



Liv.Co **UPDATE**

Monthly News from the
Livingston County Commissioners



December 2018

Livingston County Board of Commissioners



District 1 - Kate Lawrence

District 2 - William Green

District 3 - David J. Domas

District 4 - Douglas G. Helzerman

District 5 - Donald S. Parker
(Board Chairman)

District 6 - Robert J. Bezotte

District 7 - Carol S. Griffith

District 8 - Dennis L. Dolan
(Board Vice-Chairman)

District 9 - Gary Childs

"The mission of Livingston County is to be an effective and efficient steward in delivering quality services within the constraints of sound fiscal policy. Our priority is to provide mandated services which may be enhanced and supplemented to improve the quality of life for all who work, reside, and recreate in Livingston County."

Reduction in Building Permit Fees

The Livingston County Building Department currently operates with approximately half the staffing level of their previous high growth year of 2005/2006. The current department permit activity and inspections have increased exponentially every year since 2010. Although the new construction permit fee multiplier was reduced by 25% in September 2015, and reduced again by 25% in November 2017, due to higher efficiencies combined with increased activity, the department fund balance is still at an amount which justifies adjustment. The Building Official recommended another 25% reduction in the multiplier used for building permit fee calculations in addition to other adjustments in the permit fees for the Building Department as outlined in the Livingston County Building Department Fee Schedule. The Board approved the 25% reduction in the multiplier until December 31, 2021 at the December 3rd Board Meeting.

Additional Payment to MERS To Reduce Unfunded Liability

A fundamental objective of the Livingston County Board of Commissioners is to fund the long term cost of pension benefits promised to our employees. Reducing long term liabilities by making additional payments to MERS is a priority of the Board of Commissioners, as it affects both the financial health and stability of Livingston County. In August of 2018 County Administration asked PFM Financial Advisors to review the current and historical financial position of the County's General Fund and Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund and provide a recommendation on the minimum fund balance needed to maintain the County outstanding credit rating. The recommendation of PFM was to keep a fund balance of not less than 50% of the General Fund annual revenues with a reserve of \$17 million as a minimum assigned fund balance for cash flow purposes in the General Fund and to keep a minimum balance equal to 100% of the annual average of the immediate preceding five years delinquent real property taxes. The Board of Commissioners agrees with PFM's recommendations and authorized an additional payment of \$7.5 million to be made to MERS to reduce the unfunded liability of the employees groups that are currently under 75% funded. Groups currently under 75% funded include the Non Union (70.8%), Deputies Union (70.6%), Sergeants Union (71.1%) and Lieutenants Union (58.0%). For the additional MERS payment, \$825,000 will come from the F519 Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund, \$175,000 will come from the General Fund contingency, and \$6.5 million will come from the General Fund's fund balance.

Monthly Meetings

12/10/18 - Personnel Committee at
8:30 AM

12/10/18 - Infrastructure &
Development /Public Safety at
6:30 PM followed by General
Government & Health & Human
Services at 7:30 PM

12/12/18 - Finance Committee at
7:30 AM

12/17/18 - Full Board Meeting at 7:30
PM

12/27/18 - Finance Committee at
7:30 AM

Resolutions Passed by the Board of Commissioners

- Amcomm Telecommunications has been issued a Purchase Order for fiber connection work at the West Complex.
- The Deputy County Administrator Role has been restructured. The position had been split between 3 individuals, but now one individual will be designated as the Deputy County Administrator.
- A 3 year contract with the Economic Development Council of Livingston County to continue its partnership to promote economic development services was approved.
- The Board approved a Third Quarter Supplemental Appropriation to the Fiscal-Year 2018 Budget.
- Appointments were made to the Planning Commission, Department of Health and Human Services, and Community Corrections Advisory Board.
- The tentative agreement reached with the Michigan Association of Fire Fighters representing EMS Staff and the Board of Commissioners was approved.
- An additional Law Clerk/Magistrate Position was created in District Court.
- A renewal software support contract with Fidler Technologies for 2019 - 2021 was approved.
- An agreement with The Regents of the University of Michigan to participate in an EMS Fellowship Program was approved.
- Jonah Sjoquist has been appointed as the Back-Up Magistrate for the 53rd District Court.
- An amendment to extend the contract to 3 years was made to the resolution authorizing an agreement with the U of M Child & Adolescent Data Lab to provide Data Analysis Services for the Juvenile Court.
- Final payment to Amcomm Telecommunication for the completed work of extending the Public Safety Fiver Optic Network to Putnam Twp. Fire Department was authorized.
- A Sanitary Facilities Operation position has been created for the Drain Commissioner's office.
- A Solid Waste Challenge Grant Project Agreement with the City of Howell for their construction of a new Volunteer Center & Site Improvements has been approved.
- An agreement with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to provide Environmental Health services until Sep. 2019 was approved.
- The Board of Commissioners support House Bill 4985 which would benefit Veterans and limit the administrative cost of the Public Act.
- An agreement with the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services to provide activities related to the Vector-Disease Surveillance and Prevention Project has been authorized.
- Livingston County's Procurement Policy has been updated and amended.
- Livingston County welcomes Mary Durst as the Veteran's Services Director.
- The Chief Judge of the Livingston County Courts evaluated the leadership structure of the Courts and proposed changes to the structure that have been approved. A Trial Court Administrator position was created, while the Juvenile and Probate Administrator, District Court Administrator, and Probate Register positions were reclassified.
- An agreement with Bob Myers Excavating, Inc. for construction services for Fillmore County Park Phase 1 Improvements was authorized.
- The Board of Commissioners have adopted the 2019 Livingston County Budget.
- An agreement with Huron Valley Ambulance for Providing a Paramedic Program and reimbursing Livingston County EMS for 50% of the student tuition was approved.

Appointments

- Claire Stevens and Jeanne Clum have been appointed to the Planning Commission with terms expiring October 31, 2021.
- Marilyn Hysen has been appointed to the Department of Health & Human Services committee with a term expiring October 31, 2021.
- Michael Murphy, Hon. Michael Hatty, Hon. Miriam Cavanaugh, Connie Conklin, William Vaillencourt, Curtis Griffin, Tom Zahon, Dawn Awery, David Russell, and Laura Mitchell have been appointed to the Livingston County Community Correction Advisory Board with terms expiring October 31, 2022.