

Allegan County Board of Commissioners



County Services Building
3283 – 122nd Avenue
Allegan, MI 49010
269-673-0203 Main Office
269-686-5331 Main Fax
<http://www.allegancounty.org>

Jim Storey, Chairperson
Dean Kapenga, Vice Chairperson

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING – AGENDA

Thursday, June 23, 2022 – 1PM

County Services Building – Board Room
Virtual Connectivity Options **Attached**

DISTRICT 1

Dean Kapenga
616-218-2599
dkapenga@
allegancounty.org

1PM

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL:

OPENING PRAYER: Commissioner Gale Dugan

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

PUBLIC HEARING: None

COMMUNICATIONS: Attached

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

June 9, 2022

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

PRESENTATIONS:

PROCLAMATIONS:

INFORMATIONAL SESSION:

Judge Michael Buck—Probate Court

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

DISTRICT 2

Jim Storey
616-848-9767
jstorey@
allegancounty.org

DISTRICT 3

Max R. Thiele
269-673-4514
mthiele@
allegancounty.org

DISTRICT 4

Mark DeYoung
616-318-9612
mdeyoung@
allegancounty.org

DISTRICT 5

Tom Jessup
269-637-3374
tjessup@
allegancounty.org

DISTRICT 6

Gale Dugan
269-694-5276
gdugan@
allegancounty.org

DISTRICT 7

Rick Cain
269-744-7918
rcain@
allegancounty.org

CONSENT ITEMS:

1. Motion to approve of claims paid and to incorporate into proceedings of the Board (6/17/22 & 6/24/22)
-

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Board of Commissioners—approve Deputy Medical Examiners (214-049)
 2. Information Services—award Cisco Network Switch Procurement (214-514)
-

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan (AAAWM)—approve Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) FY2023
 2. Board of Commissioners—oppose House Bills 4729, 4730, 4731, 4732
-

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENTS & ELECTIONS:

1. 911 Policy & Procedure Board (E)

Mission Statement

“The Allegan County Board of Commissioners shall plan, develop, and evaluate the necessary policies and resources to ensure our county continues to progress and prosper”

- a) Township Supervisor Representative—term expires 7/31/22
- b) Fire Chief Representative (East Side)—term expires 7/31/22
- c) Fire Chief Representative (West Side)—term expires 7/31/22
- d) Medical Control Representative—term expires 7/31/22

ELECTIONS:

1. Commission on Aging
 - e) One Member At-Large Representative—term expired 12/31/22
2. Economic Development Commission
 - a) One Arts & Culture Representative—term expired 12/31/21
 - b) One Mfg./Industry Representative—term expired 12/31/21
 - c) One Real Estate/Development Representative—term expired 12/31/22
 - d) One Recreation/Tourism Representative—term expires 12/31/22

APPOINTMENTS:

1. Brownfield Redevelopment Authority
 - a) One Representative—term expires 12/31/19 [Application REC 3/24](#)
2. Parks Advisory Board
 - a) One Representative—term expires 12/31/22
3. Solid Waste Planning Committee
 - a) One Solid Waste Industry Representative—term expired 12/31/20
 - b) One Township Representative—term expired 12/31/19
 - c) One Industrial Waste Generator Representative—term expired 12/31/20
 - d) One Solid Waste Representative—term expired 12/31/19

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Opening Prayer: Commissioner Jim Storey
- Informational Session: Community Mental Health Authority
- Motion to approve of claims paid and to incorporate into proceedings of the Board (7/1/22 & 7/8/22 & 7/15/22)
- Quarterly Review of Potential Budget Adjustments

REQUEST FOR PER DIEM/MILEAGE:

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REPORTS:

ROUND TABLE:

CLOSED SESSION: None scheduled

ADJOURNMENT: Next Meeting – Thursday, July 14, 2022, 1:00PM @ **BOARD ROOM – COUNTY SERVICES BUILDING, COUNTY SERVICES COMPLEX.**



Allegan County Board of Commissioners

STEP 1: Connect to the Meeting

- OPTION 1: Zoom over Telephone

- Call (929) 205-6099 -or- (312) 626-6799 -or- (253) 215-8782
- Type in Meeting ID: 891 6032 7098, then #, then # again
- Type in Meeting Password: 62322, then #

- To raise your hand to speak, press *9
- To Mute and Unmute, press *6

<STOP here>

You do not have to continue reading the rest of the instructions.

- OPTION 2: Youtube

- Open Internet Explorer or Chrome
- Navigate to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQIiZQstN2Pa57QAItAWdKA>
- Click on image of “Live” video

<STOP here>

You do not have to continue reading the rest of the instructions.

- OPTION 3: Zoom over Web browser

- Open Internet Explorer or Chrome
- Navigate to <https://zoom.us/j/89160327098>
- Meeting Password: 62322

<Continue with the rest of the instructions>

STEP 2: Enter registration information

Webinar Registration - Zoom

zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YneHxuk_SjqfnMwchbtUEg

Webinar Registration

Topic: BOC Meeting - 4/9/2020

Time: Apr 9, 2020 01:00 PM in Eastern Time (US and Canada)


* Required information

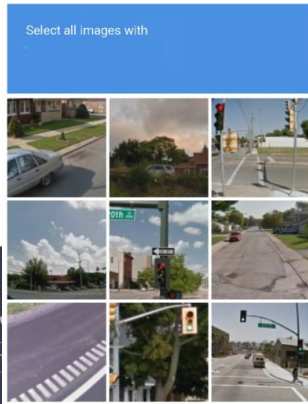
First Name *

Last Name *

Email Address *

Confirm Email Address *

I'm not a robot  reCAPTCHA Privacy - Terms

Select all images with 

VERIFY

US Dollars

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Curre
US Dollars

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Zoom Blog
Customers
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Why Zoom
Features
Careers
Integrations
Partners
Investors

Download
Meetings Client
Zoom Rooms Client
Browser Extension
Outlook Plug-in
Lync Plug-in
iPhone/iPad App
Android App

Sales
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Plans & Pricing
Request a Demo
Webinars and Events

Support
Test Zoom
Account
Support Center
Live Training
Feedback
Contact Us
Accessibility

1. Enter name and email

2. Click this box

4. Click when done.

3. Answer challenge question

STEP 3: This Window will appear when connected.



STEP 4: Adjust audio settings (if needed)

The screenshot shows the Zoom application interface. A large black vertical bar on the left side of the screen is highlighted with a blue arrow labeled '1'. A blue arrow labeled '2' points to the 'Audio' settings panel on the right. The 'Audio' panel includes a list of settings on the left (General, Video, Audio, Share Screen, Virtual Background, Recording, Statistics, Feedback, Keyboard Shortcuts, Accessibility) and a detailed configuration area on the right. The 'Speaker' section shows 'Test Speaker' selected and 'Remote Audio' in a dropdown menu. Below this are sliders for 'Output Level' and 'Volume'. The 'Microphone' section shows 'Test Mic' selected and 'Input Level' and 'Volume' sliders. A checkbox for 'Automatically adjust volume' is checked. At the bottom of the settings panel, there are several unchecked checkboxes: 'Use separate audio device to play ringtone simultaneously', 'Automatically join audio by computer when joining a meeting', and 'Mute my microphone when joining a meeting'. Two checked checkboxes are 'Press and hold SPACE key to temporarily unmute yourself' and 'Sync buttons on headset'. An 'Advanced' button is located at the bottom right of the settings panel. In the background, a meeting agenda is visible with items like 'Economic Development - Greg King, Director' and 'ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:'. A 'CONSENT ITEMS:' section lists a motion to approve claims paid and to incorporate into proceedings of the Board (3/20/20 & 3/27/20). At the bottom of the screen, there is a meeting toolbar with icons for 'Chat', 'Raise Hand', and 'Q&A'.

Settings

- General
- Video
- Audio**
- Share Screen
- Virtual Background
- Recording
- Statistics
- Feedback
- Keyboard Shortcuts
- Accessibility

Speaker

Test Speaker Remote Audio

Output Level: _____

Volume:

Microphone

Test Mic _____

Input Level: _____

Volume:

Automatically adjust volume

Use separate audio device to play ringtone simultaneously

Automatically join audio by computer when joining a meeting

Mute my microphone when joining a meeting

Press and hold SPACE key to temporarily unmute yourself

Sync buttons on headset

Advanced

269-673-4514
mthiele@allegancounty.org

Economic Development — Greg King, Director
ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

DISTRICT 4
Mark DeYoung
616-318-9612
mdeyoung@allegancounty.org

CONSENT ITEMS:

1. Motion to approve of claims paid and to incorporate into proceedings of the Board (3/20/20 & 3/27/20)

Audio Settings ^

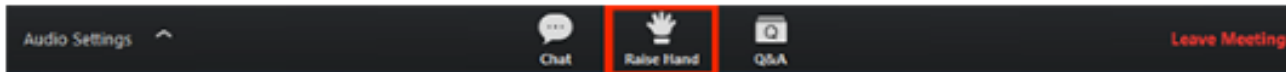
Chat Raise Hand Q&A

STEP 5: Raise hand to be recognized to speak.

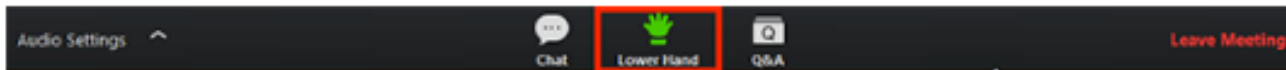
- Once “Raise Hand” is clicked, the Board Chairperson will receive notice and may UNMUTE your microphone when ready and verbally recognize you to speak.

On bottom of screen.

1. Click **Raise Hand** in the Webinar Controls.



2. The host will be notified that you've raised your hand.
3. Click **Lower Hand** to lower it if needed.



STEP 6: To leave the meeting

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. At the top, a green banner reads "You are viewing Allegan County Administration's screen" with a "View Options" dropdown. In the top right corner, there is an "Enter Full Screen" button. The main content is a document viewer displaying a Microsoft Word document titled "BOC20200409_agenda [Compatibility Mode] - Word". The document header includes the "Allegan County Board of Commissioners" logo and contact information for County Services Building, including address, phone, fax, and website. Below the header, the document title is "BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING – AGENDA". The agenda items are listed by district: DISTRICT 1 (Dean Kasperge), DISTRICT 2 (Jim Storey), DISTRICT 3 (Max R. Thiele), and DISTRICT 4 (Mark DeYoung). The agenda items include "Virtual Meeting – Connectivity Instructions Attached", "1PM CALL TO ORDER: ROLL CALL: OPENING PRAYER: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: COMMUNICATIONS: Attached APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Attached", "PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS: APPROVAL OF AGENDA: PRESENTATIONS: PROCLAMATIONS: INFORMATIONAL SESSION: Attached ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:", and "CONSENT ITEMS:". The document footer shows "PAGE 1 OF 2 251 WORDS" and a zoom level of "100%". At the bottom of the Zoom window, there is a control bar with "Audio Settings", "Chat", "Raise Hand", "Q&A", and a red "Leave Meeting" button. A large blue arrow points to the "Leave Meeting" button.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

County Building
P.O. Box 70, Room 131
Cheboygan, Michigan 49721

Tel ~ (231) 627-8858
Fax ~ (231) 627-8881
E-mail ~ ccao@cheboygancounty.net

CHEBOYGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION #2022-13

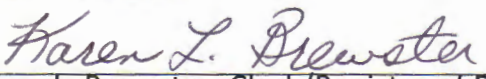
OPPOSING MICHIGAN HOUSE BILLS 4729, 4730, 4731 & 4732

- WHEREAS,** Zillow has spearheaded legislation to undermine the integrity of the Register of Deeds and Treasurer's offices across the State of Michigan greatly reducing revenues needed to fund the daily operation of both offices; and
- WHEREAS,** Zillow, a (for profit) corporation, is asking the State of Michigan legislature to pass legislation that will provide them ALL the records of the County's taxpayers from both the Register of Deeds and the Treasurer's offices at a huge discount or in some instances 100% free of charge; and
- WHEREAS,** Zillow will then sell those records for profit putting our constituents at a higher risk of fraud or theft while placing the burden to fund the offices on the taxpayers of CHEBOYGAN County; and
- WHEREAS,** The Michigan Association of County Treasurers and the Michigan Association of Register of Deeds, both bipartisan organizations, unanimously oppose these bills; Therefore, Be It
- RESOLVED** That the Cheboygan County Board of Commissioners stand in solidarity with the County Clerk/Register of Deeds and the County Treasurer to oppose HB's 4729, 4730, 4731, 4732 and stand up to corporations that data mine records for profit while placing the burden on Cheboygan County taxpayers;
Be It Further
- RESOLVED** That a copy of this resolution in opposition to the above bills be forwarded to Governor Whitmer, Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate Majority Leader, the Michigan Association of Counties, the Michigan Association of County Treasurers, the Michigan Association of County Clerks, and the Michigan Association of County Register of Deeds.

ADOPTED THIS 14TH DAY OF JUNE 2022



John B. Wallace, Chair
Cheboygan County Board of Commissioner



Karen L. Brewster, Clerk/Register of Deeds



Buffy Jo Weldon, Treasurer

District 1
Curtis Chambers

District 2
Richard B. Sangster
Vice-Chairman

District 3
Michael Newman

District 4
Ron Williams

District 5
Roberta Matelski

District 6
John B. Wallace
Chair

District 7
Steve Warfield

I, Karen L. Brewster the undersigned, the Clerk of the County of Cheboygan, Cheboygan, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of certain proceedings taken by the Cheboygan County Board of commissioners at its regular meeting held on June 14, 2022, relative to adoption of the resolution therein set forth; that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the seal of said Court and County, this 14th day of June, 2022.



