

ALLEGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

INDEX

JANUARY 28, 2021 SESSION

JOURNAL 69

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MORNING SESSION**JANUARY 28, 2021 SESSION - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL**

1/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Allegan, State of Michigan, met remotely online connecting through a Zoom webinar on January 28, 2021 at 9:00 A.M. in accordance with the motion for adjournment of January 14, 2021, and rules of this board; Chairman Storey presiding.

The Deputy Clerk led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Upon roll call the following members answered as Commissioners for the respective Districts:

DIST #1	DEAN KAPENGA- Polk Co FL	DIST #5	TOM JESSUP - Allegan Twp
DIST #2	JIM STOREY - Allegan Twp	DIST #6	GALE DUGAN - Allegan Twp
DIST #3	MAX THIELE - Allegan Twp	DIST #7	RICK CAIN - Wayland Twp
DIST #4	MARK DeYOUNG - Dorr Twp		

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NO COMMENTS

2/ Chairman Storey opened the meeting to public participation and as there were no comments from the public, he closed the meeting to public participation.

AGENDA - ADOPTED AS PRESENTED

3/ Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Cain to adopt the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS--APPROVE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S LEARNING & GROWTH PLAN**

4/ Commissioner Thiele withdrew himself from the discussion on approving the County Administrator's Learning and Growth Plan.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the County Administrator's Learning & Growth Plan as discussed during the November 5 and December 22, 2020, Board Meetings in Closed Sessions and reflective of the Board's collective feedback for the year ending December 31, 2020, and its further direction.

Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to approve the resolution as presented.

Moved by Commissioner Jessup, seconded by Commissioner Dugan to amend the resolution to have all of the individual Commissioner comments included in the record. Motion failed by roll call vote. Yeas: Storey and Jessup. Nays: Kapenga, DeYoung, Dugan and Cain. Withdrawn from motion: Thiele.

Original motion to approve the County Administrator's Learning and Growth Plan as presented carried by roll call vote. Yeas: Kapenga, Storey, DeYoung, Dugan and Cain. Nays: Jessup. Withdrawn from motion: Thiele.

Board of Commissioners' Response**General Questions**

Looking retrospectively over the past 15 years, do you believe we have steadily progressed as a County/organization?

Looking forward, do believe the current Board/Administrator relationship will yield continued progress?

Do the current Board rules and processes (summary of roles provided by the Administrator in the October 8, 2020 inquiry report, and commissioner inquiry process in the October 22, 2020 inquiry report) represent the Board's expectations of the Chair, Vice-Chair and Administrator?

Do you have any input regarding the Learning and Growth (evaluation) process or tool looking ahead to future years?

Do you have any input on how to address the items outlined in the "Four Ts" document, particularly in Time and Treatment?

Are there any additional areas of future focus to be considered in place of, or in addition to, the four focus areas for the Administrator below?

Do you have any general feedback the Board should consider for the Administrator?

Commissioners used the Administrator's written self-evaluation, reviewed on November 5 with the Administrator's oral narrative, that included all the Board's comments from 2019. Meeting in closed session without the Administrator present, the Board of Commissioners provided the following evaluation using the agreed-upon outline and performance areas. Ratings in bold face type reflect the consensus of the Board of Commissioners.

1. Communication

2020 Board of Commissioners Update (with supporting comments/details/examples):

1. In the area of providing communication to the Board, Rob:

A) Is Less Effective:

B) Has Remained the Same:

C) Is More Effective:

2. The Board has determined this area is

A) Still an area of focus:

B) No longer an area of focus:

3. What does success in this area look like moving forward? provide examples for how expectations can be met)

Summary:

Commissioners believe the communication with the board has improved over time and believe it should continue to be an area of focus as it will always be an area the administrator will need to refine to adapt to changing communication modes. Several Commissioners encouraged the administrator to be more concise in his presentations during Commission meetings, especially on those items which are detailed in written reports provided the Commission prior to said meetings.

2. Delegate actions/decisions while maintaining accountability.

2020 Board of Commissioners Update (with supporting comments/details/examples):

1. In the area of delegation, Rob:

A) Is Less Effective,

B) Has Remained the Same:

C) Is More Effective:

Insufficient information with which to evaluate:

2. The Board has determined this area is

A) Still an area of focus

B) No longer an area of focus:

3. What does success in this area look like moving forward? (Please provide examples for how expectations can be met)

Summary: The Commission believes the administrator has improved in his delegation of tasks to subordinates and his expectation that said subordinates will execute the duties and assignments within the timeframe expected.

Commissioners also questioned whether subordinates were trained sufficiently to meet the expectations of the Commission that they perform at the same level as if the Administrator were performing a specific task or function.

