

# CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## Chairperson

Robert Showers

## Vice-Chairperson

Kenneth B. Mitchell

## Members

Valerie Vail-Shirey

David W. Pohl

Bruce DeLong

John Andrews

Dwight Washington

**COURTHOUSE**  
**100 E. STATE STREET**  
**ST. JOHNS, MICHIGAN 48879-1571**  
**989-224-5120**



## Administrator/Controller

John F. Fuentes

## Clerk of the Board

Debra A. Sutherland

DATE 02/28/2023

The Clinton County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. with Chairperson Robert Showers presiding.

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Showers called for a moment of silence. The pledge of allegiance was given to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called with a quorum of the members in attendance:  
Val Vail-Shirey, David Pohl, Bruce DeLong, Robert Showers, John Andrews and Dwight Washington. Commissioner Kenneth Mitchell was excused.

COUNTY PERSONNEL

John Fuentes, Todd Campbell, Stephanie Dush, Doug Riley, Phil Hanses and Steve Wiswasser

VISITORS

Kevin Kirk, Dana Sue Kirk, Cori Feldpausch, Dan Feldpausch, Fredric Lee McLaughlin, David Smith, Ellen Link, Terry Link, Tim Pifer, Angie Pifer, Mike Ellis, Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Dennis Strahle, Brad Rich, Ardith Graham, Jim Graham, Kris Burow, Melany Mack, Rob Mack, Kim Kellogg, Ron Balzer, Ryan Diederichsen, Larry Kindel, John Reich, Liz Braddock, Lee Thelen Benton Huber, Eugene Livingston, Sara Lurie and Charlie Magsig

AGENDA

The agenda was amended to include the following item(s):

- Resolution honoring the Michigan Association of Counties on its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Resolution and Memorandum of Understanding with Frontier outlining Public-Private Partnership in its Pursuit of a ROBIN Grant Project to Expand Fiber Broadband Service to Unserved and Underserved Locations

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The January 31, 2023 Board of Commissioners Meeting minutes were presented for review and approval.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Vail-Shirey to approve the minutes as printed. Motion carried.

## COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were received:

1. Marquette County Resolution Supporting Dark Store Legislation
2. Ingham County Resolution Commending Those Involved in the Response to the Active Shooter Incident at Michigan State University
3. Eagle Township Letter Requesting Reactivation of the Clinton County Agricultural Preservation Board

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Washington moved, seconded by Commissioner Andrews to acknowledge receipt of the communications. Motion carried.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

John Fuentes, County Administrator, had no report.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairperson Showers called for public comments.

- Steven Wiswasser, 11444 Upton Road, Bath, the newly appointed Clinton County Treasurer, introduced himself to the members.
- Cori Feldpausch, 11780 State Road, Eagle, spoke again in opposition of the proposed Eagle Township megasite. Ms. Feldpausch spoke of efforts she has made to become involved in the process of the proposed megasite and the conversion of 1400 acres of prime farmland from agriculture to an industrial site. She invited the members to attend the planned open house on Thursday, March 2, 2023, to hear from the residents and to gain an understanding of how this proposed megasite will affect the residents of Eagle Township and surrounding communities. She read the Eagle Township Mission Statement and emphasized "to develop the community at a reasonable growth rate". Ms. Feldpausch stated she feels that the township supervisor is hindering the will of the residents who would like to form a local planning commission. Ms. Feldpausch asked for help in keeping the farmland protected.
- Dennis Strahle, 12833 W. Clark Road, Eagle, asked if there has been an official response from a lawyer regarding the legality of the \$100,000 purchase of a seat on the board of the MEDC as the December 2022 minutes stated that a legal opinion would be sought. Mr. Strahle noted that the Board of Commissioners does not have a Mission Statement. He focused on the portion quoted by Ms. Feldpausch and reiterated "at a responsible growth rate". Mr. Strahle feels that is the greatest zoning concern of a conversion of property from A-2 (agricultural preservation) to commercial. He does not believe this is reasonable growth. Mr. Strahle stated that the Clinton County Planning Commission, the Zoning Board and the Board of Commissioners have been entrusted to protect Eagle Township, and 10 other townships, through good planning.
- Brett Rich, 11100 Eaton Trail, Eagle, asked for help in keeping heavy industrial manufacturing off prime agricultural land in Clinton County and Eagle. He noted that the land being studied is designated as agricultural preservation. Mr. Rich cited the vision statement included in the comprehensive plan developed by the Planning Commission, promoting preservation of open space, agriculture, and natural resources, along with goals and objectives to provide focus for future decisions. At the top of the list is agriculture land preservation which includes objectives to protect prime agricultural land. Mr. Rich noted that protecting natural resources is a stated goal, as well as protecting ground water from contamination, considering air quality and environmental impacts from future planning, and to preserve and protect prime agricultural land and open space. Mr. Rich stated that he believes heavy industrial manufacturing is contradictory with the vision of Clinton County. Clinton County has historically been an agricultural community and Mr. Rich asked to keep it that way.

- Frederic Lee McLaughlin, 1407 W. Holmes Road, Lansing. Mr. McLaughlin explained that the megasite placement caught his attention and reminded him of an experience years ago regarding a segment of I-69. At that time, citizens expressed concern about keeping the interstate out of prime and essential farmland and the efforts were successful. Mr. McLaughlin questioned the legal status of the comprehensive master plan; whether it's legally binding, a statement of intent or does it have controlling status legally over what happens with this project. He stated the residents of Eagle Township have a way of life that they like and there is no compensation for this way of life. Mr. McLaughlin thanked the members for allowing him to share his thoughts.
- Dennis Strahle addressed the members again and apologized as he acknowledged receipt of the document he requested from Mr. Fuentes.

## MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Chairperson Showers introduced Liz Braddock, Mid-Michigan District Health Department. Ms. Braddock provided the presentation she gave to the Board of Health with an overview of what they do, and she highlighted some of the items for the members.

- Work through essential public health services that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides.
- Required to provide essential public health services to the county:
  - Food Protection
  - Public & Private Water Supply
  - Immunization
  - Infectious Disease Control
  - Sewage Management
  - Hearing Screening
  - Vision Services
  - STI Control & Prevention
- Public Health Services:
  - Environmental Health
  - Personal & Clinical
  - Health Education & Promotion
  - Emergency Preparedness
  - Administration
- Local Health Department Team:
  - Health Officer
  - Medical Director
- Current Challenges
  - Public Perception
  - Workforce Shortages
  - Funding

Commissioner Washington requested an update on PFAS contamination in Clinton County. Ms. Braddock advised there is one site in Clinton County, on the Grand Ledge, Eaton County border that was worked on by the Michigan National Guard and has been completed.