Karen L. Brewster

Cheboygan County Clerk/Register of Deeds

CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

R-120-22

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING MICHIGAN HOUSE BILLS 4729, 4730, 4731, & 4732

WHEREAS, Zillow, a for-profit corporation from Seattle, WA, has been lobbying the Michigan Legislature to pass legislation that undermines the integrity of Register of Deeds and Treasurer Offices across the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the legislation that Zillow is lobbying for would require Register of Deeds and Treasurer Office across the State of Michigan to provide for-profit corporations copies of any official records maintained by those offices at a significant discount or in some instances free of any charge. As a result, the taxpayers will be responsible for picking up the tab for providing these records and the financial burden created by the loss of revenue for these offices; and

WHEREAS, if these Bills become law, Zillow and other for-profit corporations will have the ability to demand the manner in which the Register of Deeds and Treasurer must provide copies of official records; and

WHEREAS, if these Bills become law, they would impose new restrictions and limits on what Register of Deeds and Treasurer Offices can charge for parcel cards, and would burden Michigan taxpayers with the cost to provide records to out-of-state entities and corporate organizations; and

WHEREAS, Zillow and other corporations will capitalize on selling publicly owned records, provided to them free of charge, while at the same time placing Michigan residents at a higher risk for fraud and theft; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Association of County Treasurers, Michigan Association of County Clerks, Michigan Association of Register of Deeds, and the Michigan Municipal League are united in opposing Michigan House Bills 4729, 4730, 4731, & 4732.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cass County Board of Commissioners OPPOSE Michigan House Bills 4729, 4730, 4731, & 4732, as private corporations should not benefit financially from public records at the expense of Michigan taxpayers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, the Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the Michigan Senate, Senator Kim LaSata, Representative Steve Carra, Representative Brad Paquette, the Michigan Association of Counties, the Michigan Association of County Treasurers, the Michigan Association of County Clerks, the Michigan Association of Register of Deeds, and the Michigan Municipal League.

ADOPTED THIS 2nd DAY OF JUNE 2022

ATTEST:


Monica McMichael, Clerk/Register
COUNTY OF CASS


Dwight Dyes, Chair
CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Iosco County Board of Commissioners

9

COURT HOUSE
Tawas City, Michigan 48763

RESOLUTION

DATE: June 1, 2022

THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

WHEREAS, Zillow has spearheaded legislation to undermine the integrity of the Register of Deeds' and Treasurers' offices across the state of Michigan, which will greatly reduce revenues needed to fund the daily operation of both offices, and,

WHEREAS, Zillow, a for profit corporation, is lobbying the State of Michigan legislature to pass legislation that will provide them copies of any official records maintained by both the Register of Deeds' and the Treasurers' offices at an insignificant fee or, in some cases, 100% free of charge and,

WHEREAS, if these Bills become law, Zillow will have the ability to demand the manner in which the Register of Deeds and Treasurer must provide copies of official records and,

WHEREAS, if these Bills become law, they would impose new restrictions and limits on what the Register of Deeds and Treasurer Offices can charge for parcel cards and,

WHEREAS, the burden to fund the Register of Deeds and the Treasury Departments would fall more heavily on the taxpayers of Iosco County due to providing official records to out-of-state entities and corporate organizations and,

WHEREAS, Zillow will profit on selling publicly owned records, provided to them free of charge, while at the same time placing Iosco County and other Michigan residents at a higher risk for fraud and theft and,

WHEREAS, the Michigan Association of Counties, the Michigan Association of County Treasurers, Michigan Association of County Clerks, the Michigan Municipal League, and the Michigan Association of Register of Deeds, all bipartisan organizations, are united in opposing Michigan House Bills 4729, 4730, 4731, 4732 and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Iosco County Board of Commissioners stand in solidarity with the Iosco County Register of Deeds and the Iosco County Treasurer to oppose HB's 4729, 4730, 4731, 4732 and stand up to corporations that data mine and benefit financially from public records at the expense of the taxpayers and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution in opposition to the above bills be forwarded to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Representative Jason Wentworth, Senate Majority Leader, Senator Mike Shirkey, the Senate Representative for Iosco County, Senator Jim Stamas, the House of Representatives for Iosco County, Representative Sue Allor, and the Governor of the State of Michigan, Governor Gretchen Whitmer, The Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Association of County Treasurers, Michigan Association of County Clerks, and the Michigan Association of Register of Deeds.

Move:



Support:



Roll Call:

Ayes 4

Nays 0

Absent 1

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY MICHIGAN, Your County Committee on Committees respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2022, the Michigan Supreme Court ordered that "Juneteenth", June 19, would be observed by all state courts as a paid holiday, and this year will be observed on Monday, June 20, 2022; and

WHEREAS, this is an additional holiday above what is identified in County Policy ADM-4020; and

WHEREAS, as designed, this would provide an additional holiday for ONLY court employees in Berrien County; and


WHEREAS, adding this as a holiday for only court employees places additional burden on all other county staff; and

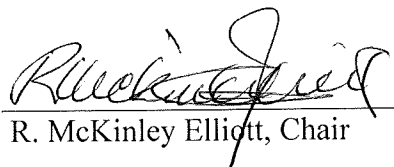
WHEREAS, in a time when Berrien County is trying to attract and retain workers to fill vacancies across the board, providing an additional holiday for only a specific group of employees would hinder that effort.

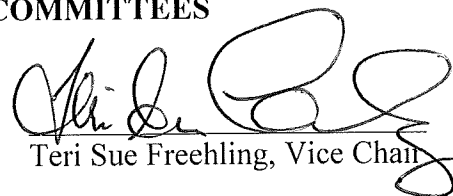
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners authorizes that June 20, 2022 will be a paid day off for all county employees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at this time, the paid day off will only be recognized for all county staff this year, while staff looks at all the pieces and parts involved with the consideration of it in the future.

**Respectfully submitted,
BERRIEN COUNTY COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES**


Robert P. Harrison, PHSC Chair


R. McKinley Elliott, Chair


Teri Sue Freehling, Vice Chair


Jim Curran, Admin Chair

Mamie L. Yarbrough, Finance Chair

**MISSAUKEE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION 2022-6**

At a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Missaukee, State of Michigan, on the 14th day of June, 2022:

Commissioners Present: Lan Bridson, Dean Smallegan, Gary Gladu, Roger Ouwinga, Frank Vanderwal, Star Hughston

Commissioners Absent: Pam Niebrzydowski

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner G.Gladu, seconded by Commissioner R. Ouwinga,

RESOLUTION 2022-6
RESOLUTION OPPOSING MICHIGAN HOUSE BILLS 4729, 4730, 4731, & 4732

WHEREAS, Zillow, a for-profit corporation from Seattle, WA, has been lobbying the Michigan Legislature to pass legislation that undermines the integrity of Register of Deeds and Treasurer Offices across the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the legislation that Zillow is lobbying for would require Register of Deeds and Treasurer Office across the State of Michigan to provide for-profit corporations copies of any official records maintained by those offices at a significant discount or in some instances free of any charge. As a result, the taxpayers will be responsible for picking up the tab for providing these records and the financial burden created by the loss of revenue for these offices; and

WHEREAS, if these Bills become law, Zillow and other for-profit corporations will have the ability to demand the manner in which the Register of Deeds and Treasurer must provide copies of official records; and

WHEREAS, if these Bills become law, they would impose new restrictions and limits on what Register of Deeds and Treasurer Offices can charge for parcel cards, and would burden Michigan taxpayers with the cost to provide records to out-of-state entities and corporate organizations; and

WHEREAS, Zillow and other corporations will capitalize on selling publicly owned records, provided to them free of charge, while at the same time placing Michigan residents at a higher risk for fraud and theft; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Association of County Treasurers, Michigan Association of County Clerks, Michigan Association of Register of Deeds, and the Michigan Municipal League are united in opposing Michigan House Bills 4729, 4730,

4731, & 4732.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Missaukee County Board of Commissioners OPPOSE Michigan House Bills 4729, 4730, 4731, & 4732, as private corporations should not benefit financially from public records at the expense of Michigan taxpayers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Missaukee County's State Legislative members, the Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Association of County Treasurers, Michigan Association of County Clerks, Michigan Association of Register of Deeds, and the Michigan Municipal League.

Ayes: Bridson, Hughston, Smallegan, Vanderwal, Gladu, Owinga


Nays: None

Absent: Niebryzdowski

Resolution declared approved dated this 14th day of June, 2022.

I, Jessica Nielsen, County Clerk/Register, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of an agreement approved by the Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting on June 14, 2022.

Date: June 14, 2022



Jessica Nielsen
Missaukee County Clerk/Register

ALLEGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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JUNE 9, 2022 SESSION

JOURNAL 70

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222	5	AUTO INSURANCE REFORM
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MORNING SESSION

JUNE 9, 2022 SESSION - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL

1/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Allegan, State of Michigan, met in the Board Room of the County Services Building in the Township of Allegan on June 9, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. in accordance with the motion for adjournment of May 26, 2022, and rules of this board; Chairman Storey presiding.

The Chief 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	DIST #5	TOM JESSUP
DIST #2	JIM STOREY	DIST #6	GALE DUGAN
DIST #3	MAX THIELE	DIST #7	RICK CAIN
DIST #4	MARK DeYOUNG		

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 ADDITIONS

3/ Chairman Storey asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Administrator Sarro requested a close session be added to the agenda. Commissioner Jessup requested that agenda #3 Broadband Funding be moved to #2 of the agenda. With no objection being heard Chairman Storey approved amending the agenda.

AGENDA - ADOPTED AS AMENDED

4/ Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Jessup to adopt the meeting agenda as amended. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

AUTO INSURANCE REFORM

5/ Moved by Commissioner Kapenga, seconded by Commissioner Cain to table discussion until the June 23, 2022 Board Planning Session to have the proposed resolution sent to Senator Nesbitt for input relative to this legislation. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: Kapenga, Storey, Thiele, DeYoung, Dugan and Cain. Nays: Jessup.

BROADBAND FUNDING - LEE TOWNSHIP

6/ Lee Township Supervisor Scott Owen addressed the board regarding the broadband grant. Discussion followed.

Moved by Commissioner Jessup, seconded by Commissioner Thiele to allocate \$431,000 of ARPA funds for the broadband project in Lee Township. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: Storey, DeYoung, Jessup, Dugan and Cain. Nays: Kapenga and Thiele.

Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung to include the adoption of option 3 in the Administrator's memo dated 6/9/2022 titled Lee Township Broadband Options. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: Kapenga, Storey, DeYoung, Jessup, Dugan and Cain. Nays: Thiele.

Allegan County
Administrator

Robert J. Sarro



County Services Building
3283 – 122nd Avenue
Allegan, MI 49010
269.673.0203

MEMORANDUM

June 9, 2022

TO: Board of Commissioners
FROM: Robert J. Sarro, County Administrator *Robert J. Sarro*
RE: **Lee Township Broadband Options**

During the June 2, 2022, Broadband Action Workgroup (BAW) meeting the BAW voted (with some absences) to support Lee Township presenting a proposal to the Board of Commissioners requesting a guaranteed grant match should the Township be awarded a State grant. This request is understandable as the Township has done a lot of work locally to prepare for broadband implementation and their community represents a significant level of unserved and/or underserved households. From a countywide perspective, committing funds or separating a project out in advance of the Broadband Request for Proposal (RFP) process, designed to solicit and evaluate broadband solutions, may present challenges. As such, the following alternative options are being presented from an administrative perspective for the Board's consideration:

Option 1 – Table the request until completion of the RFP (after receipt of Connect MI data)

- Allows project to move forward as planned
- Utilizes accurate data from Connect MI (not expected to begin data collection until mid-July and data tentatively received by County by end of August)
- Does not meet the advanced timeline for Lee Township

Option 2 – Expedite the release of the RFP and consider the Township's request earlier, but as part of the RFP process

- May meet Lee Township's timeline
- Address level data may not be accurate and the effectiveness of the RFP process and related proposals may be degraded as opposed to waiting for the Connect MI data

Option 3 – Implement a process for any Allegan County local unit to request direct County ARPA funds (up to the amount of funds the local unit received from the State) for a "shovel-ready" broadband or water project and forego receipt of any additional County ARPA funding, though they may still be included for planning purposes (e.g RFP)

In review of Lee Township's request and these alternative options, Option 3 seems to accomplish the most needs in a reasonably fair manner and will allow the final RFP and water studies to continue effectively for those areas that do not already have a broadband or water plan in place. As such, Option 3 is recommended if the Board desires to grant Lee Township's request for reserved funding.

BREAK - 10:55 A.M.

7/ Upon reconvening at 11:09 A.M., the following Commissioners were present: Commissioner Kapenga, Storey, Thiele, DeYoung, Jessup, Dugan and Cain. Absent: None.