Commissioners also questioned whether the subordinates were being diligent in apprising the administrator in sufficient detail of the outcomes of duties, tasks and projects assigned to them.

3. Balance planning vs results

2020 Board of Commissioners Update (with supporting comments/details/examples):

1. In the area of planning/results, Rob:

A) Is Less Effective,

B) Has Remained the Same: **1**

C) Is More Effective:

2. The Board has determined this area is

A) Still an area of focus:

B) No longer an area of focus:

3. What does success in this area look like moving forward? (Please provide examples for how expectations can be met)

SUMMARY: The Commission finds the administrator has achieved a strong balance between planning actions and achieving results in the areas for which planning has been assigned. Since county government organization is a complex entity, this will remain an area of focus in order to ensure projects, services and tasks are delivered in a timely manner.

4. Ensure deadlines are met

Board of Commissioners 2020 Update (with supporting comments/details/examples):

1. In the area of deadlines, Rob:

A) Is Less Effective:

B) Has Remained the Same or

C) Is More Effective:

Insufficient information to rate:

2. The Board has determined this area is

A) Still an area of focus

B) No longer an area of focus:

3. What does success in this area look like moving forward? (Please provide examples for how expectations can be met)

SUMMARY: The Commission concludes meeting deadlines is still an area that needs focus. However, great progress has been achieved in this measurement area. Tolerance for failure by subordinates and other county organizations for meeting Board deadlines has been reduced. The administrator is realistic in setting deadlines for subordinates and he should continue to encourage their compliance. The Board does expect the high level of performance in this area to continue.

#####

2021/2022 BOARD PLANNING – STRATEGIC WORK PLAN

5/ During the January 14, 2021 Board Meeting, the Board Planning Input Survey was reviewed. Upon review of the results, the direction of the Board was for the County Administrator to propose a general approach, work plan, for next steps which includes: quality of life; public safety and justice; economy; recreation and wellness; transportation; debt; overall citizens survey; strategy map; services to expand; services to reduce; and State mandated function of the Board. Discussion followed.

Commissioners agreed to have discussion at the next planning session on February 11, 2021 for further direction on the Strategic Work Plan document that was submitted.

BUDGET POLICY

6/ Administrator Sarro highlighted that summary of changes to the Budget Policy.

Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to have further discussion on the Budget Policy at the regular session on February 11, 2021. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

7/ Administrator Rob Sarro noted his written report was submitted to Commissioners. Highlights were MERS addendums and the Brownfield Plan.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – NO COMMENTS

8/ Chairman Storey opened the meeting to public participation and as there were no comments from the public, he closed the meeting to public participation.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL FEBRUARY 11, 2021 AT 9:00 A.M.

9/ Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to adjourn until February 11, 2021 at 9:00 A.M. The motion carried by roll call vote and the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 P.M. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

AFTERNOON SESSION**JANUARY 28, 2021 SESSION – INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL**

10/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Allegan, State of Michigan, met remotely online connecting through a Zoom webinar on January 28, 2021 at 1:00 P.M. in accordance with the motion for adjournment of January 14, 2021, and rules of this board; Chairman Storey presiding.

The invocation was offered by District #6 Commissioner Dugan.

The Deputy County Clerk led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Upon roll call the following members answered as Commissioners for the respective Districts:

DIST #1	DEAN KAPENGA- Lake Co FL	DIST #5	TOM JESSUP - Allegan Twp
DIST #2	JIM STOREY - Allegan Twp	DIST #6	GALE DUGAN - Allegan Twp
DIST #3	MAX THIELE - Allegan Twp	DIST #7	RICK CAIN - Wayland Twp
DIST #4	MARK DeYOUNG - Dorr Twp		

COMMUNICATIONS

11/ Deputy Clerk Tien noted to the board that they received the following resolution:

1. Pandemic resolution from Grand Traverse County

JANUARY 14, 2021 SESSION MINUTES - ADOPTED

12/ Moved by Commissioner Thiele seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to approve the minutes for the January 14, 2021 session as distributed. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NO COMMENTS

13/ Chairman Storey opened the meeting to public participation and as there were no comments from the public, he closed the meeting to public participation.

AGENDA - ADDITIONS

14/ Chairman Storey asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Commissioner Dugan asked to add discussion item #5 to clarify the minutes of 12/10/2020 regarding the Board Rules of Organization and Procedure of the Allegan County Board of Commissioners.

Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Storey to adopt the changes to the meeting agenda as requested. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

AGENDA - ADOPTED AS AMENDED

15/ Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Cain to adopt the meeting agenda as amended. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

INFORMATIONAL SESSION

16/ District Director Erin Moore from the Michigan State University Extension reported on the services and programs offered by MSUE.