## ZONING

Commissioner Vail-Shirey introduced Doug Riley, Community Development Director to present the two zoning matters. Community Development Director Riley referenced maps while presenting the SLU requested in Greenbush Township.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairperson Showers allowed for public comments on the proposed solar farm in Greenbush Township:

- Terry Link, 8767 Price Road, Victor Township, spoke of serving on the Clinton County Board of Commissioners 15 years ago and initiating the Green Government Initiative. Mr. Link does not believe much has been done in the last decade. He advised that we are not on track to meet the required reduction in greenhouse gas emissions globally by 2030 and 2050. Mr. Link noted that rather, greenhouse gases grew globally and nationally last year. He informed that, 1) We need to cut back our demand for energy; and 2) We need to increase the supply of renewable energy. Mr. Link acknowledged that critics of the solar farm proposal have a right to ensure concerns are addressed and that valuable agricultural land be protected. He explained that land marginal for productive use for agriculture can accommodate solar and wind and, an increasingly popular approach is to do both through solar grazing. Mr. Link stated that the decision by the members will impact not just the local community but the future well-being of all and urged approval of the special land use permit. He encouraged the development of climate mitigation and adaptation policies and offered to assist. Mr. Link closed by stating that the climate emergency is now, and the worst is coming too soon.
- Larry Kindel, 323 W. Island Road, Greenbush, requested that the members decline the request for solar proposal in Greenbush Township. He asked that safeguards be put in place if it is approved, for the protection of residents and soil. Mr. Kindel stated his belief that there is a need for soil testing as the EPA states that Tier 1 solar panels contain toxic material. He noted that the EPA or EGLE will not get involved until a problem occurs. He described the flow of the drainage and surface water from the site noting that because of where the water flows, soil testing needs to be a condition of approval. Mr. Kindel proposed a plan for testing as a safeguard allowing for peace of mind.
- Melany Mack, 11849 Schavey Road, DeWitt Township, spoke of the ramifications of the special land use permit being requested in Greenbush Township going far beyond Clinton County. She noted the benefits of these types of projects. Ms. Mack stated that the landowner has attested the land for the project is marginal for farming, and he is unable to rent it out. She explained that the project will use top quality, durable and highly recyclable materials. Ms. Mack commended the project developer for working with the planning department and addressing the concerns voiced by residents; including the addition of a detailed decommission plan. Ms. Mack added that she understands this special land use permit meets all criteria currently required by the county for approval. She noted that there are well-funded groups spreading misinformation about renewable energy projects which seems to be driving a lot of objections to this project. Ms. Mack closed by expressing her hope that it does not stop the approval of this special land use permit.

- Angie Pifer, 1500 E. Colony Road, Greenbush Township, pleaded with the members to deny the special land use permit. She noted that the Planning Commission passed the special land use permit by only one vote and seemingly with reservation. Ms. Pifer also mentioned that Commissioner Vail-Shirey requested a motion to put on hold all future solar and wind applications before her vote was cast. She noted that if there is a need to hold off in the future, there is a need now. Ms. Pifer pointed out better places for solar panels rather than wasting farmland, such as MSU, on top of parking lots or solar transparent glass windows in buildings. She stated that the fact that toxics can leach out by rainwater over a period of several months, and with a county drain on site, should alone urge tabling this request and reviewing more closely the negative impacts on the residents. She reminded the members that it is their responsibility to become informed of the magnitude of this project and to keep residents out of grave danger. Ms. Pifer asked the members to consider tabling the matter if they cannot deny it. She pointed out that A-2 also states it is “designed for the well-being of the residents and adjacent neighbors and should not have an adverse effect”. Ms. Pifer closed by stating this does have an adverse effect.
- David Smith, 4739 W. Gratiot County Line Road, Essex Township, expressed his hope that the members decide against the solar project being presented. He stated he does not believe this represents the will of the people in Greenbush Township. Mr. Smith conveyed his desire that the residents of Greenbush Township develop their own planning and zoning. He spoke of looking at the future by remembering when satellite dishes were all the rage and the advancement of technology. Mr. Smith believes it is likely the solar panels will become smaller, with different chemicals, and more sophisticated footprints, which should not require as many acres. Mr. Smith noted that the comprehensive plan mentions the preservation of agricultural land several times.
- Ellen Link, 8767 Price Road, Victor Township, attested to the value of increasing production of solar energy as replacement for fossil fuels for energy use. She expressed her belief that switching to renewable energy sources like solar and wind are critical to begin reducing our greenhouse gas emissions to provide a safe environment, noting that so much damage has already been done. Ms. Link acknowledged that there are those who are not well informed or are misinformed, causing doubts and concerns. She admitted that she would object and inquire of the benefit if she believed solar panels could leach toxins into the soil and ground water; or numerous panels would emit an annoying noise or project a glaring reflection. Ms. Link compared this to someone wanting to build a cruel and smelly concentrated animal feeding operation or a polluting fracking operation. She noted the importance of assuring those opposing solar installations that they do not leach toxins into the soil, nor do they omit noise or create a vital disturbance but replace environmentally harmful carbon emissions of fossil fuels with clean solar energy. In this case the farmer making the request has stated that the land is marginal for farming. Ms. Link acknowledged solar technology is not perfect, however believes the benefits of solar vastly outweigh the negative effect of petroleum products. Ms. Link urged the members to approve the special land use permit.
- Kim Kellogg, 1250 W. Colony Road, Greenbush Township, spoke in opposition of the proposed solar farm. She clarified that the residents are not opposed to solar or green energy but are opposed to putting it on farmland. Ms. Kellogg stated that there are better places for it.

- Eugene Livingston, 2204 Livingston Road, Greenbush Township, read a statement on behalf of his son, Andrew Livingston, who was unable to attend in person. Mr. Andrew Livingston's statement expressed concern over the competitive edge provided to solar companies over others wanting to lease or buy land for agricultural production. He noted solar company leases were significantly higher per acre compared to the average lease rate for tillable ground in Clinton County last year. Mr. Livingston believes solar has its place on a smaller scale integrated within communities, backyards, roof tops, parking lots and even ground fields; places where tax payers can invest their money and recoup the benefits. He does not feel that large scale solar projects are not due to economic sense, but rather government energy and emission mandates. Mr. Eugene Livingston added his own footnote stating that these projects are misleading because they use the term solar farms. He feels a farm is a unit that is designed for animal and plant husbandry to produce food. In closing, Mr. Livingston urged the members to have a distinct plan before any of these solar projects are put into place.
- Charlie Magsig, 3179 Banner Road, Greenbush Township, expressed opposition to solar farms as he doesn't understand how this will benefit the residents of Clinton County. He advised of the effects personally as his son-in-law and daughter's home is across the road and this will decrease the value of their property 5%-20%. Mr. Magsig doesn't believe this will do much good, as the entire world must be involved.
- Ryan Diedrickson with the applicant, Sunbelievable, reiterated some of the facts provided by Community Development Director Riley. He noted that there has been no change or request to change the comprehensive plan to accommodate this project. Mr. Diedrickson reported that there have been numerous meetings and they have done their best to properly site the project, make amendments to the site plan and bring forward additional information for context. Mr. Diedrickson emphasized his goal in making sure everyone is satisfied to the best of his ability with any concerns that might arise.
- Lee Thelen, Greenbush Township Supervisor, expressed appreciation to the members for allowing public comments. He shared that the township discovered they were willfully unprepared when they began studying this project in August. Mr. Thelen added that the township relies on the County zoning ordinance, which is 7 years old, and he encouraged upgrading the zoning ordinance as the green energy community has made significant advancements. He noted that if the permit is approved, it will include 12 points that were not in there in the beginning and those 12 points are mandatory boilerplates which allows more authority to negotiate. Mr. Thelen acknowledged that Sunbelievable was very cordial to deal with, and they dealt with and agreed to anything presented as a problem. He added that the points negotiated should automatically be included as basic points. Mr. Thelen feels that the county could be more proactive/offensive rather than defensive with additional help in the planning department. He expressed frustration that the township has no authority regardless of the impact on the residents. Mr. Thelen commended the Greenbush Township residents for handling this matter very respectfully. He also noted that the financial impact for the township is very minor. He spoke of the benefits of the townships utilizing the county zoning rather than each jurisdiction establishing their own as the rules are the same. Mr. Thelen strongly recommended this ordinance be reviewed.