WATER STUDY WORKGROUP - AUTHORIZE GROUNDWATER STUDY PHASE II PROJECT/RESERVE WATER PROJECT FUNDS

8/ **WHEREAS**, results from an Ottawa County study demonstrated water availability issues and potential impact for Allegan County; and

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2019, the Board of Commissioners (Board) authorized Public Health to proceed to gather a complete project scope on the groundwater study for the County of Allegan; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Board approved the Groundwater Study Phase I Proposal from Hydrosimulatics, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$150,000; and

WHEREAS, in February 2021, Hydrosimulatics, Inc. produced and presented the Groundwater Study Phase I to the Board, which included recommended next steps; and

WHEREAS, on March 25, 2021, the Board approved the County Administrator's recommendation that a work group be convened to review the data and form recommendations for next steps; and

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2021, as the next step, the Board accepted the Public Health's Water Study Workgroup Report; and

WHEREAS, on May 27, 2021, the Board accepted the Water Study Group Memorandum from the County Administrator which further vetted the workgroup's tasks and deliverables; and

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2021, the Board established the Water Study Workgroup; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2022, the workgroup held its first meeting; and

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2022, the workgroup recommended to the Board to accept the Screening-Level Modeling, Risk Analysis, and Ranking Proposal (Groundwater Study Phase II Project) from Hydrosimulatics, Inc. for screening level modeling of contaminated sites; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2022, the workgroup voted to recommend the implementation of monitoring wells in conjunction with the Michigan Geological Survey/Western Michigan for the initial build of four wells (approximately \$15,000 of ARPA with blended funding) and a plan to implement approximately twenty more wells with blended funding (estimated total of approximately \$100,000); and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2022, the workgroup reviewed funding models for overall anticipated project plans and is recommending the Board appropriate three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00) for the purpose of ground water studies, monitoring wells, potential water quality and availability improvements all towards the development of a short and long term plan for the protection of Allegan County water supply.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board accepts the Groundwater Study Phase II Project from Hydrosimulatics, Inc. for approximately \$110,000, as presented; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the total project cost will be funded from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund (ARPA); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Administrator is authorized to negotiate contracts for services for the Phase II study (Hydrosymulatics, Inc.) and up to 24 monitoring wells (Michigan Geological Survey/Western Michigan); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board reserves \$3,000,000.00 of ARPA funds for water related projects including those authorized in this resolution; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the County Administrator is authorized to sign any necessary documents on behalf of the County and the Executive Director of Finance is authorized to perform the necessary budget adjustments to complete this action.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NO COMMENTS

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

CLOSED SESSION: COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

10/ Moved by Commissioner Jessup, seconded by Commissioner Dugan to recess to closed session to discuss collective bargaining. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

RECONVENE/ROLL CALL

11/ Upon reconvening at 12:53 P.M., the following Commissioners were present: Kapenga, Storey, Thiele, DeYoung, Jessup, Dugan and Cain.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL JUNE 23, 2022 AT 9:00 A.M.

12/ Moved by Commissioner Jessup, seconded by Commissioner Dugan to adjourn until June 23, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. The motion carried by roll call vote and the meeting was adjourned at 12:53 P.M. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: votes.

AFTERNOON SESSION

JUNE 9, 2022 SESSION - INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL

13/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Allegan, State of Michigan, met in the Board Room of the County Services Building in the Township of Allegan on June 9, 2022 at 1:00 P.M. in accordance with the motion for adjournment of May 26, 2022, and rules of this Board; Chairman Storey presiding.

The invocation was offered by District #5 Commissioner Jessup.

The Chief 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	DIST #5	TOM JESSUP
DIST #2	JIM STOREY	DIST #6	GALE DUGAN
DIST #3	MAX THIELE	DIST #7	RICK CAIN arrived 1:14pm
DIST #4	MARK DeYOUNG left 2:06pm		

COMMUNICATIONS

14/ Chief Deputy Clerk Porter noted to the board that they received the following resolutions:

1. Resolution from Tuscola, Menominee and Cass Counties opposing Michigan House Bills 4729, 4730, 4731 and 4732

MAY 26, 2022 SESSION MINUTES - ADOPTED

15/ Moved by Commissioner Kapenga, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung to approve the minutes for the May 26, 2022 session as distributed. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NO COMMENTS

16/ 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

17/ Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to adopt the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

AGENDA - AMEND MEETING AGENDA

18/ Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to add action item #5 outcome of the closed session regarding collective bargaining. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

INFORMATIONAL SESSION - 48th CIRCUIT COURT

19/ Jennifer Brink, Circuit Court Administrator presented the 2021 Annual Report for the 48th Circuit Court. Full report can be found on the county website (www.allegancounty.org) under Connect and the Annual Reports.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

20/ Administrator Sarro noted his written report was submitted to Commissioners. Highlights included: Register of Deeds service window has been installed; the County received MERS annual Act Valuation Report; and the County has received the First Response Training and Recruitment grant of \$100,000.

FINANCE COMMITTEE - CLAIMS & INTERFUND TRANSFERS

21/ WHEREAS, Administration has compiled the following claims for June 3, 2022 and June 10, 2022; 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 2022 Claims folder of the Commissioners' Record of Claims.

June 3, 2022

	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED
General Fund – 101	126,962.32	126,962.32	
Park/Recreation Fund - 208	267.75	267.75	
Friend of the Court Fund – 215	100.00	100.00	
Health Department Fund - 221	26,094.15	26,094.15	
Multi Agency Collaborative Committee - 245	523.83	523.83	
Palisades Fund – 257	150.42	150.42	
Indigent Defense - 260	323.04	323.04	
Central Dispatch/E911 Fund - 261	4,905.11	4,905.11	
Justice Training Fund – P.A.302, 1982 - 266	400.00	400.00	
Law Library Fund – 269	2,272.12	2,272.12	
Grants – 279	9,416.74	9,416.74	
Transportation Grant – 288	6,318.84	6,318.84	
Child Care-Circuit/Family - 292	4,883.56	4,883.56	
Soldiers Relief Fund - 293	1,272.28	1,272.28	
Senior Millage - 298	1,085.77	1,085.77	
Capital Improvement Fund - 401	266,035.00	266,035.00	
Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund - 516	897.28	897.28	
Fleet Management - 661	633.15	633.15	
Self-Insurance Fund - 677	375,772.42	375,772.42	
Drain Fund - 801	1,222,709.06	1,222,709.06	
TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIMS	\$2,051,022.84	\$2,051,022.84	

June 10, 2022

	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED
General Fund – 101	183,626.28	183,626.28	
GASB 84 - 108	365,713.49	365,713.49	
Park/Recreation Fund - 208	5,266.32	5,266.32	
Friend of the Court - Coop. Reimb. – 215	145.13	145.13	
Health Department Fund - 221	32,756.02	32,756.02	
Brownfield Redevelopment Auth. - 243	3,945.15	3,945.15	
Indigent Defense Fund - 260	28,692.08	28,692.08	
Central Dispatch Fund - 261	7,249.22	7,249.22	
Local Corrections Officers Training Fund - 264	1,425.00	1,425.00	
Grants – 279	5,058.95	5,058.95	
Crime Victims Rights Grant - 280	46.37	46.37	

Transportation Fund – 288	29,175.54	29,175.54	
Child Care Fund - 292	31,654.54	31,654.54	
Veterans Relief Fund - 293	1,136.71	1,136.71	
Senior Services Fund - 298	740.99	740.99	
American Rescue Plan Act – ARPA - 299	17,025.20	17,025.20	
Capital Improvement Fund - 401	33,299.80	33,299.80	
CIP – Youth Home Building Fund – 492	101,706.75	101,706.75	
Central Dispatch CIP - 496	20,022.67	20,022.67	
Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund - 516	4,440.33	4,440.33	
Tax Reversion - 620	63.78	63.78	
Revolving Drain Maintenance Fund - 639	298.52	298.52	
Fleet Management/Motor Pool - 661	196.80	196.80	
Self-Insurance Fund - 677	14,619.56	14,619.56	
Drain Fund - 801	48,246.96	48,246.96	
TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIMS	\$936,552.16	\$936,552.16	

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners adopts the report of claims for June 3, 2022 and June 10, 2022.

Moved by Commissioner DeYoung, seconded by Commissioner Dugan to adopt the report of claims for June 3, 2022 and June 10, 2022. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

ACTION ITEMS:

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY SERVICES: PRIORITIZATION OF STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

22/ WHEREAS, Midwest Strategy requested the Board of Commissioners (Board) rank the County’s strategic focus areas within three categories:

HIGH - will receive a specific plan to move forward; these are the areas the advocate will spend the majority of time on,

MEDIUM - the advocate can support through other associations in a public fashion,

LOW - the advocate will only monitor, and give a report on any movement or changes; and

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2022, individual Commissioners ranked the eleven focus areas and the results were tallied and shared back with the Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board approves the priority ranking of strategic focus areas for Midwest Strategy (advocate):

Survey Results	RANKING		
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	1		
Broadband	2		
Water quality and availability	3		
Debt Elimination	4		
Public Health	5		

Facility and Road Planning/Construction (Infrastructure)		6	
Transportation Services		7	
Public Safety and Criminal Justice		8	
Brownfield Properties			9
Placement of an additional Circuit Court Judge			10
Parks and Recreation			11

Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: Kapenga, Storey, DeYoung, Jessup, Dugan and Cain. Nays: Thiele.

NATIONAL COMMUNITY SURVEY—RELEASE

23/ WHEREAS, on March 10, 2022, the Allegan County Board of Commissioners (Board) authorized the County Administrator to negotiate and sign contract documents, purchasing the services of the Polco National Research Center, Inc., 8001 Terrance Ave. Middleton, WI 53562; and

WHEREAS, a workgroup consisting of the individuals listed below developed the final draft National Community Survey with Polco National Research Center:

Jim Storey, Board of Commissioners Chairperson
 Frank Baker, Sheriff
 Dan Wedge, Executive Director of Services
 Angelique Joynes, Health Officer
 Sherry Owens, Director Senior and Veterans
 Brandy Gildea, Parks Manager
 Mark Witte, Director ACCMH (funding)
 Lisa Evans, Allegan County Community Action (funding)
 Amanda Telgenhof, United Way (funding)
 William Brown, Allegan Area Educational Service Agency (funding)
 Michael Kiella, Community Representative.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board approves the release of the survey; as presented.

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

2022 MILLAGE LEVY - SET COUNTY MILLAGE RATES

24/ WHEREAS, pursuant to State Law (MCL 141.412 and 141.413), a notice of a public hearing concerning the 2022 County Budget was published in the Allegan County News, a newspaper of general circulation, on September 30, 2021 and a public hearing concerning the budget was held on October 14, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners (Board) adopted a Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriation on October 14, 2021; and

WHEREAS, having held said hearing, the Board has determined the levy of said proposed millage to be in the best interests of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Senior Services millage renewal is scheduled for the August 2, 2022 election.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves the following millages to be levied throughout the County of Allegan in the year of 2022:

County Operating Tax	5.1272
Allocated - Veterans Relief Fund	<u>0.0200</u>
TOTAL COUNTY OPERATING	5.1472

COUNTY ROAD TAX	0.9654
SENIOR SERVICES	0.0000
MEDICAL CARE FACILITY	0.2448
ALLEGAN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT	<u>0.0979</u>
TOTAL COUNTY MILLAGE	6.4553

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the Board Chairperson and County Clerk are authorized to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the Board.

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

L-4029

ORIGINAL TO: County Clerk(s)
COPY TO: Equalization Dept(s)
COPY TO: Each Twp or City Clerk

This form is based on MCL Sections 211.34a, 211.34 and 211.34c. Filing is mandatory. Penalty applies.

2022 TAX RATE REQUEST (This form must be completed and submitted on or before September 30.)
MILLAGE REQUEST REPORT TO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

County	ALLEGAN	2022 Taxable Value of All Properties as of	5,806,855,314
Local Government Unit	ALLEGAN COUNTY		

PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE SIDE CAREFULLY.

You must complete this form for each unit of government for which a property tax is levied. Penalty for non-filing is provided under MCL Sec. 211.119. The following tax rates have been authorized for levy on the 2022 tax roll.

(1) Source	(2) Purpose of Millage	(3) Date of Election	(4) Original Millage Authorized by Election, Charter, etc.	(5) 2021 Millage Rate Permanently Reduced by MCL 211.34d "Headlee"	(6) 2022 Current Year "Headlee" Millage Reduction Fraction	(7) 2022 Millage Rate Permanently Reduced by MCL 211.34d "Headlee"	(8) Sec. 211.34 Truth in Assessing or Equalization Millage Rollback Fraction	(9) Maximum allowable Millage Rate*	(10) Millage Requested to be Levied July 1	(11) Millage Requested to be Levied Dec. 1	(12) Expiration Date of Millage Authorized
ALLOCATED	OPERATING	11/3/2020	5.7000	5.6441	0.9892	5.5931	1.0000	5.5831	5.1272		UNLIMITED
	Op. Vet			0.0000	0.9892	0.0000	1.0000	0.0000	0.0200		UNLIMITED
EXTRA VOTED	ROADS	8/7/2018	1.0000	0.9760	0.9892	0.3654	1.0000	0.9654		0.9654	12/31/2023
EXTRA VOTED	SENIOR SERVICES	8/7/2018	0.4930	0.4811	0.9892	0.4759	1.0000	0.4759			12/31/2024
EXTRA VOTED	MEDICAL CARE FACILITY	8/4/2020	0.2500	0.2475	0.9892	0.2448	1.0000	0.2448		0.2448	12/31/2029
EXTRA VOTED	CONSERVATION	8/4/2020	0.1000	0.0990	0.9892	0.0979	1.0000	0.0979		0.0979	12/31/2026
Prepared by	Matthew Woolford MMAO				Total Authorized (exclude debt)						
Co-Sign - Verified by	Title				Co-Sign Title						
	EQUALIZATION DIRECTOR								6/8/2022		

As the representatives for the local government unit named above, we certify that these requested tax levy rates have been reduced, if necessary, to comply with the state constitution (Article 9, Section 21), and that the requested levy rates have also been reduced, if necessary, to comply with MCL Sections 211.24e, 211.34, and for LOCAL school districts which levy a Supplemental (Headlee) Millage, MCL 380.121(1).

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clerk	Signature		Type Name	Bob Genetski, Clerk - Register
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secretary	Signature		Type Name	Jim Storey, Chairperson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> President				

Date: 6/8/22
Co-Sign Date: 6/8/2022

Local School District Use Only. Complete if requesting millage to be levied. See STC Bulletin 2 of 2008 for instructions on completing this section.

Total School District Operation Rates to be Levied (HH/Supp and NH Oper Only)

Per Principal Residence, Qualified Ag Qualified forest and Industrial Personal

For Commercial Personal

For all Other

*Under Truth in Taxation, MCL Section 211.24e, the governing body may decide to levy a rate which will not exceed the maximum authorized rate allowed in column 9. The requirements of MCL 211.24e must be met prior to levying an operator levy which is larger than the base tax rate but not larger than the rate in column 9.