2020 ALLEGAN COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT

Thursday, January 28th

District Director, Erin Moore



NUMBER OF PROGRAMS
ACCESSED BY ALLEGAN
COUNTY RESIDENTS

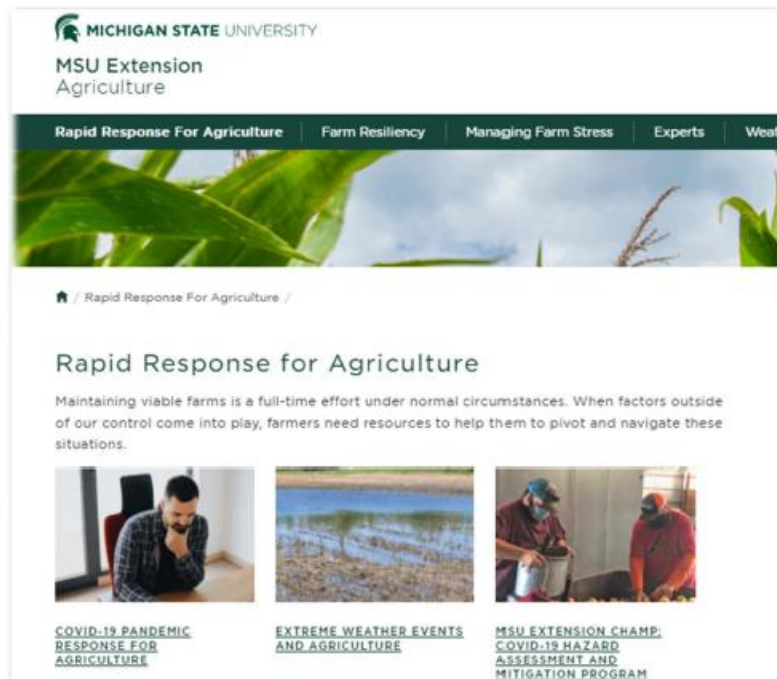
211

Allegan residents were able to take advantage of virtual programs hosted from Educators across the state.



Rapid Response to Agriculture – COVID-19

- Guidance for Greenhouses
- Safety protocol for farm labor (in Spanish & English)
- CHAMPS tool for Ag producers
- Information on federal, state and local loans and grant funding




MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
MSU Extension
Agriculture

Rapid Response For Agriculture | Farm Resiliency | Managing Farm Stress | Experts | West


Home / Rapid Response For Agriculture /

Rapid Response for Agriculture


Maintaining viable farms is a full-time effort under normal circumstances. When factors outside of our control come into play, farmers need resources to help them to pivot and navigate these situations.



[COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE FOR AGRICULTURE](#)



[EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS AND AGRICULTURE](#)

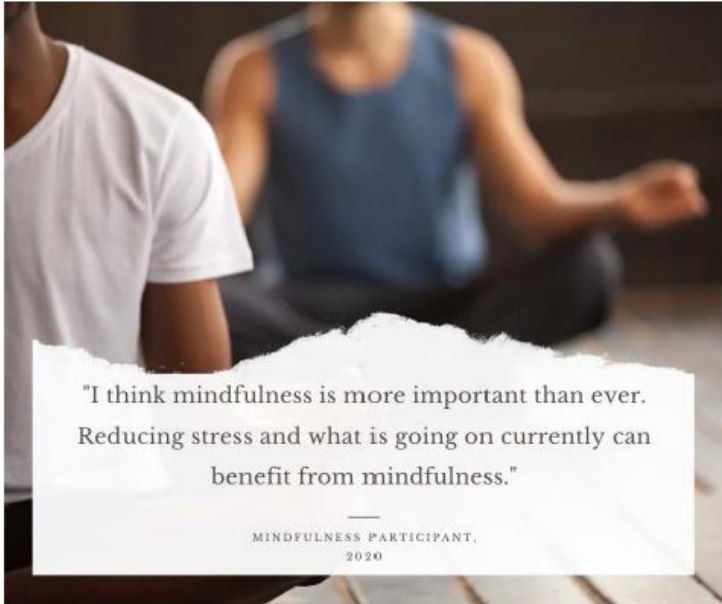


[MSU EXTENSION CHAMP: COVID-19 HAZARD ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM](#)

4-H Still Arts Virtual Showcase ... “My Health to better living...”