PC-33-22 SLU APPLICATION  
FOR SPECIAL LAND USE  
PERMIT SUBMITTED BY  
SUNBELIEVABLE SOLAR,  
LLC AND UNDERLYING  
PROPERTY OWNERS  
DENNIS & FRANCES  
WHITLOCK AND  
KEVIN & DANA KIRK  
(TRUST)  
SECTION 27, GREENBUSH  
TOWNSHIP

PC-33-22 SLU Application for a Special Land Use Permit submitted by Sunbelievable Solar, LLC and underlying property owners, Dennis & Frances Whitlock, and Kevin & Dana Kirk (Trust), to construct a solar farm (12 megawatt) on approximately 93.62 acres in Section 27 of Greenbush Township

- Commissioner DeLong requested clarification on a couple of points from Community Development Director Riley. Commissioner DeLong expressed his struggle in determining how to vote on this matter. He stated he understands that it meets the requirements under the current ordinance, however, believes there are better places than a residential/agriculture area.
- Commissioner Washington questioned whether there is a plan for crisis response to environmental hazards. Community Development Riley noted it was reviewed by the Health Department and they did not respond with concerns. Mr. Diedrickson, the applicant representative, advised that there is a waste management plan in place. He acknowledged concern for toxic leaching materials from the panels, however, the likelihood is extremely low.
- Commissioner Andrews questioned whether soil testing is conducted on farms to determine how much pesticides or septic systems run off into streams because they are not maintained properly. He stated that he believes the risk of solar panels leaching is way less than what humans are going to do to the environment. He added that he sees no reason to deny the request based on zoning and feels the environmental impact is minimal.
- Commissioner Vail-Shirey addressed everyone, particularly Greenbush Township residents. She acknowledged hearing their concerns and the difficulty as her personal feelings conflict with her obligation to her position. Commissioner Vail-Shirey noted that the applicant made the application based on the current zoning and met the criteria. Moving forward, the county should conduct a study on renewable energies to work with current technology. Commissioner Vail-Shirey stated that we should ensure the best in our planning & zoning and work with local units of government, particularly those that rely on the county.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Andrews to concur with the Planning Commission recommendation and approve the Special Land Use Permit submitted by Sunbelievable Solar, LLC and underlying property owners, Dennis & Frances Whitlock, and Kevin & Dana Kirk (Trust) to construct a solar farm. Voting on the motion by roll call vote, those voting aye were DeLong, Andrews, Washington, Vail-Shirey, Pohl and Showers. Six ayes, zero nays, one absent. Motion carried.

RECESS

Chairperson Showers called for a 5-minute recess at 10:25 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:35 a.m.

PC-42-22 MA APPLICATION FOR A ZONE MAP AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY HOLLY SIMON IN CONJUNCTION WITH TIMOTHY BELEN SECTION 5, WESTPHALIA TOWNSHIP

PC-42-22 MA (OR 183-23) Application for a Zone Map Amendment (Rezoning) submitted by Holly Simon in conjunction with property owner, Timothy Belen, to rezone approximately 1.38 acres from A-2 (General Agriculture) to RR (Rural Residential) in Section 5 of Westphalia Township

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Vail-Shirey moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl to concur with the Planning Committee recommendation and approve the application for a Zone Map Amendment submitted by Holly Simon in conjunction with property owner, Timothy Belen. Voting on the motion by roll call vote, those voting aye were Andrews, Pohl, Vail-Shirey, DeLong, Washington and Showers. Six ayes, zero nays, one absent. Motion carried.

PA 116 FARMLAND APPLICATION

The following PA116 Farmland Application was submitted for approval:

- Clint R. Chant, Ovid Township, Section 5

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Vail-Shirey moved, seconded by Commissioner DeLong to approve the PA116 Farmland Application submitted by Clint R. Chant and direct the Clerk to forward the application to the state for processing. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2023-3 HONORING THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES ON ITS 125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Chairperson Showers requested a motion to adopt a resolution honoring the Michigan Association of Counties on its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl, to adopt a Resolution Honoring the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) on its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Voting on the motion by roll call vote, those voting aye were Washington, Vail-Shirey, DeLong, Andrews, Pohl and Showers. Six ayes, zero nays, one absent. Motion carried.  
(INSERT RESOLUTION)

RESOLUTION 2023-4 AND MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH FRONTIER AS PARTNER IN ITS PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP IN ITS PURSUIT OF A ROBIN GRANT PROJECT TO EXPAND FIBER BROADBAND SERVICE TO UNSERVED AND UNDERSERVED LOCATIONS

Chairperson Showers presented for adoption the Resolution and Memorandum of Understanding with Frontier as Partner in its Public-Private Partnership in its Pursuit of a ROBIN Grant Project to Expand Fiber Broadband Service to Unserved and Underserved Locations.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl, to adopt a Resolution and Memorandum of Understanding with Frontier as Partner in its Public-Private Partnership in its Pursuit of a Robin Grant Project to Expand Fiber Broadband Service to Unserved and Underserved Locations. Voting on the motion by roll call vote, those voting aye were Pohl, Washington, Vail-Shirey, DeLong, Andrews and Showers. Six ayes, zero nays, one absent. Motion carried.  
(INSERT RESOLUTION)

RESOLUTION 2023-5 DEPOSITORY AND INVESTMENT RESOLUTION FOR CLINTON COUNTY

Chairperson Showers called for the adoption of a Depository and Investment Resolution for Clinton County naming Steven Wiswasser, the County Treasurer as the person responsible for the deposits and investments of public monies.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, supported by Commissioner Andrews to adopt the Depository and Investment Resolution for Clinton County. Voting on the motion by roll call vote, those voting aye were Pohl, Andrews, DeLong, Vail-Shirey, Washington and Showers. Six ayes, zero nays, one absent. Motion carried.  
(INSERT RESOLUTION)



APPROVAL OF  
COMMISSIONERS'  
EXPENSE ACCOUNTS

Commissioners' expense accounts were presented for review and approval.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Vail-Shirey to approve the expense accounts, subject to review by the Chair and Clerk. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The following are reports of Committee meetings:

**WAYS & MEANS  
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Commissioner DeLong, Chairperson of the Ways and Means Committee, reported on a meeting held February 21, 2023.

