Background: The Michigan Employees Retirement System (MERS) will hold its annual conference in Detroit, Michigan on September 21st and 22nd. The City Commission has traditionally sent two delegates to the conference, an employee representative elected by the City’s employees to represent their interests at the conference, and a management delegate (traditionally, the City Treasurer or City Clerk) to represent management’s interests at the conference.

Sarah Schumacher and Luke Potter are co-winners for the employee’s representative. We are in the process of conducting a run-off election between those two employees; the winner will be the primary delegate and the loser will be the alternate. We will notify the Commission on Monday evening of the winner. City Treasurer Steven Kingsbury has other local commitments in Clare during the time of the conference, so he has asked to be excused from primary consideration. The Commission is asked to appoint City Clerk Diane Lyon to attend on behalf of the City as its management representative; Steve has agreed to serve if needed as the alternate management representative. MERS requires the City’s delegates be appointed by the respective municipal governing body in order to vote on policy matters presented to the delegation for decision, thus the City Commission is asked to formally designate these individuals to represent the respective elements of the City at the annual conference.

Issues & Questions Specified: Should the City Commission appoint voting delegates to attend the annual MERS Conference?

Alternatives:
1. Appoint the individuals elected and traditionally appointed.
2. Appoint City employees other than elected or traditionally appointed.
3. Do not appoint any City employees to attend the conference.
4. Set this matter aside for further discussion, consideration, and decision at a future, scheduled meeting. Note: if the Commission does not send a representative(s) to the conference, there is no need to appoint a delegate(s) and no action will be required.

Financial Impact: If the Commission decides to send the delegates to the conference the cost this year will include registration and hotel accommodations (approx. $900 total) for the two-day event. Meals during the conference for the delegates are provided as part of the conference registration fee and the City’s administrative vehicle will be used for transportation.

Recommendations: I recommend that the City Commissioner appoint (election winner) as the primary employee delegate and (election runner-up) as the alternate employee delegate and Diane Lyon as the management representative and Steven Kingsbury as the alternate
management representative to attend the 2017 annual MERS Conference by adoption of the proposed Resolution 2017-107 (copy attached).

**Attachment:** Resolution 2017-107.
RESOLUTION 2017-107

A RESOLUTION OF THE CLARE CITY APPOINTING THE PRIMARY AND ALTERNATIVE EMPLOYEE AND MANAGEMENT VOTING DELEGATES TO ATTEND THE MICHIGAN EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEM (MERS) 2017 ANNUAL MEETING.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Employees Retirement System (MERS) will hold its annual meeting on September 21st and 22nd in Detroit, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Clare has traditionally sent two representatives to the meeting, an employee representative elected by the members of the local bargaining units and a management representative appointed by the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, the employees have elected run-off election winner as their primary representative and run-off election runner-up as their alternate representative; the City Commission has traditionally appointed either the City Treasurer or the City Clerk to represent management with the alternate being the individual not appointed as primary.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Commission of the City of Clare hereby appoints run-off election winner to serve as its primary employee delegate and run-off election runner-up to serve as its alternate employee delegate to vote on any and all matters brought before the voting body of MERS and to represent the City’s employees at the annual MERS meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Commission appoints City Clerk Diane Lyon to serve as the management delegate of the City at said conference and that City Treasurer/Finance Director Steven Kingsbury as the alternate management delegate.

ALL RESOLUTIONS AND PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS INSOFAR AS THEY CONFLICT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION BE AND THE SAME ARE HEREBY RESCINDED.

This Resolution was introduced by Commissioner Murphy and supported by Commissioner Swanson. The Resolution declared adopted by the following roll call vote:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

Resolution approved for adoption on this 21st day of September 2017.

_________________________________
Diane Lyon, City Clerk