12 to 14 people that day.

Jonathan helped coordinate three Job Fairs:

- ✓ Internet Service Provider Casair Inc. held open interviews on April 4<sup>th</sup> at the Big Rapids Center for wireless internet installers for Mecosta and Osceola counties. Several people attended with one successful hire.
- ✓ The Newaygo County Career-Tech Center's annual job fair was held in Fremont. The event was split into three sessions – the morning and afternoon sessions were for students to meet with employers, and the evening session was open to the general public. More than 30 local and regional employers were at the event to talk with about 800 Career Tech students and more than 50 area residents.
- ✓ The Muskegon River Youth Home in Evart held simultaneous job fairs on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at their facility in Evart and also at our Big Rapids Center. About ten people attended between the two locations.

◇ Rapid Response

- ✓ Save-A-Lot in Big Rapids decided the location was unprofitable and closed its doors on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. A total of 11 workers were laid off.
- ✓ Nestle/Gerber Products in Fremont restructured several departments within the plant, which resulted in shift and staff reductions. Eight people were permanently laid off.
- ✓ Vic's Supermarket in Reed City was a victim of embezzlement by three employees last fall. Since that time, the store has struggled financially. The decision to close was made the last week of March, and closure is expected to be complete the first or second week in April. A total of 38 employees will be affected and this leaves Reed City without a grocery store. The store is for sale and the owners are working with Crossroads Realty.

### Newaygo County Kickstart Savings Accounts – Handout

The Newaygo County Kickstart Savings Account is a joint program of the Fremont Area Community Foundation and ChoiceOne Bank. This was launched March 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Neway Center with the promise of starting savings accounts for every kindergarten student in the county in the fall. This is designed to build aspirations, encourage savings, increase financial education and assist with college or career expenses after high school.

Starting in the fall of 2018, every kindergarten student in Newaygo County will have the opportunity to open a savings account at ChoiceOne with \$50 deposits from the Foundation.

The program will serve approximately 550 children in the first year and is expected to serve more than 7,000 students, in total, during this ten-year pilot program.

### State Recidivism Rate Continues to Drop – Handout

The number of businesses hiring returning citizens is up and Michigan's recidivism rate is down to levels never seen before.

The percentage of parolees who return to prison within three years of release is down to 28.1%. That's the lowest it has been in state history. Twenty years ago, the recidivism rate in Michigan was 45.7%. Michigan is now recognized as a national leader in corrections. Other states send delegations here to learn from us and take some of our best practices and evidence-based approaches back to their departments.

### Driver Responsibility Fees – Handout

As of October 1, 2018 the Michigan Driver Responsibility Fee Law will no longer be in effect and the Michigan Department of Treasury will no longer collect these fees.

Beginning March 31, 2018 information about a qualifying Workforce Development program and participating agencies will be available at [www.Michigan.gov/driverresponsibility](http://www.Michigan.gov/driverresponsibility). If the Workforce Development program is completed, the Driver Responsibility Fees will be waived prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> and their driver's license reinstated. We are still waiting for additional procedures on how to handle this short term program.

### Child Care Costs – Handout

Child care is an often overlooked factor at a time when unemployment is low; this means pulling people back into the active labor force.

Michigan is the 12<sup>th</sup> least-affordable state for infant care, which averages \$9,882 annually or \$824 per month. Prices go down as the child ages, but for a family with an infant and a 4-year-old, costs total more than \$16,000 annually.

The rising costs of day care, along with reduced state subsidies for child care in Michigan, are forcing workers, especially women to choose between working at a loss or dropping out completely of the labor force.

### Marshall Plan – Handout

Paul said this is a five-year plan the Governor is working on. The legislature has to approve this, as it is a budget issue and involves moving money around among line items. Some components of this plan are new and some aspects of it are current programs, like STTF, Fist Robotics, and Dual Enrollment.

The Marshall Plan is to invest, develop and attract talent to “Close the Talent Gap” in Michigan's workforce.

High Demand Career Openings through 2024 are 811,055 with an average salary for these careers at \$60,532.

It was named the “Marshall Plan” because after World War II there was a plan called “The Marshall Plan” and in today's dollars it would be about \$130 billion that was spent in Europe to rebuild it after the war; it's the rebuilding concept.

### Broadband Activity – Handout

Michigan has experienced expansion in broadband access over the last seven years. However, availability in rural areas has not kept pace with the non-rural, urban and suburban areas. Between 2014 and 2017, 2.1 million homes received a new 15/3 Mbps connection. However, only 7.1% of these connections were made to households that did not already have access to a connection of this speed from another provider.

Governor Snyder created the Michigan Consortium of Advanced Networks (MCAN) which was included as a recommendation of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Infrastructure Commission. This is to develop a vision for a connected Michigan, along with a roadmap to guide the state’s goal of broadband access, with an emphasis to close the “digital divide” between urban and rural areas of Michigan.

### Opioid Crisis – Handout

Nationally, every hour in 2015, 76 people were treated in and released from an emergency department for opioid-related care and 92 people were admitted to an inpatient hospital for opioid-related care.