- In partnership with 4-H Leaders and volunteers
- Utilized Facebook as a platform to host the 4-H Still Arts exhibits
- Formal judging by volunteers and guest judges
- 4-H youth/volunteers prove to be adaptable in the new environment





Social and Emotional Health

- Relax: Alternatives to Anger
- Stress Less with Mindfulness
- Teaching Kids Mindful Eating



Food Safety

- New Food Safety Educator, Wade Syers joined team in early 2020
- Partnered with First Presbyterian Church to host "Cooking for Crowds"
- Team hosted a series of food preservation and food safety classes that Allegan County in which 73 residents participated



Ongoing Agriculture Research

- Small Fruit (Blueberries) – preharvest, disease and pest management
- Soybeans – variety selection



Michigan Sea Grant



- MI Paddle Stewards
- MI Water School
- Angler Project



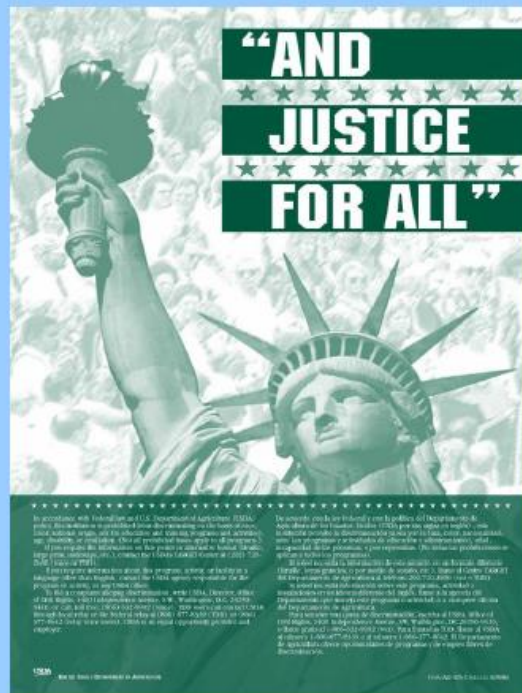
Thank you! Questions?

Contact: Erin Moore, District 7 Director
mooree16@msu.edu

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Allegan County

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

BY THE NUMBERS



1,968 Allegan County youth involved in 4-H and other youth development programs



202 Allegan County residents participated in health and nutrition programs



233 Allegan County residents participated in agriculture or agribusiness related workshops or sessions



219 Allegan County families utilized the MSU Extension Remote Learning Resources



41,329 MSU Extension webpage visits from Allegan County residents

MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Once again I am delighted to share the results of another successful year of partnership between Allegan County and Michigan State University (MSU) Extension. Because of your continued support, we've been able to make a difference in the lives of youth, families, businesses, and communities.



The 2020 programming year has been like none other. As the novel coronavirus entered Michigan and the state put protections in place in the form of the Stay Home, Stay Safe order, MSU Extension staff went to work to adapt their classes to a virtual setting. Within a week, MSU Extension launched the Remote Learning and Resources website and set to work to create resources that individuals, businesses and families needed. MSU Extension is proud to have continued its strong partnership with Allegan County.

Local MSU Extension staff and the statewide network of Educators provided information and expertise to local farmers, government officials, local and state employees, as well as, county youth and adult residents. This annual report gives examples of some of MSU Extension's accomplishments and the impact that we continue to have in the County. Thank you for the opportunity to share our most valuable resource – our people who strive to provide answers to questions that help solve real problems right here in Allegan County.

Our partnership with you makes this all possible. On behalf of the MSU Extension team serving Allegan County, thank you for another great year. We look forward to your continued support and hope you'll be able to join us during one of our upcoming programs.

Erin Moore

Erin Moore, District 7 Director

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension

Program Highlights



Wade Syers, joined the MSU Food Safety team this year and looks forward to growing partnerships in Allegan County.

FOOD SAFETY

In February 2020, MSU Extension partnered with the First Presbyterian Church of Allegan to deliver Cooking For Crowds. This program is designed for groups that prepare food in a public setting such as non-profit groups that host pot-lucks, spaghetti suppers, bake sales, barbeques, etc. Topics included foodborne illness, safe purchasing from suppliers, storage, preparation and service. Participants learned to reduce these risks and help prevent the conditions that may lead to a foodborne illness. MSU Extension offered a variety of food safety and preservation classes such as pressure canning and freezing, pickling and dehydrating, and preserving venison among others. Over 73 Allegan county residents took advantage of these classes.



Learning lessons for healthy eating habits are invaluable and strengthen the foundation for a healthy lifestyle.

SHOW ME NUTRITION

Community Nutrition Instructor, Sue Elwell, worked with seven different schools in Allegan County to deliver nutrition education. In 2020, 206 youth received education via the Show me Nutrition curriculum. This curriculum is adaptable by grade and age and, in addition, it can be coupled with educational standards. Students and teachers alike enjoy learning about healthy snacking, reducing sugar sweetened beverages and introducing more physical activity into our daily lives. When we make healthy eating habits fun, educational and hands-on we see the incredible benefits of programming like Show Me Nutrition in our communities.



There are approximately 245 soybean farms in Allegan County with 36,000 acres of soybean fields.

