

**BRANCH COUNTY, MICHIGAN
PRAIRIE RIVER RECLASSIFICATION**

Resolution # 2023-01

BE IT RESOLVED BY the Board of Commissioners of Branch County

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is considering the reclassification of the Prairie River in Branch County, Michigan.

WHEREAS, the Prairie River has been classified as a Type 4 Trout stream from Bowers Road to McKale Road since 2006. A change in the Mi-WWAT temperature classification does not protect the fish populations. No streamflow depletion or detrimental water temperature changes have been observed or measured despite significantly increased irrigation in the watershed; and

WHEREAS, the proposed reclassification is the first one attempted in the State and will set precedent for future reclassifications. The stream temperature data is limited and was collected without following the cited EPA protocols. The precedent for future potential reclassifications must be set to a much higher standard of data collection, data analysis, and public presentation in reports and public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the benefits to the trout and the river of decreasing the allowable streamflow depletion by nearly 5 times the current limits are unclear and unstated. At the same time, the devastating impacts that would be directly caused by severely restricting the water use on the communities, residents, businesses, and municipalities are not being considered. No impact studies or cost-benefit analyses have been conducted; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BRANCH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, strongly objects to the reclassification of the Prairie River and recommends that the DNR disapprove the reclassification or pause their decision to analyze further data for a more informed decision; and

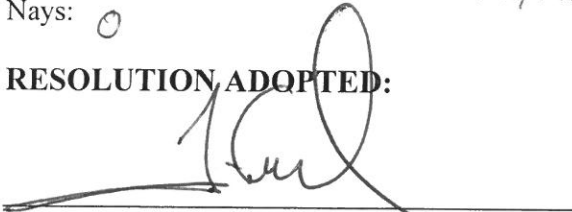
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be shared with DNR, EGLE, Senator Lindsey, Representative Fink and other Michigan counties.

On Roll Call:


Ayes: Houtz, Hazel baker, McClellan, Matthew, Stoll - 5

Nays: 0

RESOLUTION ADOPTED:



Tim Stoll, Chairperson
Branch County Board of Commissioners



Teresa Kubasiak, County Clerk
Branch County

1/10/2023

JANUARY 10, 2023 RESOLUTION #2023-1-10
VALLEY TOWNSHIP
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION OPPOSING RELOCATION OF THE ALLEGAN COUNTY OFFICES

At a Regular Meeting of the Valley Township (the "Township") Board, Allegan County, Michigan, held January 10, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Christi Foster, Brandee Ellis, Ron Remington, and Tim Batchelor
ABSENT: Mike Krcatovich

The following resolution was offered by Tim Batchelor and supported by Ron Remington

WHEREAS, the City of Allegan, which is located within Allegan Township, is the county seat for the County of Allegan; and

WHEREAS, Michigan law, including specific provisions of the Michigan Constitution, can require certain county offices to have a principal office in the county seat. *Kyes v Allegan Cnty Bd of Com'rs*, 54 Mich App 741, 743; 221 NW2d 449 (1974); Const 1963, art 7 § 5; and

WHEREAS, the Drain Code also mandates that the principal office of the drain commissioner must be located and maintained at the county seat. MCL 280.27; and

WHEREAS, Michigan's 1963 Constitution and MCL § 48.48 Require that the County Treasurer's Principal Office Remain in the City of Allegan; and

WHEREAS, under the County Board of Commissioners Act, Act 156 of 1851, MCL 46.17, a county seat may only be relocated if the removal and new location are approved by a two-thirds vote of an elected county board of commissioners and by a majority of a county's qualified electors. MCL 46.17; and

WHEREAS, the Allegan County Board of Commissioners has expressed a desire to relocate several county offices, including the Offices of the Allegan County Clerk, Drain Commissioner, Treasurer and Register of Deeds, to the Dumont Complex, which is outside of the current boundaries of the county seat; and

WHEREAS, the County of Allegan is considering whether to relocate several county offices to the Dumont Complex, which is currently outside of the boundaries of the City of Allegan, the current county seat; and

WHEREAS, after careful review, the Township opposes relocating any county offices currently operating in the City of Allegan to Dumont Complex UNLESS OR UNTIL AN APPROVED TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF THE ELECTED COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND BY A MAJORITY OF A COUNTY'S QUALIFIED ELECTORS. MCL 46.17.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE VALLEY TOWNSHIP BOARD RESOLVES:

1. The Township opposes any relocation of county offices currently operating in the county seat, the City of Allegan to the Dumont Complex unless or until the proper procedures, vote of the elected county board of commissioners **and** by the qualified electors of the county is complete and successful.

2. The Township finds that moving these offices without due diligence is a violation of Michigan's Constitution.

3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution shall be and they are rescinded.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Christi Foster, Brandee Ellis, Ron Remington, and Tim Batchelor

NAYS: None

The Supervisor declared the above Resolution adopted.

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

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COUNTY OF ALLEGAN)

I, Brandee Ellis, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of Valley Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Valley Township Board at a meeting held on January 10, 2023 at Allegan, Michigan.



Brandee Ellis, Clerk