** IMPORTANT: See enclosed instructions for the correct method of calculating the millage rate in column (5).

OUTCOME FROM CLOSED SESSION - COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

25/ Moved by Commissioner Cain, seconded by Commissioner Dugan to authorize the County Administrator to offer the presented holiday proposal to all labor groups as presented pending judicial concurrence. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: Kapenga, Storey, Thiele, DeYoung, Dugan and Cain. Nays: Jessup.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:**FACILITIES MANAGEMENT - FACILITY MASTER PLANNING SERVICES**

26/ **WHEREAS**, the County desires to update its overall Facility Master Plan to determine future space needs and building maintenance costs; and

WHEREAS, funds have not been appropriated for this service and a contract award would require a mid-year appropriation of funds; and

WHEREAS, available capital funds remain in the Courthouse Air Handler Replacement Project, which will be completed under budget.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners (Board) authorizes the budgetary reallocation of \$80,000 within the Public Improvement Fund (Fund #401) for this Facility Master Planning Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator is authorized to negotiate a final contract with Wightman of 1670 Lincoln Road, Allegan, Michigan 49010 for a not to exceed amount of \$80,000; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the County Administrator is authorized to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the County and that the Executive Director of Finance is authorized to make the necessary budget adjustments to complete this action.

Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Cain to take action during the June 23, 2022 meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Thiele, seconded by Commissioner Cain to amend the motion and take immediate action of the Facility Master Planning Services and approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: Kapenga, Storey, DeYoung, Jessup, Dugan and Cain. Nays: Thiele.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NO COMMENTS

27/ 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 JUNE 23, 2022 AT 1:00 P.M.

28/ Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Cain to adjourn until June 23, 2022 at 1:00 P.M. The motion carried by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 2:13 P.M. Yeas: 6 votes. Nays: 0 votes. Absent: 1 vote.

Chief Deputy Clerk

Board Chairperson

Minutes approved during the 00/00/2022 Session

June 9, 2022 Session

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



ALLEGAN COUNTY PROBATE COURT



*Hon. Michael L. Buck
Alicia Blik
Jonathan K. Blair
Jennifer Callaway
Jennifer White*

Mission Statement

The mission of the Allegan County Probate Court is to administer justice with fairness, equality, and integrity, to resolve matters before the court in a timely manner, and to provide courteous and prompt service in a manner that inspires trust and confidence.

Goals

- To process all matters within the time guidelines set by the State Court Administrative Office
- To ensure the compliance of Court-appointed fiduciaries with statutes and courts rules, in order to safeguard protected individuals and their property
- To efficiently process and adjudicate all matters before the Court
- To provide excellent customer service to all those with business before the Court

Probate Court Authority

Article VI Section 15 of the Michigan Constitution provides that “the jurisdiction, powers and duties of the probate court and of the judges thereof shall be provided by law.” Through the promulgation of the Estates and Protected Individuals Code (EPIC), the Mental Health Code, and other acts, the legislature has conferred jurisdiction to the Probate Court over:

- Decedent Estate Proceedings
- Civil Actions
- Trust Proceedings
- Minor Guardianship Proceedings
- Guardianships of Incapacitated Individuals
- Protective Orders
- Conservatorships
- Guardianships of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities
- Involuntary Commitments of Mentally Ill Persons
- Drain Appeals
- Secret Marriages
- Registration of Foreign Birth

Probate Staff

Honorable Judge Michael Buck



Michael (Mike) Buck was elected Allegan County Probate Judge in 2000, upon the retirement of Hon. George Greig. Mike currently serves as Chief Probate Judge, Presiding Family Court Judge, and Chair of the Allegan County Judicial Council. Before becoming a judge, he served over 20 years as an Allegan County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney. In that time period, he successfully handled cases from drunk driving to first degree murder. He specialized in cases involving abuse of children, making his current responsibilities as Presiding Family Court Judge, a natural fit. In addition to presiding over cases involving neglect and abuse of children, Judge Buck's authority includes adoptions, name changes,

juvenile delinquency, wills, trusts, guardianships, mentally ill proceedings, and the safekeeping of election results for delivery to the Allegan County Board of Canvassers.

Judge Buck was born and raised in Southwest Michigan. He has worked many different jobs on his career path to the bench. He caddied for golfers, cleaned offices and bathrooms as a janitor, worked all hours of the day and night as a security guard, pumped gas at a marina, cleaned animal pens at an amusement park, and labored at various factory jobs in the Benton Harbor area. He majored in Psychology and received his Teaching Certificate while attending the University of Michigan. He received his law degree from Cooley Law School, while working full time. His interest in Family Law began early, as his parents provided a home for foster children and successfully navigated the adoption process. Mike especially enjoys making each and every adoption hearing a real celebration.

Probate Staff



Jonathan K. Blair
Probate Administrator



Jennifer Callaway
Deputy Probate Register



Jennifer White
Deputy Probate Register



Alicia Blik
Judicial Secretary to Hon. Michael L. Buck

GALS

In order to conduct investigations, make findings, and make recommendations in adult and minor conservatorships, the Court use independent contractors that as Guardian Ad Litem. This is a labor of love, there simply is not enough cases to provide full time work in this area, so the Court is exceptionally grateful for the time the following individuals dedicate to the Court:

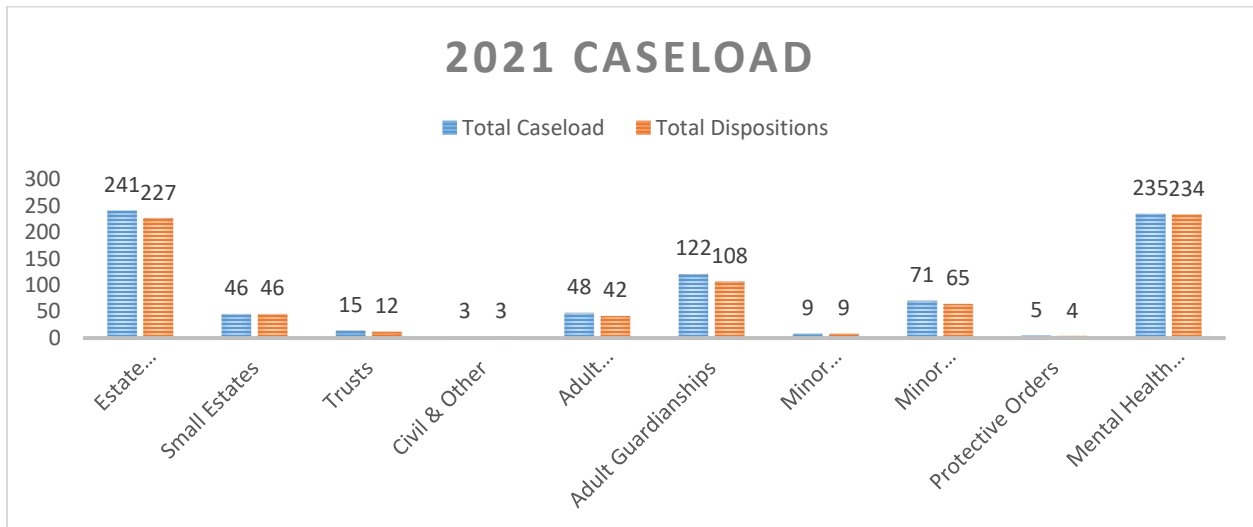
Kevin Miller, formerly with Allegan County DHHS

Sue Horton, formerly with Allegan County DHHS

Ken Prins, formally with the Allegan Family Court

Ray Passkiewicz, formally a social worker

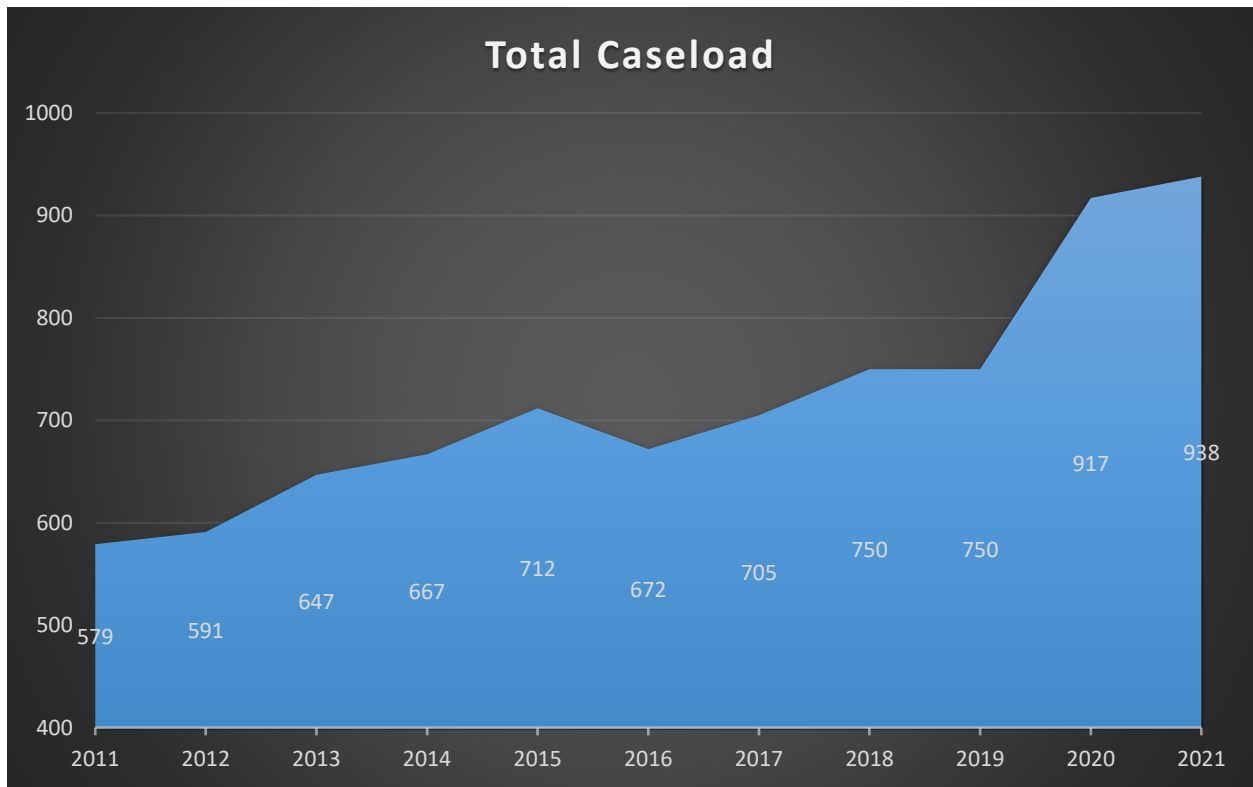
Probate Court Caseload



In 2021 the Probate Court handled a total of 795 new filings. This represents a consistent increase since 2011 when the Court had 579. (%) . The majority of these were comprised of decedents' estates (241, up from 210 in 2020), mental health proceedings (235, up from 195 the prior year, a % increase); and adult guardianships went from 105 to 122 (15% increase). There was a reduction in minor guardianships, which is concurrent with the decrease in neglect filings details previously by the Family Court.

The orange represents the total dispositions, or resolutions for cases. The Probate Court disposition rate exceeds the SCAO recommended standards and is above average for the State. Some cases will always be pending at reporting time, and some cases will always take longer than expected, but the Probate Courts consistently clears in the 90's, while 2021 saw a 94% disposition rate.

Caseload Trends



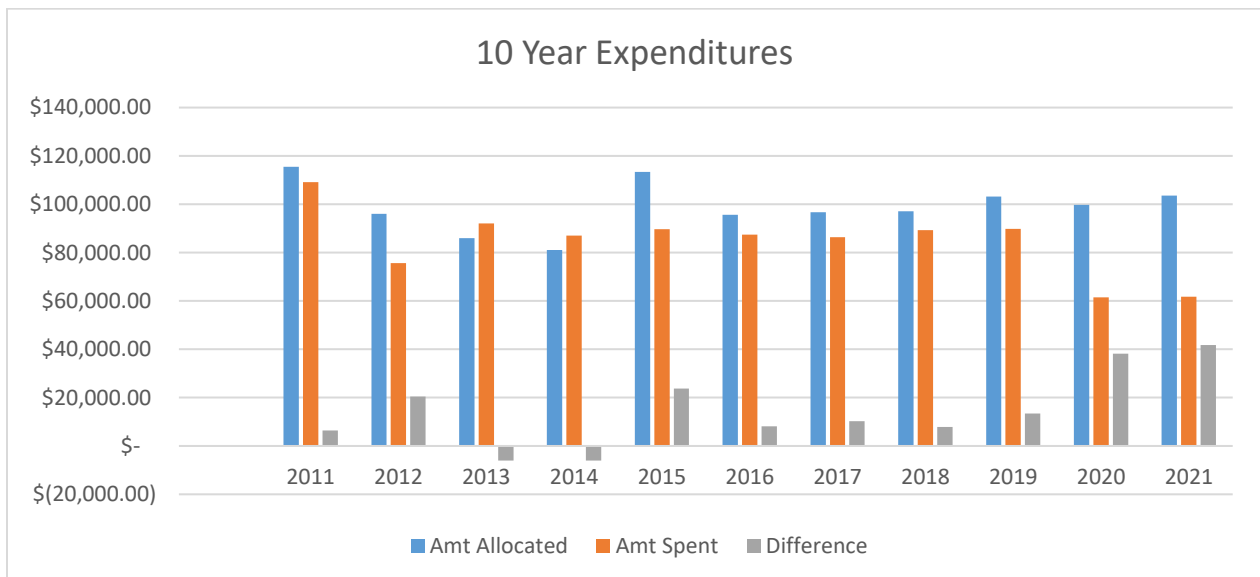
2021 saw an increase in the total caseload from 917 in 2020 to 938 in 2021. In prior years the caseload had been consistently rising (notwithstanding the decreases in overall caseload in 2009 and 2016). There were 579 new and pending cases handled by the Court in 2011 to 2021's 938, which represents a 47% increase in overall caseload. This trend has continued in 2022.