ATTENDANCE AT  
COMMITTEE MEETING

**Members Present:**

Bruce DeLong, W&M Committee Chairperson  
David Pohl  
Dwight Washington  
John Andrews  
Val Vail-Shirey  
Ken Mitchell  
Robert Showers, Ex-Officio Member

**Staff Present**

John Fuentes  
Penny Goerge  
Todd Campbell  
Doug Riley  
Craig Thelen

**Others Present**

Emma Bostwick, LEAP  
Jaclyn Hutchinson, LEAP  
Maggie Sayles, Victor Township  
Todd Krajniak, Real Estate Agent  
Roberta Cocco, City of St. Johns  
MaLissa Schutt, Clinton Area Transit System  
Jason Denovich, Clinton County Chamber of Commerce  
Eric Silm, Bingham Township  
Lee Thelen, Greenbush Township  
Heather Hanover, St. Johns Downtown Development Authority  
Eric Voisinet, Olive Township  
Jennings West, Ovid Township  
Jon Harden, MDOT  
Gregory Waite, MDOT

CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL  
OF AGENDA

1. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Mitchell moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl, to approve the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

2. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong requested limited public comments. There were none.

LANSING ECONOMIC AREA  
PARTNERSHIP (LEAP)  
M-21 CORRIDOR  
DISCUSSION

3. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced Commissioner Vail-Shirey, Clinton County's LEAP Agri-Business Liaison, to facilitate a discussion regarding the M-21 AgTech Corridor.

- Commissioner Vail-Shirey introduced Emma Bostwick, Tri-County Development Manager from LEAP to present the concept of the M-21 AgTech Corridor;

- Ms. Bostwick explained that the mid-Michigan region is home to a robust collection of agricultural businesses and in recent years, this central part of the state has experienced substantial investment projects in the agriculture and food processing industry, commonly referred to as the “agtech industry”, adding strong tax revenue, improved infrastructure, and quality jobs to the area;
- It was noted that numerous significant food processing related plants have recently landed along M-21;
- The purpose of the M-21 Agtech Corridor marketing brand is to find ways to support current businesses and enhance and accelerate attraction efforts through improved regional understanding, targeted marketing and prospecting and collaboration efforts;
- Ms. Bostwick provided information regarding an interactive mapping tool that has been developed to create a platform to continue to build on and add functionality and details about site readiness in terms of planning, zoning, and relevant infrastructure;
- Doug Riley, Clinton County’s Community Development Director, presented maps outlining zoning districts and emphasized that multiple jurisdictions have their own regulations; he is looking forward to working with LEAP in the coordination and communication efforts, emphasizing the importance of coordinating these types of plans with local municipalities on the front end of a project;
- The members discussed the importance of existing infrastructure in the planning stages, such as water, sewer and roads;
- Ms. Bostwick answered several questions from the members and attendees; it was agreed that relevant municipal participation and engagement during these early planning phases is vital so LEAP will know where to focus their energy moving forward.

COMMISSIONERS’  
COMMENTS

4. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong requested Commissioners comments.
  - The Commissioners offered their closing thoughts on the M-21 AgTech Corridor; there is a lot of potential to strengthen the businesses that are already here, and help support future growth, however the local municipalities need to be involved in the beginning stages of any potential project within their district;
  - Commissioner Vail-Shirey thanked everyone for their participation in this discussion and emphasized that she is available anytime to discuss these efforts in more detail.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

5. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong requested the administrator’s report from Administrator Fuentes. There was no report.

ADJOURNMENT OF  
COMMITTEE MEETING

6. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

**WAYS & MEANS  
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Commissioner DeLong, Chairperson of the Ways and Means Committee, reported on a meeting held February 23, 2023.

ATTENDANCE AT  
COMMITTEE MEETING

**Members Present:**  
Bruce DeLong, W&M Committee Chairperson  
David Pohl  
Dwight Washington  
John Andrews  
Val Vail-Shirey  
Ken Mitchell  
Robert Showers, Ex-Officio Member

**Staff Present**

John Fuentes	Chris Collom
Todd Campbell	Rob Wooten
Cindy Moser	Sheriff Dush
Doug Riley	Penny Goerge
Phil Hanses	Undersheriff Gute

**Others Present**

Adam Smiddy, Guidehouse (via telephone)  
Scott Hogan, Foster Swift (via telephone)  
Dennis Strahle, Eagle Township  
Maggie Sayles, Victor Township  
Larry Kindel, Greenbush Township  
Theresa Hubbard  
Nicole Fickes, Victor Township  
Sara Lurie, Community Mental Health

CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL  
OF AGENDA

1. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Addition to Agenda: Transportation Services Agreement – 18A

PUBLIC COMMENTS

2. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong requested limited public comments.
  - Dennis Strahle introduced himself as a Trustee on the Eagle Township Board, and concerned citizen of Clinton County, and expressed his concerns regarding the non-disclosure agreement that is currently on the agenda (#3) noting the agreement lists “County of Clinton” as a whole which seems broad;
  - Theresa Hubbard expressed her concerns regarding misinformation that was presented from the opposition of the solar installation in Greenbush Township; she noted that we all use electrical power and we should all share in the burdens of producing it; in order to provide environmental justice, everyone needs to take responsibility and be more open to reducing greenhouse gases, and slowing down climate change, as well as sharing the burden of energy generation in a fair and equitable way;
  - Commissioner DeLong relayed for the record that there were three written public comments received prior to the meeting:
    - Melany Mack is supportive of proposed solar farm;
    - Aspen and Tim Bernath are supportive of proposed solar farm;
    - Carolyn Brokob expressed opposition to confidentiality agreements.

No action taken.

RATIFICATION OF MEDC  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS  
ADVISOR CONFIDENTIALITY  
AGREEMENT

3. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced Scott Hogan from Foster Swift to discuss the MEDC Development Projects Advisor Confidentiality Agreement.
  - The County’s legal counsel, Mr. Hogan explained the parameters of the confidentiality agreement with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) that was executed by the prior Chairperson on August 15, 2022;
  - It was noted this agreement was not acted on by the Board of Commissioners prior to, or after its signature; therefore, the Board is being asked to ratify the confidentiality agreement on behalf of the County of Clinton;

- Commissioner Showers asked Administrator Fuentes to read into the record the following communication sent to Dillon Rush at LEAP on February 22 as follows:

*Dillon,*

*You requested further information regarding the estimated timelines regarding several processes underway and that would be necessary for a development in the Eagle Township area. Based on statutory requirements of the County process, the following is the currently estimated timeline for the Comprehensive Plan amendment that has been initiated and future rezoning of the subject properties to be reviewed/completed.*

*As we believe you are aware, the Eagle Township Board has tabled a motion until April 20, 2023 in regard to the Township taking over their own statutory planning and zoning functions. It is also our understanding that there may also be a potential citizen petition, (which would have to be submitted to the Township Clerk), requesting that the Eagle Township voters decide on that planning and zoning jurisdiction ballot question at a future election. These developments would significantly impact the timeframes provided below.*

*This information is based upon the County being able to legally continue/complete the Comprehensive Plan review and/or potential rezoning of the subject properties.*

**Comprehensive Plan Amendment (incl. Future Land Use Map):**

***March 2, 2023*** – Eagle Township Open House at the Eagle Park Reception Hall (to receive citizen feedback on a potential amendment). Eagle Township officials have indicated they may also desire to complete a separate survey of all of their residents regarding this issue, following the March 2, 2023 Open House to obtain additional feedback/information.

