



Liv.Co **UPDATE**

Monthly News from the
Livingston County Commissioners



February 2019

Livingston County Board of Commissioners

District 1 - Kate Lawrence

District 2 - William Green

District 3 - Wes Nakagiri

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."

Livingston County Welcomes Judge Shauna Murphy



Judge Shauna N. Murphy was appointed to the 53rd District Court bench by Governor Rick Snyder on December 26, 2018. Prior to her judicial appointment, Judge Murphy was a career trial attorney. She worked as a Senior Assistant Attorney General in the Health Care Fraud Division of the Michigan Department of Attorney General where she specialized in the prosecution of complex cases involving elder abuse and financial exploitation, nursing home abuse and neglect, opioid overutilization, white collar crime, and Medicaid provider fraud. Prior to joining the Attorney General's office, Judge Murphy was an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in the Circuit Court Division of the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office where she worked as a felony trial prosecutor. Before beginning her career in public service, she was an Associate Attorney in the Complex Commercial Litigation Group of a large Southfield law firm. Judge Murphy earned her *Juris Doctor* from the Michigan State University College of Law and a *Bachelor of Arts* degree in in Political Theory and Constitutional Democracy from Michigan State University's James Madison College. She is a long-time resident of Livingston County and has lived in Brighton Township for nearly 15 years.

Monthly Meetings

2/4/2019 - General Government &
Health & Human Services
Meeting at 7:30 PM

2/6/2019 - Finance Committee at
7:30 AM

2/11/2019 - Full Board Meeting at
7:30 PM

2/13/2019 - Personnel
Committee at 8:00 AM

2/19/2019 - Infrastructure &
Development & Public Safety
at 7:30 PM

2/20/2019 - Finance Committee
at 7:30 AM

2/25/2019 - Full Board Meeting at
7:30 PM

Livingston County's 2019 Community Corrections Plan

On Wednesday, January 30th, the Board of Commissioners approved the 2019 Community Corrections Plan. The Community Corrections Plan is a collaborative effort to revive the defunct Community Corrections program in Livingston County, whose aim is to reduce the prison commitment rate and provide sanctioning alternatives to prison for non-violent offenders while insuring public safety. A local County Community Corrections Advisory Board has also been appointed by the Board. Attorney Laura Mitchell has been elected Chairwoman and Roberta Sacharski has been elected as the Community Corrections Manager for the Advisory Board. The Community Corrections Grant amounts to just over \$20,000, which will fund a program called Thinking Matters, a cognitive restructuring program which allows individuals to examine their core attitudes and beliefs that motivate their thinking patterns and dictate behavior. A three year plan for sustainability of the Community Corrections program has been laid out. Key stakeholders are committed to reducing prison admissions and reducing recidivism by identifying certain offenders and probation violators for placement in appropriate alternative sanctions.

Resolutions Passed by the Board of Commissioners & Appointments

- The Livingston County Car Pool Department will be purchasing 2 vehicles requested by departments and replacing 11 vehicles that have served their useful life based on age, mileage, and overall condition. Departments that will have vehicles replaced or added are the Sheriff's Field Services Division, the Sheriff's Jail Division, Building Inspection, and Facilities Services. All vehicles will be purchased from either the State of Michigan "MiDeal" cooperative government purchasing program or the Oakland County vehicle purchasing contract, whichever provides the best value.
- The 911 Operations Manager position has been reinstated. The duties of the 911 Operations Manager have been shared by the Operations Supervisors and Deputy Director for the past 20 months, but due to the steady increase of emergency and non-emergency incidents, there is a need for the Operations Supervisors to be dedicated to monitoring and assisting in 911 operations on the dispatch floor.
- Livingston County welcomes James VerPloeg as the county's Public Defender Administrator. This position is vital to Livingston County operations and consistent with the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission-approved plan for public defender services in Livingston County.
- Dagmar Brooks has been appointed to the Community Mental Health Authority Board with a term expiring December 31, 2021.
- Terese Gainer has been appointed to the Area Agency on Aging 1-B committee with a term expiring December 31, 2021.
- JS Vig Construction has been awarded a contract for construction management of the new Sheriff Storage Facility. The contract includes construction costs, architectural and engineering costs, as well as miscellaneous project costs for items such as utilities, information technology equipment and builders risk insurance.
- Austin Wright has been appointed as the Back-up Magistrate for the 53rd District Court. Wright has been approved by the Chief Judge, is a registered elector in Livingston County, and is licensed to practice law in the State of Michigan.
- The Drain Commissioner was petitioned by residents to establish a county drain in the area of Kern Road and Crofoot Road in Iosco Township due to flooding of basements and inundation of septic fields. The Livingston No. 29 Drain Drainage District has been established to complete this project. The cost of the project will be paid by special assessments levied by the Drain Commissioner against benefitting property owners and public corporations in the Drainage District. The Drainage District intends to issue a Note to finance part of the cost of the project in anticipation of the collection of the installments of special assessments. In order to reduce interest rate costs to property owners in the Drainage District, Livingston County will purchase the Note from available funds on deposit in the Drain Commissioner's equipment revolving fund.