Most notably, since 2011 Deceased Estates have increased from 186 to 210, a 12% increase, Guardianships have increased 21%, and Minor Guardianship have increased 28% during the same time. These number will continue to increase as Allegan County population increases and ages.

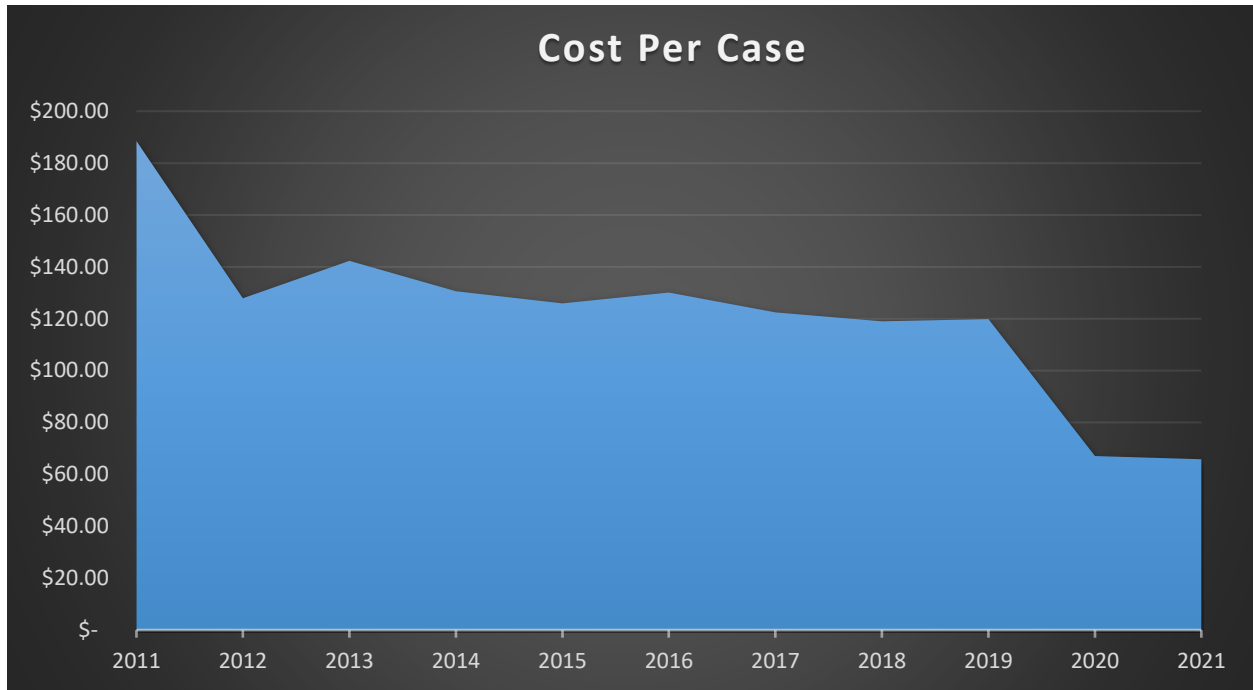
Expenditures

Below are charts showing the allocated operational budget for the Probate Court, actual expenditures, revenues budgeted, and the actual revenues collected from 2011 to 2021.

However, this chart is not a complete picture of expenditures. Through the grace of this Commission, the Probate Court has a \$43,500 fund to reimburse public guardians in cases in which the ward lacks funds for payment. In 2021 and 2020 a substantial portions of this went unused, primarily due to incomplete paperwork and untimely submissions. This is not expected in 2022. Thus in reality the Court actual spent \$55,288 out of a \$60,110 budget for the 2021 budget year.

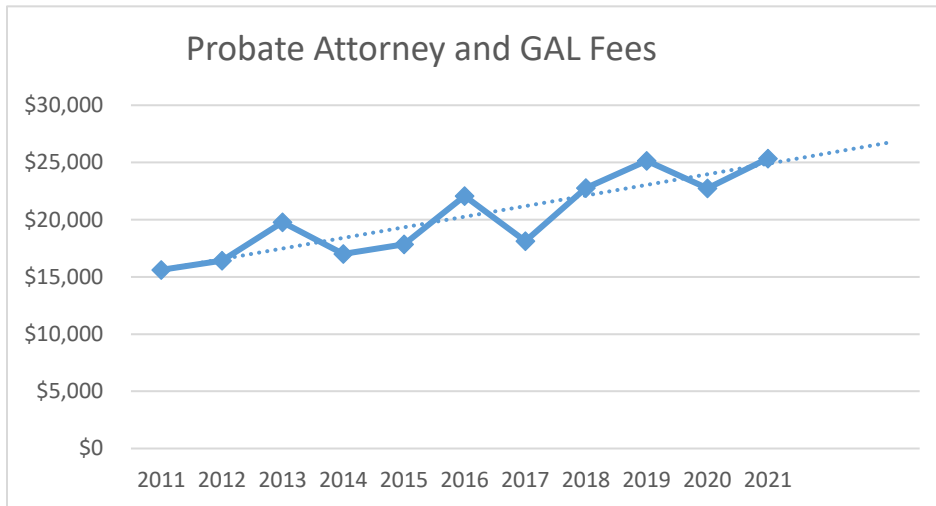


Cost Per Case



Between 2020 and 2021 there was little change in the cost per case, \$67.11 v \$65.87. The 2020 cost per case saw a marked decrease from \$119.74 in 2019 to \$82 in 2020. This is a result of the budget remaining the same while case numbers increase. It is highly unlikely that this trend can be maintained, increased funds will be needed for court appointed attorney, GALs, and other functions. Recent attempts to recruit these individuals have been rebuffed as financially unviable.

Attorney and GAL Fees



As always, Attorney/GAL Fees continue to be the single largest expenditure for the Court. In 2011 the Court expended \$15,615 on Attorney and GAL

fees. In 2021 that cost was \$25,354 – a 47% increase. However, 2020's stats were lower, this is a result of fewer in person hearings due to the pandemic. GALs were unable to make in person visits. The services provided by the GALs and attorneys are invaluable to the Court and public. As pandemic related restrictions are lifted this costs will continue to rise.

GAL compensation alone represented \$6,373.81 in 2021,

The Court relies on the hard work from these individuals to provide necessary services. While the overall cost is high, the amount paid to individuals is relatively low. Our current fee structure is actually one of the lowest in the area. This makes finding replacement attorneys difficult and continues to put a strain on current providers. It is one of the listed goals of Probate Court to increase the current rate for GALs and attorneys. The *request* to move GALs from \$35 per case to \$40 has been requested in the 2023 budget, while other funds or avenues for attorney compensation are being sought as well.

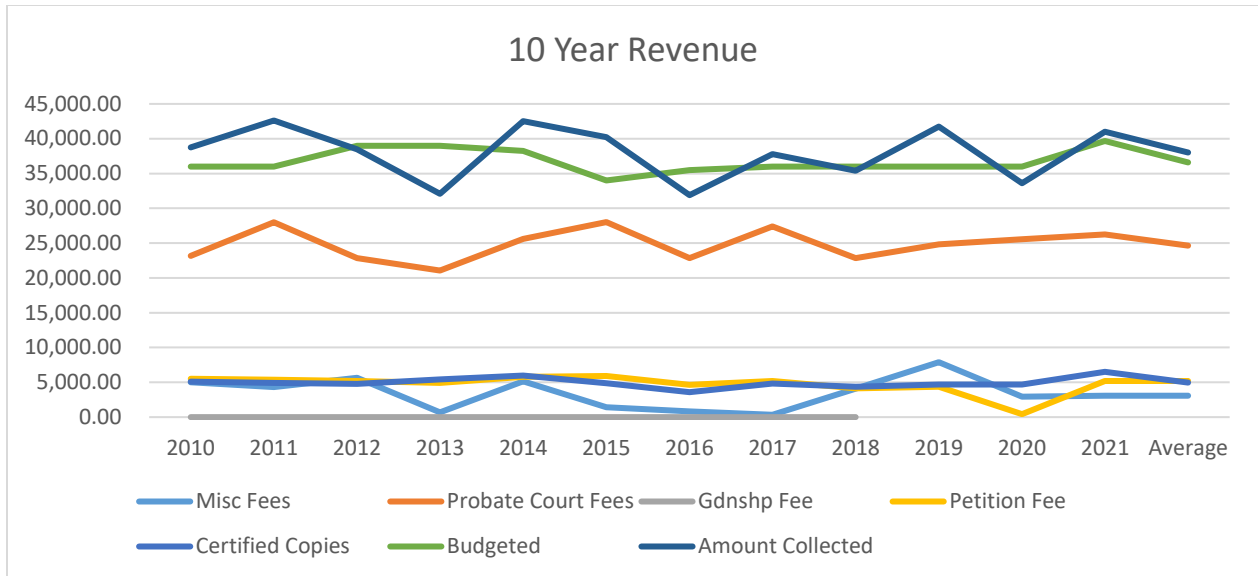
Revenues

Although most of the Probate Court's revenues are dependent on filing fees and requests for copies, during the past five years the Court has collected an average of \$38,010 per year, and exceeded the average amount it has budgeted for revenue collection over the past 10 years. The Court is hoping to add staff to allow further collections.

2020 saw a revenue reduction that was due to the Pandemic. Under temporary court rules the Court was allowed to accept digital copies and send the same, which led to a reduction transactional fees. However, 2021 saw a return to the prior increasing trend. The same also is holding true for 2022, in which a dramatic increase has been seen.

PROBATE REVENUES							
Year	Misc Fees	Probate Court Fees	Gdnshp Fee	Petition Fee	Certified Copies	Budgeted	Amount Collected
2010	5,024.07	23,163.37	-	5,500.00	5,083.00	36,000.00	38,770.44
2011	4,335.29	27,996.60	-	5,357.40	4,924.00	36,000.00	42,613.29
2012	5,657.72	22,858.40	-	5,198.80	4,760.40	39,000.00	38,475.32
2013	708.52	21,061.18	-	4,916.04	5,419.60	39,000.00	32,105.34
2014	5,131.04	25,608.96	-	5,800.99	5,985.38	38,250.00	42,526.37
2015	1,438.00	28,021.11	-	5,910.60	4,864.35	34,000.00	40,234.06
2016	811.45	22,853.84	-	4,638.22	3,587.00	35,500.00	31,890.51
2017	338.18	27,412.05	-	5,195.45	4,833.75	36,000.00	37,779.43
2018	4,085.49	22,832.18	-	4,122.00	4,351.00	36,000.00	35,390.67
2019	7,893.42	24,805.65		4,358.20	4,670.50	36,000.00	41,727.77
2020	2,929.30	25,573.68		428.24	4,663.00	36,000.00	33,594.22
2021	3,078.50	26,242.85		5,193.15	6,509.00	39,670.00	41,023.50
Average	3,058.86	24,645.30	-	5,182.17	4,970.92	36,575.00	38,010.91

Gdnshp fees are no longer collected since 2018



Attorney Fee Recovery for Mental Health Proceedings

Last year the Court began utilizing a free online accounting tool geared toward small businesses called **Wave**. This website has assisted the Court in generating and tracking invoices for reimbursement of the attorney fees it pays in connection with mental health proceedings. Like most things the Pandemic decreased collections, but overall this recovery system has been beneficial for the Court.

Court's professional guardian reimbursement program

Since 2017 the Court has greatly benefited from funding the County provided for its professional guardian reimbursement program. This allows guardians to be reimbursed up for \$60 per month per ward for services provided. Without this service professional guardians and thus any guardian would be unavailable for a number of wards. In 2019 six guardian services were able to use the program to provide for 42 wards. This has increased to 45 in 2020 and 51 in 2021. For 2022 the Court has received over 75 requests.

Probate and the Pandemic

During the Pandemic Probate Court was able to remain open and provide all services to the public. The Court's continued operation is due to the dedication and work ethic of its staff. Staff has rotated at-home work with necessary in-office work while limiting exposure to other staff and the public. Judge Buck and Alicia were in the building daily, while remaining staff rotated or worked from home depending on need. The pandemic was not easy for anyone, but thankfully services remained available and overall matters ran smoothly.

The Court relied heavily on the Supreme Court provided Zoom platform. Overall the Court has seen increased access and participation from the public. The Court recently obtained an additional mobile polycomm unit, allowing future remote participation. While the pandemic was incredibly difficult, but remote participating and ease of access will be a long term benefit.

2021 Public Satisfaction Survey

Every two years the Probate Court distributes a public satisfaction survey to the public, in coordination with the Circuit and District Courts. The survey is developed by the State Court Administrative Office, and assists the Probate Court in identifying its strengths, providing positive feedback to employees, and targeting areas for improvement.



The 2021 survey was solely conducted online. This led to a substantial reduction of responses, however, the responses received were all positive.

In the Court's last survey, 100% of court users agreed or strongly agreed that they were treated with courtesy and respect by court staff. Court users also overwhelmingly indicated that they were able to get their business done in a reasonable amount of time and that their cases were handled fairly.

Below are a sample of comments the Court received from members of the public in the 2021 public satisfaction survey:

“I believe that remote hearings for some matters is beneficial to my clients who are on limited income because they can attend remotely which reduces missed time at work plus their attorney fees are lower due to the reduced amount of time billed for travel and waiting time at the court. It really has been beneficial in most cases such as the guardianship hearing attended today.”

The results of the survey, notes from the public and other feedback indicate that the Probate Court continues to maintain high levels of public satisfaction.

Goals of the Court

For the upcoming years the Court plans to

- Increase access to Court with a State provided e-filing system.
- Increase access to Court with a public kiosk for record searches
- Increase pay for independent contractors such a GALs and Court Appointed Attorneys
- Increase staffing for Probate to compensate for increased time per case as required by changes in the Court Rules and recent trends.
 - The 2022 housing market has greatly increased filings.
- Increase the number of available Public Guardians and oversight thereof.
- Increase collections on Court ordered fees and costs.
- Continue to Decrease operating costs with the use of remote proceedings.