***March, 2023*** – The Planning consultant completes their recommendation regarding any draft plan amendments.

***April, 2023*** – The consultant would present any draft plan amendments for consideration to the Eagle Township Board and the County Planning Commission. The County would await a recommendation on any amendments to the Comprehensive Plan from Eagle Township. The County Board of Commissioners must await a recommendation from the County Planning Commission before (potentially) authorizing the release of any potential amendment(s) of the Comprehensive Plan for additional public and agency comment.

***May, 2023*** – Following authorization by the County Board of Commissioners, any amendments to a Comprehensive Plan must be publicly circulated (made available) for a statutorily required 42-day review period.

***July, 2023*** – Potential adoption of the amendment by the County Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners; (again following a recommendation from Eagle Township).

**Rezoning:**

*Assuming a favorable (supportive) outcome on the Comprehensive Plan amendment process being supported in April/May by the Board of County Commissioners, a rezoning application could be submitted by the underlying property owner(s) immediately thereafter for formal consideration in **July/August, 2023** by the Township and County. The key is that a rezoning is formally considered after the formal adoption of the supportive Comprehensive Plan amendment.*

*There is also the potential for either the planning consultant, (or perhaps a future owner of the property), to recommend the consideration of an entirely new zoning district with specific allowed uses and development standards for that area. The process for a formal zoning ordinance (text) amendment such as this takes at least 2 months as well.*

*At the direction of the Chairman of the Board of the Commissioners, after thorough consideration, the County will not be able to participate in the meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup>, or future industry specific recruitment meetings in these same regards for the Eagle Township site/area until after the public process to complete the on-going Comprehensive Plan amendment and/or rezoning of the subject properties is completed.*

*John F. Fuentes, Clinton County Administrator/Controller*

- Mr. Hogan answered questions from the members and after thorough consideration and discussion of the agreement, action was not taken to ratify the previous agreement and Administrator Fuentes was asked to communicate this to the parties that were, or may have been, relying on the previous agreement.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Vail-Shirey, to **recommend** to NOT ratify the MEDC Development Projects Advisor Confidentiality Agreement and instructs Administration (in consultation with legal counsel) to communicate such with the affected parties. Motion carried.

- It was further discussed that the Board of Commissioners may consider approval of a confidentiality agreement on a project-by-project basis.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Vail-Shirey to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

#### DRAIN COMMISSIONER

4.

- A. Ways and Means Chairperson DeLong introduced Phil Hanses, Remonumentation Grant Administrator, to discuss contracts for the upcoming remonumentation year.
- The Remonumentation Grant for 2023 is \$65,987.00;
  - Fifty-one (51) corners are planned and should be completed before September 1, 2023 for review by the Peer Group in Mid-September.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington, to **recommend** authorizing the Chairperson of the Board to sign the following contracts for survey work relative to the 2023 Remonumentation year:

- Enger Surveying - Engineering Company - Dave Clifford, PS 4001025837
- Landmark Surveying - Mark VanRaemdonck, PS 4001024644
- Autenrieth Land Surveys, LLC – Jeffrey K. Autenrieth, PS 4001031588
- Spicer Group – Roger Mahoney, PS 4001041105

Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl to concur with the committee recommendation and authorize the Chairperson of the Board to sign the contract for survey work relative to the 2023 Remonumentation year. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS OF  
SURVEYORS  
DAVE CLIFFORD,  
MARK VANRAEMDONCK,  
JEFFRY K. AUTENRIETH  
AND ROGER MAHONEY  
TO THE 2023 CLINTON  
COUNTY  
REMONUMENTATION PEER  
GROUP

- B. Ways and Means Chairperson DeLong introduced Phil Hanses, Remonumentation Grant Administrator, to discuss the appointments to the Clinton County Remonumentation Peer Group.
- All surveyors have performed work for Remonumentation before and everything has been in good order;
  - Surveyors receive \$75 per corner for each corner they research and \$1,000 per corner that is reestablished.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington, to **recommend** appointing the following Surveyors to the 2023 Clinton County Remonumentation Peer Group for the purpose of reviewing the Remonumentation Survey work for the 2023 Grant:

- Dave Clifford, PS 4001025837
- Mark VanRaemdonck, PS 4001024644
- Jeffry K. Autenrieth, PS 4001031588
- Roger Mahoney, PS 4001041105

Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl to concur with the committee recommendation to appoint the following Surveyors to the 2023 Clinton County Remonumentation Peer Group for the purpose of reviewing the Remonumentation Survey work for the 2023 Grant:

- Dave Clifford, PS 4001025837
- Mark VanRaemdonck, PS 4001024644
- Jeffry K. Autenrieth, PS 4001031588
- Roger Mahoney, PS 4001041105

Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS OF  
MARK POWELL AS THE 2023  
REMONUMENTATION  
GRANT REPRESENTATIVE  
FOR CLINTON COUNTY AND  
PHIL HANSES  
AS THE 2023  
REMONUMENTATION  
GRANT ADMINISTRATOR

- C. Ways and Means Chairperson DeLong introduced discussion regarding the 2023 appointments for Grant Representative and Grant Administrator.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington, to **recommend** appointing Mr. Mark Powell, PS 4001044298, as 2023 Remonumentation Grant Representative for Clinton County, Michigan, and Mr. Phil Hanses as 2023 Remonumentation Grant Administrator. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington to concur with the committee recommendation to appoint Mr. Mark Powell, PS 4001044298, as 2023 Remonumentation Grant Representative for Clinton County, Michigan, and Mr. Phil Hanses as 2023 Remonumentation Grant Administrator. Motion carried.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN  
ACT OF 2021 (ARPA) –  
GUIDEHOUSE UPDATE

5. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced Adam Smiddy from Guidehouse to provide an update regarding Clinton County's Broadband Initiative.
- Mr. Smiddy provided an update regarding the ROBIN grant process and explained to the members that if a governmental entity is to be the recipient and fiduciary of a ROBIN grant in partnership with an Internet Service Provider (ISP), it must be for an unserved area that has not been applied for by another ISP on their own;
  - This means that if there is an overlap between a governmental entity application and an ISP application for the same unserved area, the ISP application would receive preference and the governmental entity application would not be eligible;

- However, an ISP may be the recipient and fiduciary of a ROBIN grant in partnership with a governmental entity; in this instance, the preference would not apply as the private ISP is the recipient and fiduciary, not the governmental entity;
- Considering this information, it is in the County’s best interest to let Frontier be the lead applicant through the grant application process;
- Administrator Fuentes notified the members that Administration is currently working with legal counsel to outline the general terms of the application process with Frontier in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU); having an MOU in place will help the County achieve maximum grant points;
- Since the grant application deadline is March 14<sup>th</sup>, it is the intent of Administration to have the MOU finalized soon so it can be brought to the February 28<sup>th</sup> Board of Commissioners Agenda for approval via a resolution, otherwise a special Board of Commissioners meeting will need to be added to the calendar prior to the grant deadline;
- Discussion followed about gathering speed test data for the map areas that MIHI has identified as “likely ineligible”; Mr. Smiddy is working with Frontier to identify their paying subscribers who should be eligible, as well as researching other solutions to prove the remaining locations are eligible;
- The next Broadband Task Force Meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.