ON-FARM SOYBEAN TRIALS

Soybean Educator, Mike Staton, continued his research on soybean varieties in 2020. In January, 55 soybean producers and agronomists participated in a ½ day educational meeting conducted in Hamilton on January 23, 2020. Follow-up evaluations documented the following impacts: Fifteen producers said they *actually* earned additional money in 2020 by implementing the new information they learned at the program. The new information was implemented on 6,577 acres, producing an *actual* financial impact of \$99,338 in 2020 alone. Four on-farm research trials were conducted in Allegan County in 2020. These were published in a 32-page research report and mailed directly to more than 11,000 Michigan soybean producers. Approximately 100 Allegan County producers received the research report in early January.

Program Highlights

MICHIGAN TOURISM

MSU Extension led a series of webinar sessions entitled "COVID-19 Impacts on Tourism". These sessions provided invaluable information in navigating the impact of COVID19 and tourism. Attendees included village and city managers, county representatives, county commissioners, economic developers, and planners. The sessions were broken into 5 separate sessions that included "Strategies for Tourism in Small Towns", "COVID-19 impacts on food systems", "Agritourism and Sustainability". This webinar series is still available on the MSU Extension Tourism website and community members are welcome and encouraged to preview this relevant resource. Tourism recovery will be an important economic recovery activity for Michigan in 2021 and beyond.



Tourism will be an important economic recovery activity for Michigan. To access the free webinar series, please visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/tourism/COVID-19-pandemic-and-tourism/>

APICULTURE EDUCATION

The MSU Extension Apiculture Team delivered a series of webinars for new and experienced beekeepers. The group reached over 2,000 people across the state of Michigan, including 41 in Allegan County. The team covered topics such as preparing for swarm season, early season management, and first year colonies. MSU Extension provides robust education on beekeeping. The College of Natural Science runs the Michigan Pollinator Initiative which houses many resources for experienced and aspiring beekeepers. Additionally, all the MSU Extension webinars are housed with the initiative to provide continual and ongoing education for the growing interest in beekeeping. To access, please visit: <https://pollinators.msu.edu/resources/beekeepers/>



MSU Extension Veteran Liaison, Adam Ingra, holding up a hive.

ADULTING 101

Adulting 101 programming allows youth and young adults to gain skills and knowledge of useful information that will help them to be successful in an everchanging world. This exciting series of Adulting 101 was offered for high school youth and with topics that included Household Tasks, Developing a Spending Plan, Cooking 101, Debt vs. Credit and Being an Informed Renter. This webinar series had multiple states represented with over 1,000 registrations and 20 Allegan County residents participating. This program will continue to expand in 2021 and we look forward to continuing to prepare young people in our community for success with vital life skills.



The Adulting 101 program accommodated the need to offer this series via zoom. MSU Extension was able to reach young people in Allegan County as well as in other states.

Featured County Story: Allegan County 4-H Still Arts Virtual Showcase

Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Allegan County Fair, the 4-H team worked side-by-side with Allegan County Leaders to create a virtual space for Allegan youth to showcase their still arts. The virtual showcase had over 70 entries in the event with participants from youth all across the county. The event was hosted on Facebook by two volunteers with virtual judges collaborating. The event was complete with virtual registration and even “door prizes.” While this year presented a different format, it was a popular format with the youth participants

From pottery, glasswork, cooking demonstrations and photography, the Still Arts Virtual Showcase did not disappoint. Youth displayed their exceptional talent and passion through a variety of project submissions. Despite the new setting, there were even novice entries in the 2020 showcase.

Noel Vanderbilt, Age 17, was the winner of the Novice “Best in Show” Photography submission with her project “Gaze of the Horse” (pictured right). Noel loved capturing the memories and beauty of horseback riding through photography. Noel was inspired with this project, saying “ There is something absolutely captivating about the gaze of the horse. Sometimes their ears are pricked, eyes alert, nostrils flared, poised for action. Other times their eyes are soft and thoughtful as they nose forward gently, searching for a treat or a scratch. In the barnyard, in the stall, by our side, or in the pasture, the horse evokes beauty, grace, power, and majesty. “



Another participant, Jordan Beers, age 17, of the Monterey Community Club, won “Best of Show” for three out of her four submissions— Drawing, Painting Oil (pictured left) and Paper Craft. She likes experimenting with the colors but found oranges to be quite difficult. She’s planning to move on to animals and darker colors.



MSU Extension is proud of the 2020 4-H Still Arts Virtual Showcase and the collaboration with the Allegan County 4-H Council. This event would not have been possible without the passionate leaders and volunteers that make 4-H a place for youth to learn and thrive.

While we were disappointed to not meet in person for the 2020 Fair year, this program showed exactly how 4-H youth are able to adapt and thrive. We are incredibly proud of all of the youth, and volunteers that participated in this event.