There were 4.6 overdose deaths every hour in 2016 and opioid deaths increasingly involve heroin and synthetic opioids.

Over the last 15 years, the labor force participation rate fell more in counties where more opioids were prescribed.

To help combat this crisis, Metalworks now has a recovery coach in the Ludington metal office furniture manufacturer. Dr. Michelle Kuster and her business Connexion Point have partnered with Metalworks to help those who are struggling with addiction, know someone struggling with addiction and help those who are already on the path to recovery. This program is not just about employees but the community in its entirety.

#### 2017 Population Estimates – Handout

According to the US Census Bureau's 2017 Population Estimates, from 2010 to 2017 in our six-county region, there are three counties that gained population and three counties that lost population.

From 1970 to 2017 the chart shows the gains in all six counties as well as the State of Michigan.

#### County Labor Force Participation Rates – Handout

Paul explained that the Labor Force shows Lake County at 39%; Mason 59%; Mecosta 55%; Newaygo 54%; Oceana 54% and Osceola 52%.

There is certainly a variance in Michigan's counties and unfortunately Mason County is the only one out of our six counties ranked in the higher half of Michigan's counties.

This number represents ALL individuals 16+ years of age and only excludes those in prison or in the military.

## Retail Trade Share of Total Payroll Jobs – Handout

Retail trade is an important source of jobs in Michigan. Retail jobs are largely driven by population; most are concentrated in metro area counties, with the top ten largest retail trade counties contributing two-thirds of the state’s total jobs in this industry.

Even though most of the state’s retail jobs are located in its larger metro regions, the industry sector is an important component for many of Michigan’s less-populated counties in the Northern Lower and Upper Peninsulas.

While Oakland and Wayne Counties ranked first and second in total number of retail jobs, 14 of 15 counties in terms of highest share of retail-to-total local jobs were non-metro area counties located in Northern Michigan.

## How Unemployment Rates are Calculated – Handout *(Updated from 2014 version)*

Total employment, unemployment, the unemployment rate, and the civilian labor force are derived directly from a monthly national survey called the Current Population Survey (CPS).

The Michigan CPS is designed to be representative of the Michigan labor force, as it is stratified by geography and worker demographics.

To be counted as unemployed, a person must meet three criteria – must have had no earnings due to employment – must have made specific efforts to find employment, and must have been available to accept a job.

“Discouraged workers” are not counted as unemployed, because they are no longer actively seeking a job.

### ◇ February 2018 Unemployment Ranking

#### February 2018 Unemployment Ranking by County

### Resignation of WDB Members David Merriam

David Merriam, Leprino Foods has been promoted and transferred to a Leprino Foods plant in Colorado.

### 2018 Meeting Schedule Revised – Handout

The 2018 Meeting schedule for the Joint WDB/LEO meetings was redistributed with two changes.

### Pre-Meeting Packet Items

### Next Meeting June 6, 2018 – Idlewild Historic Cultural Center

The next WDB/LEO Joint meeting is Wednesday, June 6, 2018 at the Idlewild Historic Cultural Center.

### Round-the-Table

- » Thompson, Sheri, Mecosta-Osceola ISD – this is National Donor Awareness Month. She has a niece who is a recipient of an organ donation and she encouraged others to sign up for the program.
- » Marek, Ron, Reed City Tool – Reed City Tool is hosting a career awareness session for the middle school students from Reed City Public Schools. It will start with a full plant tour. Then the students will meet with the individuals from the respective trades that they have preselected to discuss what it's like to be in the position. They were expecting about 40 students but 110 have signed up.

- » Eisler, Dave, Ferris State University – the men’s basketball season has been amazing with 26 wins in a row. Ferris will be hosting an event on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April and the Community is invited to celebrate the Division II National Championship.

Also Ferris is working to see if they can play any part in the Marshall Plan.

- » Pasley, Julia, Nestle Nutrition/Gerber – Gerber Life is being sold, putting the finances together but are not sure yet the impact this will have.

NOTE: Eric Gustad left at 2:29 p.m.

- » Smith-Olson, Debbie, Lake Osceola State Bank – Blessing of the Bikes is coming up soon. The World’s Biggest Brown Trout sculpture is almost finished and dedication of the sculpture will be during the Troutarama.
- » Massy, Dan, Osceola County Community Development – in July the FCC will be conducting a reverse auction. The purpose is to get broadband into the rural communities. In order to make it financially sustainable Internet Service Providers (ISPs) will receive subsidies for 10 years with the money coming from the Universal Service Fund (USF) on our phone bills.
- » Byl, Larry, Oceana County Commissioner – Country Dairy is moving to computerized milking, but layoffs will be avoided.
- » Hogenson, Tom, Mayor City of Big Rapids – as stated at the February meeting tariffs have a huge effect on Simonds. Dave Campbell advocated for a presidential exemption via Representative John Moolenaar and staff.
- » Andersen, Janet, Mason County Commissioner – welcome to Mason County and hope you’ll come back when the weather is good.

#### Other Business

#### Reserved for the Public

#### Adjournment

**Meeting stands adjourned at 2:37 p.m.**