No action required.

FACILITY AND FLEET  
SERVICE – CIP REQUEST  
FOR COURTHOUSE BOILER  
REPLACEMENT  
ENGINEERING

6. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced Rob Wooten, Facilities and Fleet Services Director, to discuss the Courthouse Boiler Replacement.
  - The Courthouse has five boilers that are reaching the end of their useful lives;
  - These boilers are critical to the operation of the HVAC system in all seasons; this project will include engineering, planning, and development of project specifications in preparation for an expected boiler replacement project in 2024.

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell, to authorize the engineering, planning and development of the project specifications in preparation of an expected boiler replacement, for an amount up to \$100,000 as outlined and approved in the capital improvements section of the 2023 budget. Motion carried.

SHERIFF’S OFFICE

7. Ways and Means Chairperson DeLong introduced discussion regarding requests from the Sheriff’s Office.

CLINTON COUNTY JAIL  
SAFETY AND SECURITY  
ASSESSMENT

- A.
  - Facilities and Fleet Services and Information Technology in conjunction with the Sheriff’s Office requested a proposal to evaluate the condition of the current jail security control system;
  - It was noted the April 2022 Needs Study conducted by Hobbs & Black Architects identified concerns related to the current system due to its age;
  - The requested professional services proposal would provide an independent second opinion condition assessment and budgetary opinion of probable cost, in anticipation of considering inclusion of a project in the 2024 Budget;
  - The affected departments have recommended the assessment be conducted and Administration agrees with the recommendation.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Mitchell moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl, to **recommend** approval of Clinton County Jail Safety and Security Assessment Proposal in the amount of \$7,865 as presented. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Vail-Shirey to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

JAIL BODY SCANNER  
ACQUISITION

B.

- The Sheriff has requested consideration to acquire a body scanner to be used as an additional screening protocol during the booking process at the jail;
- The scanner would be used to identify contraband and foreign objects ingested or otherwise concealed within a body cavity of those in custody entering the jail; such objects pose serious risks to the health and safety of the individuals and county personnel; recent incidents include personnel exposures to fentanyl and other similar dangerous narcotics;
- The frequency of this type of exposure continues to increase based on the prevalence of substance use-related offenses;
- To reduce liability associated with such risk the Sheriff has identified a solution that is in use in several county jail facilities in Michigan;
- Administration supports the Sheriff's request for consideration to increase the 2023 Capital Improvement Budget by (\$200,000) to acquire a body scanner to mitigate County risk prior to considering the request for the 2024 Budget.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell, to **recommend** approving an increase to the 2023 Capital Improvement Budget for an amount up to \$200,000 for the acquisition of a jail body scanner. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Vail-Shirey to concur with the committee recommendation. Voting on the motion by roll call vote, those voting aye were DeLong, Washington, Vail-Shirey, Andrews, Pohl and Showers. Six ayes, zero nays, one absent. Motion carried.

BODY WORN CAMERAS  
AND IN-CAR SYSTEM

C.

- Ways and Means Chairperson DeLong introduced Todd Campbell, Deputy Administrator, to discuss a request to purchase new in-car video systems and body worn cameras for the Sheriff's Department.
- The Sheriff's Department's in-car video system is at the end of its useful life; it is recommended to be replaced, as approved in the 2023 major capital improvement budget;
  - Additionally, the Sheriff's Office will be moving forward with equipping all Road Patrol, Animal Control and Corrections Transport Officers with body worn cameras in 2023, as approved in the Sheriff's operating budget;
  - When the 2023 budget was originally developed, the in-car video system and body worn cameras were planned to be separate purchases for a total estimated cost of \$275,000; however, a proposal has been received from Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$286,791.53 with the total cost to be paid over a five-year term; installation costs for the in-car video systems will cost an additional \$8,775;



- Discussion took place regarding the need to protect officers in their daily job functions and to protect the County from liability that may be imposed due to an event that is not able to be viewed from an officer's perspective; this purchase will allow officers to feel safer and more protected when performing their jobs, as well as strengthen investigations.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Vail-Shirey, to **recommend** approval of the Motorola Solutions proposal for the purchase of new in-car video systems and body worn cameras for the Sheriff's Department not to exceed \$286,791.53, to award the equipment installation contract to Kodiak Emergency Vehicles not to exceed \$8,775, and to authorize the County Administrator to sign all necessary documents. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Vail-Shirey to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

CENTRAL DISPATCH

8. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced Central Dispatch Director, Chris Collom to discuss requests from Central Dispatch.

PUBLIC SAFETY  
COMMUNICATIONS  
PURCHASE AGREEMENT  
AND CHANGE ORDER #5

- A.
  - Motorola has agreed to honor the portable and mobile radio pricing at the 2020 equipment rate through the first quarter of 2023; as a result, Central Dispatch received requests from agencies to purchase additional radios to the Michigan Public Safety Communications System (MPSCS) on their behalf;
  - The public safety agencies were provided an opportunity to review pricing and the draft purchase agreement outlining the responsibilities; three agencies have expressed their intent to purchase additional units at full costs that includes hardware, services, and the MPSCS onboarding fees;
  - Motorola Solutions requires a change order to the contract to honor the 2020 equipment rates and the County must agree to the terms of change order #5 for the agencies to receive the contractual rate;
  - The change order amends the Motorola Solutions contract with the County; therefore, the County will serve as the fiduciary and invoice the agencies once all equipment is delivered and services are finalized;
  - The Public Safety Communications Purchase Agreement has been reviewed and approved by legal counsel;
  - Change Order #5 outlines the price change to the original contract and a list of equipment that will be purchased; the change order will not be finalized until Central Dispatch has received the fully executed agreements from the participating agencies.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Mitchell moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl, to **recommend** approving Change Order #5 as presented. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Mitchell moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl, to recommend approving the Public Safety Communications Subscriber Purchase Agreement as presented. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

CORRECTIONS DIVISION  
PORTABLES – APPROVAL  
OF CHANGE ORDER #6

B.