Current Information and Key Contacts

Allegan County Probate Court

113 Chestnut Street
Allegan, MI 49010
Phone: (269) 673-0250
Fax: (269) 686-5157
<http://cms.allegancounty.org/sites/Office/Probate>

Hon. Michael L. Buck

Chief Probate Judge
mbuck@allegancounty.org
(269) 673-0532

Jonathan K. Blair

Probate Register/Court Administrator
jblair@allegancounty.org
(269) 686-4633

Alicia Blik

Judicial Secretary/Court Recorder
ablick@allegancounty.org
(269) 673-0532

Jennifer Callaway

Deputy Probate Register
jcallaway@allegancounty.org
(269) 686-4624

Jennifer White

Deputy Probate Register
jwhite@allegancounty.org
(269) 673-0250



S T A T E O F M I C H I G A N

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

FINANCE - CLAIMS & INTERFUND TRANSFERS

WHEREAS, Administration has compiled the following claims for 6/17/22 & 6/24/22; 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 2022 Claims folder of the Commissioners' Record of Claims.

June 17, 2022

	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED
General Fund - 101	85,531.87	85,531.87	
Park/Recreation Fund - 208	3,746.74	3,746.74	
Friend of the Court - Coop. Reimb. - 215	243.64	243.64	
Friend of the Court - Other - 216	774.25	774.25	
Brownfield Redevelopment Auth. - 243	224,100.00	224,100.00	
Register of Deeds Automation Fund - 256	134.16	134.16	
Indigent Defense Fund - 260	15,464.00	15,464.00	
Justice Training Fund - 266	1,290.38	1,290.38	
Sheriffs Contract - Wayland Township - 286	1,232.07	1,232.07	
Transportation Fund - 288	220.86	220.86	
Child Care Fund - 292	4,126.07	4,126.07	
Veterans Relief Fund - 293	43.95	43.95	
Senior Services Fund - 298	20,424.13	20,424.13	
Capital Improvement Fund - 401	9,081.01	9,081.01	
CIP - Youth Home Building Fund - 492	1,910.25	1,910.25	
Tax Reversion - 620	14,524.00	14,524.00	
Fleet Management/Motor Pool - 661	66.02	66.02	
Self-Insurance Fund - 677	83.75	83.75	
Drain Fund - 801	46,931.96	46,931.96	
TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIMS	\$429,929.11	\$429,929.11	

June 24, 2022

	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED
General Fund - 101	26,623.46	26,623.46	
Friend of the Court - Coop. Reimb. - 215	3,763.54	3,763.54	
Health Department Fund -221	25,927.24	25,927.24	
Solid Waste/Recycling - 226	66,919.13	66,919.13	
Brownfield Redevelopment Auth. - 243	1,885.00	1,885.00	
Multi-Agency Collab. Committee - 245	523.83	523.83	
Animal Shelter - 254	6,631.00	6,631.00	
Register of Deeds Automation Fund - 256	544.28	544.28	
Palisades Fund - 257	549.24	549.24	
Indigent Defense Fund - 260	1,228.02	1,228.02	
Grants - 279	920.00	920.00	
Transportation Fund - 288	80,741.93	80,741.93	
Child Care Fund - 292	6,454.86	6,454.86	
Senior Services Fund - 298	161,129.01	161,129.01	
Capital Improvement Fund - 401	3,929.80	3,929.80	
Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund - 516	177.00	177.00	
Self-Insurance Fund - 677	20,000.00	20,000.00	
Drain Fund - 801	1,422.43	1,422.43	
TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIMS	\$409,369.77	\$409,369.77	

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners adopts the report of claims for 6/17/22, 6/24/22 and interfund transfers.

S T A T E O F M I C H I G A N

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS—APPROVE DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

WHEREAS, in accordance with the County's Medical Examiner Services Contract the Allegan County Board of Commissioners (Board) must approve Deputy Medical Examiners designated by the Contractor.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves the Chief Medical Examiner's designation of Dr. Ed Donoghue effective June 27, 2022, and Dr. Anna Tart effective August 22, 2022, as Deputy Allegan County Medical Examiners; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that Dr. Elizabeth Douglas is removed from her previous appointment of Deputy Medical Examiner of Allegan County effective June 3, 2022 due to resignation.

S T A T E O F M I C H I G A N

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

INFORMATION SERVICES – AWARD CISCO NETWORK SWITCH PROCUREMENT

WHEREAS, \$28,000 was budgeted in the 2022 Information Services Operational budget (#101-228) for network switch replacement; and

WHEREAS, given the large number of switches needing replacement this year, an additional \$25,000 in capital funds was requested and appropriated by the Board of Commissioners in 2022 (#401 - CIP Public Improvements Fund); and

WHEREAS, quotes were solicited to confirm that Sentinel Technologies is able to offer the County preferred pricing on CISCO network switches which exceeds the discounts offered through the State MiDEAL cooperative purchasing agreement from other vendors; and

WHEREAS, the cost for ten switches including seven year licensing is \$59,420 of which \$8,348.47 in licensing costs for years two through seven can be spread to future budgets reducing the total 2022 expenditures to \$51,071.43 which is less than the \$53,000 in available funding.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners awards the quote to Sentinel Technologies, Inc. P.O. Box 85080 Chicago, IL 60680 for the not to exceed cost of \$59,420 for the procurement of ten network switches and licenses (Project #1018-22); and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the County Administrator and/or the Board Chairman are authorized to negotiate a final contract and sign the necessary documents on behalf of the County and that the Executive Director of Finance is authorized to make the necessary budget adjustments to complete this action.

REQUEST FOR ACTION - PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND/OR SERVICES

RFA #: 214-470 RFA Date: 6/16/2022 RFA Submitted By: Kristin VanAtter

PROJECT/SERVICE: Network Switch Replacements
Project/Service Procurement to purchase ten replacement network switches as part of annual plan to
Description: replace them every seven years.
Project/Contract # 1018-22 Contact Name: Randy VanAtter
Department: Information Services Contact Info: rvanatter@allegancounty.org

PROCUREMENT METHOD: Other

Desired CISCO network switches are available for purchase from various suppliers under a state MiDEAL cooperative purchasing agreement and a quote with MiDEAL pricing was obtained for reference. However, Sentinel has registered with CISCO as Allegan County's supplier and is therefore able to offer the County preferred pricing which exceeds the discounts offered through MiDEAL.

CONTRACT AWARD: \$59,420.00

Parties - County and: Sentinel Technologies, Inc.
Contract Duration: until scope of work completion
Evaluation Team: Randy VanAtter and Valdis Kalnins
References Checked: No - Current or previous vendor with satisfactory performance Debarred: No

FUNDING SOURCE: Capital Funds from #401 combined with budgeted Operational Funds - IS

\$	25,000.00	Approved Capital Appropriation
\$	28,000.00	Budgeted Operational Funds - Information Services
\$	53,000.00	Total Funds Available
\$	59,420.00	Cost to purchase the Network Switch with 7 year licensing
\$	(8,348.57)	Licensing costs to be spread to future budgets (Years 2 through 7)
\$	51,071.43	2022 Total Expenditure
\$	1,928.57	Funds Remaining

AWARD THRESHOLD: BOC - Budgeted Capital Procurement over \$50,001

NEW CONTRACT SUMMARY: No Contract Terms (Purchase Order, Reverse Auction, etc.)

BID PRESENTATION FOR PROJECT #: 1018-22
Project Name: Network Switches
Service Area: Information Services
Award Recommendation: Sentinel
Award Criteria: Lowest bidder

Date: 6/16/2022
 Advertised: Request for Quote
 # of Firms Invited to Bid: 3
 # of Bids Received: 3

VENDOR TABLE	Vendor 1	Vendor 2	Vendor 3
Company Name	Sentinel	Logicalis	Converge One
Company Address1	P.O. Box 85080	2600 S Telegraph Rd.	5 Stewart Court
City, State, Zip	Chicago, IL 60680	Bloomfield Twp, MI 48302	Denville, NJ 07834

COST TABLE			
Cisco Meraki Switch	\$ 4,960.00	\$ 5,328.73	\$ 10,291.00
Seven Year Licensing	\$ 974.00	\$ 1,045.80	\$ 2,019.71
Shipping (if any)	\$ 8.00	\$ -	\$ -
Total Cost per Switch	\$ 5,942.00	\$ 6,374.53	\$ 12,310.71
Number of switches to purchase	10	10	10
Total Project Cost	\$ 59,420.00	\$ 63,745.30	\$ 123,107.10

S T A T E O F M I C H I G A N

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

**AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF WESTERN MICHIGAN (AAAWM)—APPROVE
MULTIYEAR PLAN (MYP) FY2023-2025**

WHEREAS, the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan's Multi-Year Plan (MYP) will secure funding for services and programs to help older adults in Allegan County from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the MYP will be presented before the AAWM Board of Directors on June 27, 2022; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2022, the Allegan County's Commission on Aging (COA) reviewed this plan and recommends the Board approve the MYP.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with all statutes and policies governing the AAWM, the Allegan County Board of Commissioners supports the MYP for FY2023-25, as presented.



ALLEGAN COUNTY
REQUEST FOR ACTION FORM

Date: June 16, 2022

Request Type Routine Items
Department Requesting Senior Services
Submitted By Sherry Owens, Director
Contact Information (269) 686-5144 or ext 2496

Description

The Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan (AAAWM) is requesting Board of Commissioner approval of their Annual Implementation Plan (AIP). The Commission on Aging reviewed this plan at the June 15, 2022 meeting and recommend approval. Minutes that include this action are attached.



The Source for Seniors

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Bill Routley

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Marilyn Burns

SECRETARY
Carol Hennessy

TREASURER
Cynthia LaBelle

MEMBER-AT-LARGE
Nancy Nielsen

ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON
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CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS
anc DeVries
Com. Milinda Ysasi

3215 EAGLECREST DR NE
GRAND RAPIDS, MI
49525-7005
Ph: 616.456.5664
Fax: 616.456.5692
Toll-free: 888.456.5664
www.aaawm.org

May 20, 2022

Jim Storey, County Board Chair
Allegan County Board of Commissioners
3283 122nd Avenue Ste 200
Allegan, Michigan 49010

Dear Commissioner Storey,

Enclosed is a draft copy of the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan's (AAAWM) proposed Multi-Year Plan (MYP) for fiscal years 2023-2025.

When approved by the State of Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging this summer, the MYP will secure funding for services and programs to help older adults in Allegan County from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2025.

The MYP will be presented to the AAWM Board of Directors as its June 27, 2022 meeting. You are represented on that Board by one commissioner and one private citizen from your county.

We respectfully request your Board Chair's written approval of this Plan. Responses must be received by AAWM on or before July 14, 2022. If we have not been contacted by that date, we will assume the County Commission's implied approval of the Plan.

Please send your response to:

Sheri Harris, Advocacy Coordinator and Planner
3215 Eaglecrest Drive NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Alternatively, you can email a response to: Sherih@aaawm.org

If there are any questions please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at sherih@aaawm.org, or 616-222-7015.

Sincerely,

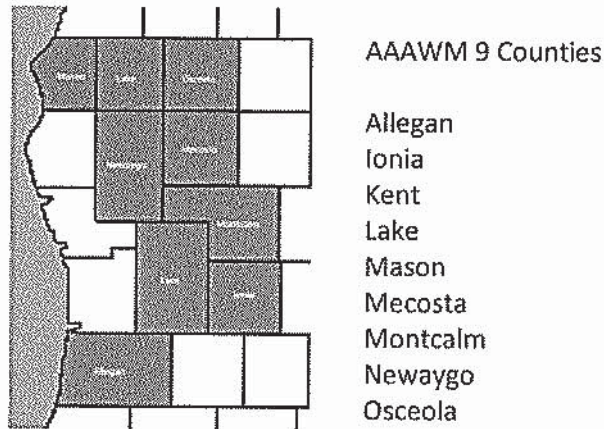
Sheri Harris, Advocacy Coordinator and Planner
Cc: Stuart Peet, Rick Cain

DRAFT

To: AAAWM Board of Directors
From: Sheri Harris, Advocacy Coordinator and Planner
Date: June 27, 2022
Action Required: Approval Multi-Year Plan FY 2023-2025

The mission of the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan (AAAWM) is to provide older adults and persons living with a disability an array of services designed to promote independence and dignity in their homes and their communities. We are the source for seniors. Aging looks different for everyone; as a leader of older adult service development, we pride ourselves on offering a wide range of resources to meet individuals where they are or at whatever chapter of life they are in through their aging journey, while also working to eliminate gaps in care. In recognizing the importance of these services and the common occurrence of caregiver burnout, AAAWM coordinates support and education to come alongside caregivers while also leading advocacy efforts to advance the voice of older adults and those that care for them in the public arena.

The Planning Service Area (PSA) of the AAAWM (Region 8) is made up of the following nine counties:



AAAWM has been more intentional with Older Americans Act (OAA) Partners and their service unit rates. We have been working with them in 2022, to make sure they are able to cover the cost of their services, including the increase in direct care wages. These discussions have led to improved service quality and a better understanding of all costs associated with a service. This is something we look to continue, during the FY23-25 Proposal, which was released April 6, 2022.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) remains a priority of the AAAWM with the formation of our DEI Committee. The DEI Committee is made up of 13 employees from various departments and

2nd DRAFT

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ranges from the Human Resources Department, Case Management, Director of Contract Services and the IT Department to new staff. The committee has moved forward with a two-part plan to focus on AAAWM's culture and inclusivity for all staff and the partners we work with. First, they will be looking internally to discern the work the AAAWM still needs to do in hiring a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive staff. Secondly, they will then turn outward to teach and guide our partners and networks how to advance their DEI efforts.