Program Highlights



4-H is Michigan's largest youth development program serving over 200,000 youth each year.

4-H LIVESTOCK LEARNING

Livestock Learning for the Allegan 4-H youth was scheduled to take place in-person in the spring of 2020. As always, our 4-H community rose and met the challenges of 2020 with the same dedication and spirit as reflected in previous years of participation. 4-H leaders and educators were committed to offering programming to our Allegan County youth and quickly adapted the training to a virtual opportunity. There were 7 hour long sessions in total with 23 Allegan County 4-H members attending. Topics included nutrition, showmanship, biosecurity, selection and daily care. 4-H participants throughout the state, moved through the year with resilience and adjusted to new virtual learning opportunities.



MSU Extension workshops and programming provide memorable opportunities for Allegan County 4-H members to learn from the experts.

4-H Veterinary Workshops

The 4-H Veterinary Science and the 4-H Beef, Sheep and Swine Teen and Adult Volunteer Leaders Workshop were held back-to-back at the Kettunen Center in Tustin, MI. Allegan County 4-H members were given the opportunity to explore new ideas in-depth and to get a "hands-on" experience with veterinary medicine and management, livestock production and management and present new ideas, activities and approaches to the 4-H Veterinary Science Program. They also developed communication skills and leadership techniques that will allow them to more effectively re-teach skills in our county to fellow 4-H members.



Zippping Around the Zoos is just one of the dynamic programming events offered in a Spin (Special Interest) Club format.

4-H SPIN CLUB "ZIPPING AROUND THE ZOOS"

Over the course of three weeks, youth were given the chance to explore the different zoos across the country and to learn about a variety of animals. This club explored land animals, water animals, reptiles, rehabilitation, behind the scenes of zoos, and to have a "funny" animal day. Allegan County residents viewed live cams from different zoos and aquariums such as the San Diego Zoo, the Smithsonian National Zoo, Georgia Aquarium, Monterey Aquarium and more from the comfort of their homes. 4-H Spin Clubs offer the unique experience of participating in Michigan 4-H Development that specializes in a specific project. This participation often results in young people becoming an Allegan County 4-H Member and expanding their growth and development.

Program Highlights

CONSUMER HORTICULTURE

MSU Extension Smart Gardening OUTREACH was represented with exhibits in the 4-day event of the West Michigan Home and Garden Show. While this event often inspires thoughts of spring, it is also an opportunity to tap the expertise of MSU Extension educators. In addition, there was a one-day conference that featured topics that ranged from smart plants pollinating, tips for gardening success by building resilient soils, edible ornamentals, to creating habitats for bees to thrive and recognizing captivating caterpillars. A total of 68 Allegan County residents gained considerable amounts of tips, tricks and the tools to create a beautiful garden in our community and the tools to create a beautiful garden in our community.



Allegan County is the home to a variety of beautiful gardens with residents learning from MSU Extension experts.

TREE FRUIT HORTICULTURE

In response to the Stay Home, Stay Safe order, the MSU Extension Tree Fruit team hosted the 2020 Spring Tree Fruit Educational session as a series of webinars. This 10-day webinar series included topics such as weather predictions, apple and cherry disease updates, spring sprayer set-up, orchard weed management among others. Fruit specialists were invited to present at the lunch time sessions. This was a true team effort with an overwhelming positive response from fruit growers and stakeholders. The series attracted 478 people statewide, with 15 growers attending from Allegan County.



The MSU Extension fruit team moved its spring tree fruit educational programs to a series of live webinars.

SMALL FRUIT EDUCATION

The MSU Extension Small Fruit Team hosted a total of three webinar series to update local growers on issues related to the early portion of the blueberry season. This webinar delivered information on research and extension subjects of interest during the 2020 blueberry pre-bloom, bloom and pre-harvest period. Topics ranged from Michigan pollinator protection plans and guidelines to insect pests and diseases. An exciting addition to the webinar was Dr. Marisol Quintanilla-Tornel, an MSU Entomology Nematologist. Dr. Quintanilla-Tornel provided direct assistance to the Michigan blueberry industry, specifically around nematodes. Nematodes are a serious problem of blueberries that many times go undetected or are misidentified as soil or nutritional problems. In total, 22 Allegan County residents participated in this series.



Michigan blueberry growers produce about 100 million pounds of blueberries every year, making Michigan a leader in blueberry production.

Program Highlights



MSU Extension has a menu of programs that offer education in mental health awareness, anger management and reducing stress.