- The Sheriff's Office is requesting approval to purchase eight (8) portable radios for the corrections department to provide each Correctional Officer with the ability to have communication with Central Dispatch, Road Patrol personnel, and each other;
- The purchase of the portables was not included in the 2023 capital projects due to the Corrections Division not transitioning to the MPSCS until late 2022; the project encompasses the portables, programming, accessories, and the onboarding fees to the MPSCS;
- Motorola requires a change order to the contract to honor the 2020 equipment rates; the County must agree to the terms of Change Order #6 that outlines the updated contractual pricing and equipment list for the eight portables.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Mitchell moved, seconded by Commissioner Vail-Shirey, to **recommend** approving Change Order #6 to the Motorola Solutions contract as presented. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Vail-Shirey to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY MENTAL  
HEALTH

9. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced Sara Lurie from Community Mental Health to discuss a proposal from the Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties.
- Community Mental Health (CMH) Authority of Clinton, Eaton, Ingham counties (CMHA-CEI) is requesting funding for the amount of \$49,521.26 for the period of April 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023 to support continuation of the Integrative Community Youth Outreach Unit (ICYOU) in Clinton County;
  - The program will fully expend available funding from Michigan Department of Health and Human Services ARPA appropriations by March 31, 2023;
  - Requested funds will enable CMHA-CEI to continue to explore all available funding sources as well as request ongoing funds for FY2024 in May 2023 via our regular process with local counties;
  - Ms. Lurie advised the services are provided by CMH in coordination with other agencies; the focus is on prevention and early intervention for youth under the age of 18.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, to **recommend** authorizing funding in the amount of \$49,521.26 for the period of April 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023 to support continuation of the Integrative Community Youth Outreach Unit (ICYOU) in Clinton County. Motion carried. Commissioner DeLong voted no.

- Commissioner DeLong noted on record that although he is unable to support this motion, he supports mental health and the services CMH provides.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington to concur with the committee recommendation.

- Sara Lurie, CEO of Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties, spoke briefly to clarify on how the funding is held and how it will be used.

Voting on the motion by roll call vote, those voting aye were Washington, Vail-Shirey, Andrews, Pohl and Showers. Six ayes, zero nays, one absent. Motion carried.

#### AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER AND TERMS

10. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced discussion regarding the Rehmann Robson Audit Engagement Letter and Terms.

- Government Auditing Standards require that the auditor communicate certain information to the Clinton County Board of Commissioners during the planning stage of an audit;
- The Board of Commissioners is being asked to acknowledge and accept the letter of understanding from Rehmann Robson for the year ending December 31, 2022.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, to **recommend** the approval and signature of the Rehmann Robson Audit Engagement Letter and Terms for year ending December 31, 2022. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

#### RESOLUTION HONORING THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES ON ITS 125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

11. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced Commissioner Mitchell to discuss a resolution honoring the Michigan Association of Counties on its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

- Discussion took place and it was noted this is an excellent means of publicly expressing the County's ongoing partnership with MAC.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Mitchell moved, seconded by Commissioner Vail-Shirey, to recommend authorizing a Resolution Honoring the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) on its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Motion carried.  
(See page 8 for Board action)

#### TRI-COUNTY METRO NARCOTICS SQUAD PAYMENT

12. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced discussion regarding a request from the Tri-County Metro Narcotics Squad.

- The County received a request from the Tri-County Metro Narcotics Squad for Clinton County's share of the FY21-22 offset payment in the amount of \$9,023.00;

- Since there are times when forfeitures have provided enough revenue to cover the cost of this operation, Clinton County does not include this expenditure in the adopted operational budget; however, there is an allowance made by committing \$75,000 for Tri-County Metro expenditures in the fund balance of the general fund;
- According to the fund balance classification policy “a majority vote of the members elect is required to approve a commitment and a majority vote of the members elect is required to remove a commitment”.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Vail-Shirey moved, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell, to **recommend** approving a decrease of committed funds in the amount of \$9,023.00 from the general fund committed fund balance for Tri-County Metro Narcotics Squad to make the FY21-22 offset payment. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Vail-Shirey to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

#### PLANNING UPDATE

13. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced Doug Riley, Community Development Director, to provide a planning update.
- PC-33-22 SLU – Application for a Special Land Use Permit; Planning Commission recommends approval; it was noted there were 12 conditions of approval that were agreed upon that go above and beyond base regulations;
  - PC-42-22 MA – Application for a Zone Map Amendment (Rezoning); Planning Commission recommends approval;
  - Community Development Director Riley notified the members that the Planning Commission recommends the Board consider hiring a consultant to review the renewable energy regulations in the Clinton County Zoning Ordinance, and not to accept any further applications until those standards have been reviewed;
  - Director Riley recommends the County hire legal counsel to attend an upcoming meeting to have an initial discussion in these regards;
  - It was noted that the County does not have any additional renewable energy applications at this time.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Mitchell moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl, to **recommend** authorizing Administration to consult with legal counsel about attending an upcoming meeting to review and discuss current language for renewable energy regulations in the Clinton County Zoning Ordinance. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

#### PROPERTY TAX SYSTEM DISCUSSION

14. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced Commissioner Pohl to discuss the property tax system.

Commissioner Vail-Shirey moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl, to table the Property Tax System Discussion until a later date. Motion carried.

#### MARCH 2023 COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

15. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced discussion regarding the March 2023 Open Meetings and Events Calendar.
- The Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals meetings for

March are cancelled.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Washington moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl, to **recommend** approval of the March 2023 Open Meetings and Events Calendar as amended. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE  
INVOICES PAID TOTALS

16. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced discussion regarding the Accounts Payable Invoices Paid.

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Commissioner Mitchell moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington, to approve the invoices paid from January 7 through February 3, 2023, in the amount of \$1,728,198.36. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS'  
COMMENTS

17. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong requested Commissioners comments. There were none.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

18. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong requested the administrator's report from Administrator Fuentes:

TRANSPORTATION  
SERVICES AGREEMENT

18A. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong introduced Administrator Fuentes to discuss a Transportation Services Agreement between Clinton County and Clinton Area Transit System.

- Administrator Fuentes discussed providing transportation services for Clinton County veterans;
- To provide these services, it is recommended the Board of Commissioners authorize a contract between Clinton Area Transit System and Clinton County for a monthly amount of \$500.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION** Commissioner Mitchell moved, seconded by Commissioner Vail-Shirey to **recommend** authorizing the Transportation Services Agreement between Clinton County and Clinton Area Transit System as presented. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Andrews to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT OF  
COMMITTEE MEETING

19. Ways and Means Committee Chairperson DeLong adjourned the meeting at 11:38 a.m.

**HUMAN RESOURCES  
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Commissioner Vail-Shirey, Chairperson of the Human Resources Committee, reported on a meeting held February 23, 2023.