Some of the initiatives that were accomplished by the DEI Committee in 2022, include adding Juneteenth as an observed Holiday by AAAWM. Juneteenth is a holiday celebrating the freedom of those who had been enslaved in the United States. June 19th, is the anniversary of the day in 1865 when the last group of enslaved Black Americans were freed in Galveston Texas. The DEI Committee also looked at updating our job postings to now read: "AAAWM is committed to fair employment practices and equal employment opportunity regardless of age, ancestry, color, creed, ethnicity, family-care status, gender identity, marital status, medical condition, pregnancy, mental or physical disability, national origin, personal appearance, height and weight, political affiliation, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation and veteran status."

AAAWM has a dedicated and experienced staff with expansive knowledge of the aging process and aging network. Recently, as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic's "Great Resignation" we have had a significant turn over in employees. This experience was challenging, as many of those who left the agency had been an integral part of the fabric of our organization having been employed at the AAAWM for decades.

However, this has also led to an opportunity to reinvigorate our framework. We've had the inclusion of fresh talent and perspectives from diverse professional backgrounds and communities, come together with our longstanding, invaluable staff to create a dynamic and successful agency. We move confidently into the future knowing we can rely on these outstanding employees to inspire, support, and encourage one another. Our employees are as committed to our mission as ever, and collectively work to ensure that we never stop educating, communicating, growing, and building on our existing person-centered and innovative services.

AAAWM continues to take a hybrid approach with staff working environments. Some departments are working fully remote, while others work both from home and in the office. Steps were delegated by Supervisors to ensure that staff had the equipment needed for this transition and that workflows would not be disrupted. Service Partners have been granted requests, focusing around technology, that have allowed for them to equip their staff and programs, with the proper technology to work from home and provide virtual classes to deliver services.

AAAWM is seeing the return of in-person activities throughout our nine counties. This return is due to a lower COVID-19 infection rate, AAAWM is still mindful of the vulnerable population receiving service. In order to help protect clients, AAAWM has supplied PPE for service partners and its Support Coordinator staff. These supplies include masks, gloves, visors, and sanitization

2nd DRAFT

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supplies. Sanitization sprays and foggers, have been purchased using COVID funding to protect clients where larger gatherings occur, and in vehicles in our region.

Needs that have emerged in our region, are assistance with technology, transportation, mental health services, in-home care, meals and services that focus on the reduction of social isolation for older adults. Caregivers have expressed needs to find appropriate housing, in-home assistance, guidance on caring for person(s) with Dementia and education on burnout. AAAWM is taking these needs into account by looking at adaptations for service delivery and making sure Caregivers are aware of our service, and able to attend trainings and educational presentations.

AAAWM's goal is to make sure that all seniors, that are eligible for services, receive services that help them age where they choose. When limited resources hinder this goal, standard procedures are used to prioritize those who are on waiting lists. Substantial emphasis is given to serving eligible persons of greatest social and/or economic need, with particular attention to minority individuals, frail and/or disabled elders and those living in their homes.

The role of the Advisory Council is to identify the needs of older adults and persons with disabilities in the nine-county region and to identify available untapped resources; to provide information, give advice, to make recommendations regarding advocacy on behalf of older adults and persons with disabilities services and funding. They are also the key advocacy group meeting monthly and inviting a speaker that is either a Michigan legislator or policy expert. The Advisory Council is an important link among other groups of persons from the Region forming the contact between the Board, the Staff, and the State Administration and the older adults and person with disabilities who are being served.

AAAWM has continued to be committed to getting the word out in West Michigan so we will no longer be the "best kept secret," a phrase we have adopted in our strategic planning. It is common for older adults and their families to seek out information concerning services and supports *only after facing a crisis situation*. To help navigate this situation and educate the public, we have continued to advance marketing initiatives that directly tie into increased community awareness and coordinating with partners to optimize service delivery during the ongoing pandemic. This continues to be done through social media posts, email newsletters, articles, virtual events, and media interviews.

Another Outreach long range goal is to bring our services to minority groups who may not seek us out. Rather, we will strive to reach out to them and bring our services to those most in need. The goal is to identify at least one agency, organization or person each month in an attempt to form strong community connections for the priority populations outlined above, and raise awareness of our services for everyone in the Region. Clear direction to demonstrate efforts and attempts to reach Older Americans Act priority populations is specified in all service provider contracts. AAAWM contracts with the Department of Labor & Economic Opportunity to provide services for Refugees who live in West Michigan. Senior Neighbors subcontracts with AAAWM to provide housing coordination, citizenship assistance, English or Speaker of Other Languages

2nd DRAFT

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(ESOL) classes and other services aimed to help Refugees. Ensuring that LGBTQ+ older adults have access to the services they need, without being discriminated against, continues to be a point of emphasis for AAAWM. New staff, at AAAWM, go through LGBTQ+ and Cultural Competency trainings as part of their orientation.

AAAs are widely viewed as Community based organizations that are in a position through their services network, of addressing Social Determinants of Health. We have become a trusted source in the community. We are also licensed as a Prepaid Ambulatory Health Plan (PAHP) and as such have experience providing managed Medicaid long term care services. Having served the region for 25 years we have proven our ability to provide the MI Choice Waiver and expect to continue in this role increasing outreach to more eligible persons as the program grows in funding statewide. MI Choice makes up a significant portion of the Care Management continuum of care and flexibility. The focus on Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and trusted resources would be lost should the program move to another provider or network.

AAAWM has secured a three-year accreditation through the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) for its MI Choice case management services effective December 2021. The organization will maintain its accreditation, review NCQA requirements ongoing, establish and meet measured outcomes in MI Choice, participate in ongoing NCQA training and pursue the renewal of its accreditation in December 2024.

Some of our self-identified strengths of the AAAWM include our strong financial stewardship, breadth of knowledge and experience of our staff, person-centered interaction with clients and our strong advocacy and solid political clout. Throughout the COVID-19 global pandemic we learned that as a large organization covering so many counties we were very adaptive to the crisis and able to press on in our important work of providing high quality and innovative programs with enthusiasm and creativity. Some of our self-identified weaknesses included our need to be recognized by the healthcare delivery systems as the community-based organization that addresses the social determinates of health, something that is already built into our infrastructure. We also identified that 60% of our funding comes from just one source- Medicaid. Considering that we are continually feeling the pressure that we could lose control of the MI Choice Waiver. We are consistently working alongside several state and national organizations to help unify our advocacy voice when it comes to advocating for a more equitable rate structure.

Our Advocacy Efforts begin with the grassroots efforts of our staff on all levels. Everyone employed by the agency engages in advocacy day after day, especially the nurses, social workers, intake coordinators, reception staff, and contract administrators who have regular encounters with partners, participants, and individuals. They are able to build networks and connections where they can further amplify the voice of seniors with firsthand knowledge and experience which is invaluable and effective when it comes to front line advocacy.

2nd DRAFT

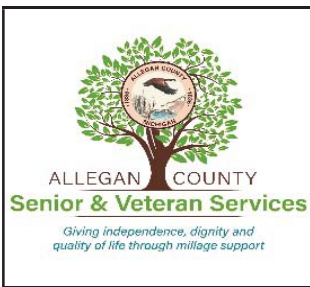
DRAFT

As an arm of advocacy for the AAAWM, the Advisory Council meets for a monthly conversation with either a federal or state legislator or the legislative chair on policy changes. One of the great benefits of these conversations is the legislators and policy makers are also able to walk away having learned something about the Aging Network, directly from those doing the work as well as investing their time and energy into that work. Oftentimes, the Advisory Council will receive advocacy tips or advice from the legislators since this is a smaller more intimate gathering which helps the Advisory Council Members in advancing their advocacy objectives.

The Advocates for Senior Issues (AFSI) is one of the largest older adult advocacy groups in the state, is a non-partisan group that strives to be inclusive and welcoming to all of West Michigan's diverse senior communities. The premier older adult advocacy group with a dues paying membership of 280+ is fueled by the desire to advocate for those who may be unable to advocate for themselves. Another vehicle that is leveraged is our full participation and investment in the Michigan Senior Advocacy Council (MSAC). We are also members of a national network, USAging. It is through these groups that AAAWM is able to unify their voice with others all across the state and the nation in our advocacy priorities such as protecting and promoting the Aging Network, expanding seamless and equitable access to home and community-based services for persons not eligible, rebalancing long-term care spending and more. AAAWM will continue to be known for our powerful senior networks, letter writing campaigns, strategizing committees, relationships with legislators, and overall well organized as strong leaders in advocacy.

Ongoing initiatives that strive to improve the quality of life of older adults within the public service area include, Dementia Friends, Essential Needs Task Force, Refugee Services for Older Adult Refugees, Network for Hoarding Professionals, and the Caregiver Resource Network. All of these initiatives along with governmental funding aim to provide older adults and adults living with a disability an array of services, connection to others, and educational opportunities all designed to promote independence and dignity in their homes and communities.

2nd DRAFT



ALLEGAN COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

3255 122nd Avenue, Suite 200
Allegan, MI 49010
269.673.3333 - Office
877.673.5333 - Toll Free
269.673.0569 - Fax

<http://www.allegancounty.org>

COMMISSIONER
Dean Kapenga
616-218-2599
Hamilton

COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING – Minutes Wednesday, June 15, 2022 9:00 -11:00 am

ELECTED OFFICERS

Chairperson
Larry Ladenburger
(Senior Representative)
269-673-6200
Allegan

Vice Chairperson
Alice Kelsey
(At-Large)
269-366-0431
Martin

SENIOR MEMBERS

Stuart Peet
269-672-9520
Shelbyville

Lou Phelps
269-870-3710
Plainwell

Natalie Van Houten
269-672-9359
Shelbyville

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Richard Butler
616 902-0046
Plainwell

Patricia Petersen
616-644-8059
Allegan

Sally Heavener
616-355-3494
Holland

STAFF

Sherry Owens
269-686-5144
Director

Havilah MacInnes
Extension 2495
Senior Services
Counselor

Ashley Dever
Extension 2498
Senior Services
Counselor

Katie Cole
Extension 2497
Administrative
Assistant

Zimmerman Room, Human Services Building
3255 122nd Avenue – Allegan, MI

Public Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82375478232?pwd=NnNsUEhwZnhWVlFPNjAyNkRZNjkzZz09>

CALL TO ORDER: By Chairman Larry Ladenburger at 9:03am

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

ROLL CALL: Present: Dean Kapenga, Larry Ladenburger, Stuart Peet, Lou Phelps, Natalie Van Houten, Richard Butler, Patricia Petersen, Sally Heavener
Others: Sherry Owens, Havilah MacInnes, Katie Cole

ABSENT: Alice Kelsey

COMMUNICATIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (Attachment A – May)

Moved by Dean Kapenga, supported by Sally Heavener.

Yays: 8 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by Sally Heavener, supported by Richard Butler.

Yays: 8 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

PRESENTATIONS:

Laura Hosler, Greenstreet Marketing (Attachment F)

Laura reports television ads were delivered 59,501 times within premium online content, no changes we will continue to monitor. Radio stations will rotate, next month will be the Holland Station. Allegan county news runs two ads per month and we have an ad in Senior Times. Billboards we still have one on Adams, after this month we can decide if we want to continue with this Billboard or put the

Mission Statement

“Dedicated to serving Allegan County seniors by developing and coordinating services that support their independence, maintain their dignity, and preserve their quality of life”

dollars someplace else. Unfortunately there are no other Billboards available like Wolverine they have zero available they are booked for a year; some that are on those Billboards currently never move. Other options is Lamar Billboards, if we were to go with them we would only be able to do one or two for the rest of the year because of the expense. Regarding social media Laura did a different type of campaign to get more page likes. Page likes from last month to this month up from 339 to 354.

Richard asked, if we are able to put our Millage renewal information on Facebook?

Sherry replied, not the renewal specifically. However, Facebook posts can remind them to vote, and offer them a ride to the polls.

Laura asked, do we continue with Billboards?

Sally asked, if we've got much exposure from Billboards.

Laura responded, this is not being reflected by marketing report and there are several avenues that drivers might overlook the Billboards.

Richard asked, should we repurpose the funds for the Billboards?

Laura explained, replacing the Billboards and using those funds for commercials and televised ads. Billboards has been up since February, digital campaign gives us a better ability to monitor efficiency.

Motion to take funds allocated for Billboards and reapply to digital advertisement.

Moved by Richard Butler, supported by Dean Kapenga

Pat asked, if the cost of the digital advertising is equal to the Billboards?

Laura said yes it may actually come through as less.

Motion already on table, Yays: 8 Nays: 0 motion carried.

Jennifer Lemkuil, Alliance Home Health Care

Jennifer stated on June 1st 2022 Alliance Home Health Care was acquired by Health at Home, it also inherited the existing agreement Alliance has with the Allegan County. Health at Home is a National Leader in home care and is located in eleven states. Health at Home services over 60,000 clients and employee over 45,000 caregivers. Jennifer made the very hard decision to sell, but knew Health at Home was the right choice. She feels that Health at Home will take care of our current clients as well as future clients and employees. They are looking to expand their services through the Medicaid weaver program. The local leadership will stay the same, Jennifer will continue working for Health at Home.

Larry asked, Jennifer what will your new title be?

Jennifer replied, I will be the Director of Operations for the state of Michigan.

Stuart asked, do you foresee this new company maintaining the current employees? Jennifer answered, yes not only retaining the current employees but one thing this new company has is information technology. Health and Home information technology has a whole program on the recruiting side. We will start utilizing their recruiting system and will be able to hire more employees.

Jennifer talked about the skills fair happening today and tomorrow, please stop down and check it out.

Sally asked, if we continue to use the new company will this increase our new cost? Jennifer answered, no it shouldn't increase your cost at all, the way my NPI number works, which is for billing number is staying the same; nothing will change with the current contract.

Sherry replied, this means our next RFP which is a little later this year it will be the new company name.