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL HEALTH

The need to work from home and keep our distance from others has put a strain on everyone's mental health. MSU Extension is very proud to have offered mindfulness, anger management and caregiver training to Michigan residents. Within a week of the Stay Home, Stay Safe state order, Holly Tired, MSU Extension Educator, was teaching virtual Mindfulness classes to not only residents of Allegan County and Michigan but also reached participants around the country and even abroad. Her classes in breathing, laughter and anger management have been met with great success. In Allegan County, 20 residents took advantage of classes such as Relax: Alternatives to Anger classes and Mindfulness. Overall, these classes reached over 3,000 Michigan residents.



Youth from Japan joined the virtual Gingerbread baking class with 4-H Educator, Jan Brinn.

INTERNATIONAL GINGERBREAD BAKING

The holidays are a great time to exchange the things that make our cultures unique! 4-H hosted a virtual gingerbread baking class in order to share a special holiday tradition with our global community! This virtual baking class allowed Michigan 4-H participants to join other 4-H youth around the world to learn together how to make traditional Polish gingerbread cookies! The goal was to actually bake a batch together during the one hour live event. Allegan County's Jan Brinn, Children and Youth Educator, co-hosted the event with a 4-H leader from Poland. Together they brought over 200 participants from around the world to share in this cultural event.



MSU Extension has formed a Rapid Response to Agriculture work team to help counties understand the unique issue Agriculture faces.

AGRICULTURE ANNEX—EOC

At the onset of the pandemic in 2020, Allegan County's Emergency Manager, Scott Corbin gathered together a group of individuals connected to the Agricultural Industry in Allegan County to form the Agricultural Annex of the Emergency Operating Center. The primary concern at the time with the PPE shortage that was impacting the safety of Agricultural workers as manufacturing delays and cost hikes pressed on the industry. District Director Erin Moore, and Soybean Educator, Mike Staton, both serve on the Annex to support the development of necessary support documents to be used in the case of an emergency.

MSU Extension staff located in Allegan County

Jan Brinn	Youth Development Educator	Ext. 2555	brinn@msu.edu
Sue Elwell	Community Nutrition Instructor	Ext. 2559	elwell@msu.edu
Dian Liepe	4-H Program Coordinator	Ext. 2557	liepe@msu.edu
Erin Moore	District 7 Director	Ext. 2553	mooree16@msu.edu
Rebecca Simonds	Office Manager	269-673-0370	simondsr@msu.edu
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Through successful partnership and collaboration with Allegan County, MSU Extension is able to continue its local presence and to provide vital educational resources and programming in such areas as community and economic development, agriculture, land use, health and nutrition, and youth development.

Thank you Allegan County!

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January 28, 2021 Session

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

17/ Administrator Rob Sarro noted his written report was submitted to Commissioners.

FINANCE COMMITTEE - CLAIMS & INTERFUND TRANSFERS

18/ **WHEREAS**, Administration has compiled the following claims for January 22, 2021 and January 29, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the following claims, which are chargeable against the County, were audited in accordance with Section 46.61 to 46.63, inclusive, M.C.L. 1970 as amended and resolutions of the Board; and

WHEREAS, said claims are listed in the 2021 Claims folder of the Commissioners' Record of Claims.

January 22, 2021

	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED
General Fund – 1010	32,264.97	32,264.97	
Central Dispatch/E911 Fund - 2110	795.67	795.67	
Friend of the Court Office – 2151	401.00	401.00	
Health Department Fund – 2210	5,615.38	5,615.38	
Solid Waste – 2211	42,830.01	42,830.01	
Transportation Grant – 2300	1,175.12	1,175.12	
Capital Improvement Fund - 2450	5,727.44	5,727.44	
Register of Deeds Automation Fund – 2560	258.84	258.84	
Indigent Defense – 2600	67,566.90	67,566.90	
Law Library Fund – 2690	138.50	138.50	
Grants – 2790	9,036.80	9,036.80	
Child Care-Circuit/Family - 2921	1,675.04	1,675.04	
Senior Millage – 2950	6,839.72	6,839.72	
Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund - 6160	394.63	394.63	
Tax Reversion – 6200	10,771.00	10,771.00	
Drain Equip Revolving - 6390	95.00	95.00	
Fleet Management – 6612	2.13	2.13	
Self-Insurance Fund - 6770	58,669.96	58,669.96	
Drain Fund - 8010	67,429.34	67,429.34	
TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIMS	\$311,687.45	\$311,687.45	

January 29, 2021

	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED
General Fund – 1010	149,759.07	149,759.07	
Park/Recreation Fund - 2080	1,413.01	1,413.01	
Central Dispatch CIP – 2118	1,087.00	1,087.00	
Friend of the Court Office – 2151	106.17	106.17	
Health Department Fund – 2210	3,560.28	3,560.28	