ATTENDANCE AT  
COMMITTEE MEETING

**Members Present:**

Val Vail-Shirey, HR Committee Chairperson  
Dwight Washington  
Bruce DeLong  
Ken Mitchell  
David Pohl  
John Andrews  
Robert Showers, Ex-Officio Member

**Staff Present**

John Fuentes  
Todd Campbell  
Penny Goerge  
Cindy Moser  
Maggie Sayles, Victor Township  
Theresa Hubbard  
Dennis Strahle, Eagle Township

CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL  
OF AGENDA

Human Resources Committee Chairperson Vail-Shirey called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Additions to Agenda:

- Treasurer – Personnel Request – 4A
- Letter of Agreement between Clinton County and Clinton County Corrections Officers Association – 4B

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Human Resources Committee Chairperson Vail-Shirey requested limited public comments. There were none.

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION  
APPOINTMENTS

3. Human Resources Committee Chairperson Vail-Shirey introduced discussion regarding appointments to various committees and commissions.

APPOINTMENT OF STEVEN  
WISWASSER TO THE  
CLINTON COUNTY  
BUILDING AUTHORITY

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington, to **recommend** appointing County Treasurer Steven Wiswasser to the Clinton County Building Authority for the remainder of a three (3) year term expiring December 31, 2025. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Vail-Shirey moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington to concur with the committee recommendation to appoint County Treasurer Steven Wiswasser to the Clinton County Building Authority. Chairperson Showers called for further nominations. None were offered. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT O JOHN  
FUENTES TO THE CLINTON  
COUNTY BROADBAND TASK  
FORCE

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington, to **recommend** appointing County Administrator John Fuentes to the Clinton County Broadband Task Force in accordance with the Resolution Establishing a Task Force to Guide the Expansion of Broadband Infrastructure within Clinton County (adopted July 25, 2022). Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Vail-Shirey moved, seconded by Commissioner DeLong to concur with the committee recommendation to appoint County Administrator to the Clinton County Broadband Task Force. Chairperson Showers called for further nominations. None were offered. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF TODD  
KRUSE FROM FRONTIER AS  
THE INTERNET SERVICE  
PROVIDER (ISP)  
REPRESENTATIVE ON THE  
CLINTON COUNTY  
BROADBAND TASK FORCE

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Mitchell moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl, to **recommend** appointing Todd Kruse from Frontier as the Internet Service Provider (ISP) representative on the Clinton County Broadband Task Force in accordance with the Resolution Establishing a Task Force to Guide the Expansion of Broadband Infrastructure within Clinton County (adopted July 25, 2022). Motion carried.

- The members reviewed correspondence from Bath Charter Township affirming the appointment of Mr. Jason Almerigi as the Bath Charter Township Representative on the Clinton County Broadband Task Force, after the expiration of his term as Township Trustee.

AMENDMENT TO  
INDEPENDENT  
CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT  
WITH SPECIAL ASSISTANT  
PROSECUTOR

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Vail-Shirey moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl to concur with the committee recommendation to appoint Todd Kruse to the Clinton County Broadband Task Force. Chairperson Showers called for further nominations. None were offered. Motion carried.

4. Human Resources Committee Chairperson Vail-Shirey introduced Administrator Fuentes to discuss an amendment to the Independent Contractor Agreement with Special Assignment Assistant Prosecutor.
- The Board of Commissioners approved an agreement in January 2023 for a special assignment Assistant Prosecutor Independent Contractor; however, after further discussion with the identified contractor, based on the case assignments the contractor is requesting consideration of an hourly rate of \$100 for the six-month term that has been proposed;
  - Based on the contractor's experience in handling the cases identified for special assignment and current staff vacancies in the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, the amendment to the independent contractor agreement is warranted and will provide additional resources to the Prosecutor's Office;
  - All other provisions of the agreement remain unchanged.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Andrews to **recommend** approval of the amendment to the Independent Contractor Agreement as presented. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Vail-Shirey moved, seconded by Commissioner Andrews to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

TREASURER – PERSONNEL  
REQUEST

- 4A. Human Resources Committee Chairperson Vail-Shirey introduced Administrator Fuentes to discuss a personnel request from the Treasurer's Office.
- At the January 5<sup>th</sup> Board of Commissioners Meeting, the Board authorized additional compensation to be paid to the County's Deputy Treasurer in the amount of \$600 per pay until a new Treasurer was appointed; the additional compensation was authorized due to the additional work she would be shouldering until the newly appointed Treasurer took office;
  - Our new County Treasurer, Steve Wiswasser has been appointed as the Clinton County Treasurer and began working in that role on February 15, 2023; Treasurer Wiswasser is requesting that the additional compensation be paid to the Deputy Treasurer through the end of February, while the County completes its settlement of winter tax collections with local units.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington, to **recommend** additional compensation to be paid to Deputy Treasurer Ondrus in the amount of \$600 per pay through February 28, 2023. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Vail-Shirey moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN CLINTON  
COUNTY AND CLINTON  
COUNTY CORRECTIONS  
OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

4B. Human Resources Committee Chairperson Vail-Shirey introduced Administrator Fuentes to discuss a letter of agreement between Clinton County and Clinton County Corrections Officers Association.

- The members were advised that the County has secured funding from the Public Safety Academy Assistance Program for a member of the union's bargaining unit to attend the Mid-Michigan Police Academy;
- In accordance with a written Academy Agreement, the County seeks to clarify the terms of conditions of any union bargaining unit member who the County sponsors to complete the Academy through this program.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner DeLong moved, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, to **recommend** authorizing the Letter of Agreement between Clinton County and Clinton County Corrections Officers Association as presented. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Vail-Shirey moved, seconded by Commissioner DeLong to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

5. Human Resources Committee Chairperson Vail-Shirey introduced Administrator Fuentes to discuss Clinton County's holiday schedule.

- Discussion took place regarding reestablishing consistency among employee holiday schedules as it relates to the Courts' recognition of Juneteenth;
- Administrator Fuentes was asked to have a conversation with Gratiot County prior to the Board making any decisions on this matter.

No action taken.

COMMISSIONERS'  
COMMENTS

6. Human Resources Committee Chairperson Vail-Shirey requested Commissioners' comments.

- Discussion took place regarding the lack of oversight for broadband services and the need for our legislators to enact some type of legislation for regulatory management under the Public Service Commission.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Commissioner Pohl moved, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, to **recommend** Clinton County prepare a letter for the Michigan Association of Counties asking them to advocate for the enactment of legislation relative to regulatory management of broadband services under the Public Service Commission. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION:** Commissioner Vail-Shirey moved, seconded by Commissioner Pohl to concur with the committee recommendation. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT OF  
COMMITTEE MEETING

7. Human Resources Committee Chairperson Vail-Shirey adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

END OF COMMITTEE  
REPORTS

COMMISSIONERS'  
COMMENTS

Chairperson Showers called for Commissioners' comments.

- Commissioner Andrews noted that he is pleased we are able to provide additional services to the veterans in the county.



ADJOURNMENT

**BOARD ACTION:** With no further business to come before the Board, Chairperson Showers adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

*Debra A. Sutherland*

Debra A. Sutherland, Clerk of the Board

NOTE: These minutes are subject to approval on March 28, 2023.