Sheri Harris, Area Agency on Aging Plan (Attachment E)

Sheri gave a report on Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan. The mission of the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan (AAAWM) is to provide older adults and persons living with a disability an array of services designed to promote independence and dignity in their homes and their communities. The Planning Service Area (PSA) of the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan (region 8) is made up of the following nine counties; Allegan, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Newago and Osceola. Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan has secured a three year accreditation through the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) for its MI Choice case management services effective December 2021. The organization will maintain its accreditation, review NCQA requirements ongoing, establish and meet measured outcomes in MI Choice, participate in ongoing NCQA training and pursue the renewal of its accreditation in December 2024. Ongoing initiatives that strive to improve the quality of life of older adults within the public service area include, Dementia Friends, Essential Needs Task Force, Refugee Services for Older Adult Refugees, Network for Hoarding Professionals, and the Caregiver Resource Network. We are the source for seniors. Aging looks different for everyone; as a leader of older adult service development, we pride ourselves on offering a wide range of resources to meet individuals where they are or at whatever chapter of life they are in through their aging journey.

Larry asked, how much money does Allegan need to participate in? Sheri said she doesn't know but will find out and get back to Sherry.

Lou asked if there was an age limit for people with disabilities. Sheri said she will look into it, but thinks it's 18 and over.

Sheri said the answers that she wasn't able to properly answer, she will find the answers and get them to Sherry Owens.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

-Director's Report (Attachment B)

Goal #1- Continue with Marketing Plan

Things are going well with the Marketing Plan

Goal #2- Stabilize In-Home Supports

- Increase unit rate to \$35.00 effective January 1st, 2022. **COMPLETE**
- Identify and remove barriers to increasing the number of agencies that submit RFPs for' this millage service, this group participated in the 5 Why exercise and the tasks that resulted were as follows:
- Divide the County into service areas (to include map) and allow potential vendors to select the areas (and potentially different unit rates) as part of the RFP process
- Review the RFP documents to determine if it needs to be further simplified
- Develop an on-line survey and send the link to agencies from last RFP and any others identified at Boomer Bash that asks:
- If they have ever considered bidding on Millage Services (if not, why not?)
- Unit rate that agency would consider for contracting services
- Asking other COA's (MDSA) **UNDER DEVELOPMENT**
- Clearly communicate service criteria. **COMPLETE**

Goal #3- Earmark Fund Balance to offset planned increase in services

COMPLETE MONITORING

- Assess impact to current Fund Balance from:
 - Increase in unit rate in HDM as part of the contract extensions
 - Marketing Campaign
 - Increase the unit rate in In-Home Supports

Goal #4- Continue 2021 goal for contingency plans (ADC, PERS,

Transportation and revisit In-Home Supports)

- IRS has increased the millage reimbursement from \$.585 to \$.625 starting July 1st 2022.

Goal #5- Explore Friendly Visitor Program, Miles for Memories and similar programs as future projects.

NOTHING NEW TO ADD

-Financial Reports (Attachment C)

Sherry gives an update on how the new Financial Reports will look.

Sally asked about the post cards and when the next round will be going out?

Sherry replied two rounds have gone out next round to go out soon.

-Outreach Report (Attachment D)

Havilah gave report that our waitlist for In-Home Supports as of this morning was down to 23.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Recommend BOC approval of Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan (AAAWM) Multiyear plan (**Attachment E**)

Sample Motion: Recommend the Board of Commissioners approve the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan Multi-year Plan 2023 – 2025 as presented.

Moved as presented by Stuart Peet, supported by Richard Butler
Roll call vote. Yays: 8 Nay 0

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Boomer Bash review
Sherry was very happy with the turn out, and all the providers getting to know each other. There was approximately 29 seniors who participated, these seniors had extra time to speak with the providers. We were able to have more time to spend getting to know everyone and give them extra time that we have not had in previous years.
2. **Information flow discussion (Attachment F)**
Sherry provided information on the process for questions not captured in regular meeting minutes. This policy aligns with the Board of Commissioner process. Any questions should be communicated to the director, who will complete the following actions:
 - Research your question and develop a response
 - Email your response at the earliest convenience
 - Communicate your question (and the answer) appropriately as outlined in the polices
 - Include your inquiry and a detailed response in the next Director's Report so that all members have the same information

In the event that the Director was not part of the discussion that resulted in an inquiry staff will provide the following support:

- Notify Direction of the question
 - Work with Director to complete the steps above
3. **Challenges facing the Volunteer Driver Program**

Sherry presented the concerns that were raised by a volunteer driver and explained the recent IRS mileage reimbursement increases that take affect 7/2/22. She also asked if anyone knows anyone wanting to volunteer for our Volunteer Drive Program, please let them know to call Tammy Chapin at (269) 686-6154.

4. **Release of RFP for In-Home Supports (Attachment G)**

Sherry speaks regarding adding new providers, with our new rate we should have a competitive rate that may help attract new providers.

We currently have two (2) providers, both under contract extension with a unit rate of \$35.00; Alliance extension ends 12/31/2022 and Atrio signed a two (2) year contract ends the end of 2023.

Sherry's recommendation is to release the RFP for In-Home Supports prior to the end of July 2022 with the following information:

Unit Rates: Given anticipated economic uncertainty over the next few years and past challenges with holding service providers to the agreed upon unit rates, it is recommended that unit rates starting in 2024 be increased from the 2023 unit rate of \$35 based on a specific inflation/Consumer Price Index (CPI) calculation, probably the one published annually by the State of Michigan Treasury (<https://www.michigan.gov/treasury/local/stc/bulletin/archive/stc/inflation-rate-multipliers>).

2. **Current providers:**

- **Alliance/Health at Home:** Since Health at Home acquired Alliance through a merger/acquisition, it also inherited the existing agreement Alliance had with the County through the contract assignment clause in the Alliance agreement and would therefore, be expected to continue to provide the services in a manner consistent with this agreement through the end of 2022. Health at Home will be approached about amending the current agreement to acknowledge the change in ownership and see if they are willing to agree to continue providing services in 2023 at a unit rate of \$35, and agree to the proposed inflation/CPI unit rate increase calculations for 2024 and 2025.

- **Atrio:** Since the current agreement with Atrio runs through 12/31/23 at the \$35 unit rate, no immediate action is needed. Assuming the amendment with Health at Home is successfully negotiated, Atrio will be approached about amending their agreement to Attachment G, pg 3 of 3 extend it through 2025 using the same proposed inflation/CPI unit rate increase calculations in both 2024 and 2025 as well.

3. **Additional Providers:** To determine if there are any additional agencies that can provide In-home supports services to clients in Allegan County, an RFP can be released before the end of July and if any additional service providers respond with sufficient qualifications and demonstrated capability, then additional agreements may be negotiated with services to begin as soon as possible, likely sometime this fall. If successful, this would increase the pool of service providers and reduce the current wait list

SAMPLE MOTION: Move to release an RFP for In-Home Supports as soon as conveniently possible that includes:

- Contract dates of 1/1/2023 through 12/31/2025
- Map of designated service areas for potential bidders to select to provide service
- Vendor disclosure on currently available staff for selected areas
- Fixed unit rate of \$35 for 2023 and adjusted in 2024 and 2025 based on Consumer Price Index
- Dates of new contracts as presented 6/15/2022

Moved to action by Dean Kapenga to approve as presented, supported by Pat Peterson

Roll call vote. Yays: 8 Nay 0

Sherry asked for volunteers for a proposal review committee, Sherry will be part of the committee and needs volunteers. Natalie VanHouten and Richard Butler volunteered.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENTS: None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: None

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

AAAWM Board of Directors- No meeting to report

AAAWM Advisory Council- No update

Millage Renewal Committee-

Rich Butler spoke regarding the upcoming Senior Millage. Rich asked for COA members to volunteer based by their geographic locations, and to participate on getting the word out.

ROUND TABLE (COA MEMBER TIME): None

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved to action by Dean Kapenga, supported by Pat Peterson
Yays: 8 Nay 0

Next Meeting – July 20, 2022, 9–11 am Zimmerman Room

S T A T E O F M I C H I G A N

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS—OPPOSE HOUSE BILLS 4729, 4730, 4731, 4732

WHEREAS, Zillow has spearheaded legislation to undermine the integrity of the Register of Deeds' and Treasurers' offices across the state of Michigan, which will greatly reduce revenues needed to fund the daily operation of both offices; and

WHEREAS, Zillow, a for profit corporation, is lobbying the State of Michigan legislature to pass legislation that will provide them copies of any official records maintained by both the Register of Deeds' and the Treasurers' offices at an insignificant fee or, in some cases, 100% free of charge; and

WHEREAS, if these Bills become law, Zillow will have the ability to demand the manner in which the Register of Deeds and Treasurer must provide copies of official records; and

WHEREAS, if these Bills become law, they would impose new restrictions and limits on what the Register of Deeds and Treasurer Offices can charge for parcel cards; and

WHEREAS, the burden to fund the Register of Deeds and the Treasury Departments would fall more heavily on the taxpayers of Allegan County due to providing official records to out-of-state entities and corporate organizations; and

WHEREAS, Zillow will profit on selling publicly owned records, provided to them free of charge, while at the same time placing Allegan County and other Michigan residents at a higher risk for fraud and theft; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Association of Counties, the Michigan Association of County Treasurers, Michigan Association of County clerk, the Michigan Municipal League, and the Michigan Association of Register of Deeds, and bipartisan organizations, are united in opposing Michigan House Bills 4729, 4730, 4731, 4732.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Allegan County Board of Commissioners stand in solidarity with the Allegan County Clerk/Register of Deeds and the Allegan County Treasurer to oppose HB's 4729, 4730, 4731, 4732 and stand up to corporations that data mine and benefit financially from public records at the expense of the taxpayers; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution in opposition to the above bills be forwarded to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Representative, Senate Majority Leader, Senator, the Senare Representative of Allegan County, Senator, the House of Representatives of Allegan County, Representative, and the Governor of the State of Michigan, the Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Association of County Treasurers, Michigan

Association of County Clerks, and the Michigan Association of Register of Deeds.

DRAFT

Legislative Analysis



REPRODUCTIONS OF CERTAIN RECORDS

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4729 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. John D. Cherry

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

House Bill 4730 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Julie Calley

House Bill 4731 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Mari Manoogian

House Bill 4732 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Steve Marino

Committee: Commerce and Tourism
Revised 11-22-21

SUMMARY:

House Bills 4729 to 4732 would amend different acts to revise procedures and fees for, and change the scope of certain provisions regarding, accessing and copying certain records on file with a register of deeds or county treasurer or prepared under the General Property Tax Act.

House Bill 4729 would amend 1875 PA 54, which governs the inspection and reproduction of register of deeds records, to change procedures regarding requests for copies of a record or file.

Under current law, if an individual requests a reproduction of a record or file, the register of deeds must do one of the following (at the option of the register of deeds):

- Reproduce the record or file using a medium chosen by the register of deeds.
- Provide equipment for the individual to reproduce the record or file using a medium chosen by the register of deeds.
- Authorize the individual to reproduce the record or file on the premises using equipment provided by the individual.

The bill would amend this provision to allow the individual requesting the reproduction to choose the process and medium for the reproduction. Under the bill, if an individual requested a reproduction of a record or file, the register of deeds would have to do one of the following (at the option of the requestor):

- Reproduce the record or file using a medium chosen by the requestor. (If the medium specified by the requestor were not available, the register of deeds would have to furnish the record or file in a paper format or in the format in which it is maintained by the register of deeds, as chosen by the requestor.)
- If feasible for the register of deeds, provide equipment for the individual to reproduce the record or file using a medium chosen by the requestor.
- Authorize the requestor to reproduce the record or file on the premises using equipment provided by the requestor.

MCL 565.551

House Bill 4730 would amend 1895 PA 161, which concerns records of county treasurers, to change certain requirements for qualified data files under the act.

Section 1 of the act provides that a county treasurer must make copies upon request of a record on file in the treasurer's office and prescribes a schedule of fees for doing so. Among provisions concerning other records and fees, the act provides a maximum charge of 25 cents per parcel record, up to a total of \$1,500 for each request, if the request is for an electronic copy of records in a *qualified data file* that is maintained with the county treasurer.

The act currently defines *qualified data file* as an electronic data file that includes at least the following information in the record for each parcel of real property in the county for the current tax year:

- The taxable value.
- The state equalized value.
- The assessed value.
- Past sale data.
- Property classification.
- Property address.
- Parcel identification number.
- Owner name and address.
- Taxpayer name and address.
- Principal residence status.
- Other tax equalization data.
- Special assessments.
- Total millage rate.
- Enumerated millage list.
- Tax bill amount for winter tax bill.
- Tax bill amount for summer tax bill.

The bill would retain most of the above definition, except that the listed items would be referred to as "fields" instead of "information," and instead of having to include all of the listed items in the record for each parcel of real property in the county for the current tax year, the qualified data file would have include at least four of the listed items (fields).

MCL 48.101

House Bill 4731 would amend the Enhanced Access to Public Records Act, which addresses the availability of certain public records for public inspection and copying by digital means (which the act calls "enhanced access").

The bill would provide that the act does not apply to either of the following:

- A request for enhanced access to a property assessment roll prepared by a supervisor or other assessing officer under the General Property Tax Act.
- A request for enhanced access to a property appraisal card (except maps and imagery of the property included in the card) prepared under the General Property Tax Act.

MCL 15.443

House Bill 4732 would amend the Revised Judicature Act to change fees that can be charged by a register of deeds for copies of records in electronic format.

Currently, the fee for copies of any papers or records is \$1 per page.

Under the bill, that fee would apply to records in paper format. For copies of any records in electronic format, if required, the fee would be the actual cost of purchasing and sending the device or medium used to record or store the data, such as a disc, diskette, tape, or other electronic medium.

MCL 600.2567

The bills are tie-barred together, which means that none of them could take effect unless all of them were enacted.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bills likely would increase certain administrative costs for local units of government by an unknown and differing amount based on the operational characteristics of the local unit of government. However, it is anticipated that the provisions that would allow for fees to be collected would cover any costs incurred by the local unit of government.

Legislative Analyst: Rick Yuille
Fiscal Analyst: Ben Gielczyk

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.