Solid Waste – 2211	10,900.66	10,900.66	
Transportation Grant – 2300	2,686.92	2,686.92	
Multi Agency Collaborative Committee – 2400	8.73	8.73	
Capital Improvement Fund - 2450	34,709.70	34,709.70	
Animal Shelter - 2550	6,438.00	6,438.00	
Indigent Defense – 2600	228,309.68	228,309.68	
Local Corrections Officers Training Fund – 2640	178.40	178.40	
Grants – 2790	32,676.05	32,676.05	
Sheriff Contracts – 2807	107.48	107.48	
Child Care-Circuit/Family - 2921	4,231.69	4,231.69	
Soldiers Relief Fund – 2930	500.00	500.00	
Senior Millage – 2950	1,443.87	1,443.87	
Otsego Water/Sewer Refunding Bond - 3669	2,342.37	2,342.37	
Wayland Refunding 2012 – 3670	1,405.07	1,405.07	
Fleet Management – 6612	106.02	106.02	
Self-Insurance Fund - 6770	9,566.71	9,566.71	
Drain Fund - 8010	3,211.20	3,211.20	
TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIMS	\$494,748.08	\$494,748.08	

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners adopts the report of claims for January 22, 2021 and January 29, 2021.

Moved by Commissioner Thiele, seconded by Commissioner Dugan to adopt the report of claims for January 22, 2021 and January 29, 2021. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

ACTION ITEMS:

RESOLUTION TO EXTEND DECLARATION OF THE STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

19/ WHEREAS, on November 5, 2020, the Allegan County Board of Commissioners, declared that a “local state of emergency” exists within our jurisdiction as of November 6, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Declaration was set to expire on January 31, 2021, unless otherwise extended by the Board of Commissioners.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Allegan County Board of Commissioners hereby extends the above referenced Declaration through June 30, 2021, unless otherwise terminated in advance or extended by the Board of Commissioners.

Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Cain to approve extending the Declaration of State of Emergency for the County of Allegan until June 30, 2021. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: Kapenga, DeYoung, Dugan and Cain. Nays: Storey, Thiele, Jessup.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS - BROWNFIELD PLAN - SET PUBLIC HEARING**

20/ BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners has set a public hearing at 1:00 P.M. at the Board Meeting on February 11, 2021, for review of the Brownfield Plan for 431 Helen, Otsego, Michigan Property; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that County Administration will publish the appropriate notice in the local newspaper.

Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Thiele to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

GROUNDWATER STUDY RESULTS PHASE I-ACCEPT REPORT/SET SPECIAL MEETING

21/ BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners (Board) accepts the Allegan County Groundwater Study Report, as presented; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board supports Public Health in conjunction with the contracted consultant holding a special meeting on February 4, 2021, at 4PM to present data and an overview of the study to all local units of government and other interested stakeholders; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that Public Health will provide proper notice to all stakeholders.

Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Thiele to approve the resolution as presented and allow attendance by Commissioners for per diem reimbursement. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

HUMAN RESOURCES - ADOPT MERS DEFINED BENEFIT/DEFINED CONTRIBUTION**ADDENDUMS**

22/ BE IT RESOLVED that the Allegan County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the attached MERS Defined Benefit & Defined Contribution Addendums; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Chairperson and/or the County Administrator are authorized to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the County and that the Budget and Finance Director is authorized to make the necessary budget adjustments to complete this action.

Moved by Commissioner Thiele, seconded by Commissioner Jessup to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

57TH DISTRICT COURT - APPOINT NON ATTORNEY MAGISTRATE

23/ WHEREAS, in accordance with MCL 600.8501 the Board of Commissioners shall approve all magistrates as appointed by the judges of the district before a person assumes the duties of the office of magistrate; and

WHEREAS, the Allegan County Board of Commissioners received a request from 57th District Court Judge Skocelas to approve current supervisor of the District Court Clerk's Office Cindy Cook as Non-Attorney Magistrate of the 57th District Court with duties to limited to 1) issuing misdemeanor warrants, and 2) performing weddings.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms this appointment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Chairperson and/or the County Administrator are authorized to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the County.

Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Jessp to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

CORRECTION TO THE BOARD RULES OF ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE

24/ Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Jessup to take action during the February 11, 2021 meeting to amend page 3, section 3aiii - Term of Office Limitation in the Board Rules of Organization and Procedure of the Allegan County Board of Commissioners. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NO COMMENTS

25/ Chairman Storey opened the meeting to public participation and as there were no comments from the public, he closed the meeting to public participation.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL FEBRUARY 11, 2021 AT 1:00 P.M.

26/ Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to adjourn until February 11, 2021 at 1:00 P.M. The motion carried by roll call vote and the meeting was adjourned at 2:39 P.M. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

Jennifer Dier

Deputy Clerk

James M. Storey

Board Chairperson

Minutes approved during the 02/11/2021 Session