



Liv.Co UPDATE

Monthly News from the
Livingston County Commissioners



November 2022

Livingston County Board of Commissioners



- District 1 - Martin Smith
- District 2 - Carol Sue Reader
- District 3 - Wes Nakagiri
(Board Chairman)
- District 4 - Douglas G. Helzerman
- District 5 - Jay R. Drick
- District 6 - Mitchell Zajac
- District 7 - Carol S. Griffith
(Board Vice-Chairwoman)
- District 8 - Jerome Gross
- District 9 - Brenda Plank

Monthly Meetings

All meetings will be held in person and via Zoom

- Via Zoom (on-line meetings):
<https://zoom.us/j/3997000062?pwd=SUdLVFFcmozWnFxbm0vcHRJWkVIZz09>
- Via the Zoom app - **join a meeting**,
meeting number: **399 700 0062**
Enter the password: **LCBOC**
(ensure there are no spaces before or after the password)
- Dial by your location: +1 929 205 6099
Meeting ID: **399 700 0062**
Password: **886752**

11/28/2022 - Full Board Meeting at 6 PM

12/5/2022 - General Government & Health & Human Services Meeting at 6:00 PM followed by the Asset Management Committee

12/12/2022 - Full Board Meeting at 6 PM

12/19/2022 - Courts, Public Safety, Infrastructure Development Committee at 6 PM followed by the Personnel Committee

"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 Named A 2022 Top Workplace



Livingston County is proud to announce that they have been awarded a Top Workplaces 2022 title by Detroit Free Press Top Workplaces. Based solely on employee feedback, the Top Workplace title is a badge of honor for the County. With over 700 employees serving within 18 departments, 5 elected offices, and 5 Courts, Livingston County's top

priority is providing effective and efficient services that improve the quality of life for all of our residents. "Earning the Top Workplaces award is a great accomplishment," said County Administrator Nathan Burd. "We're fortunate to have so many dedicated public servants who truly care about the people they serve and their colleagues." Winners of the "Top Workplaces" designation were determined through the results of an anonymous employee engagement survey compiled by research firm Energage. The survey analyzes job satisfaction and engagement of employees along with the values and organizational health of the company. Livingston County is honored to provide a culture that values its people and amplifies their talents. "This recognition is the result of ongoing efforts from our Board of Commissioners, our Elected Officials, our departments and employees who all work together to make Livingston County a great place to establish a career," Burd explained. "We're so appreciative of our staff and we hope this distinction will cause others to consider the many great career opportunities that are available with the County." To view current job opportunities in Livingston County, please visit <https://livingston.applicantpool.com/jobs/>

Watch Our 2022 State Of The County Address Online

Weren't able to join us for our 2022 State of the County Address? You can watch a recording of the event whenever you'd like on our County YouTube account at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=09GSGc4f7EI>. Commissioner Nakagiri, County Administrator Nathan Burd, and some of our County Directors and Officials did a fantastic job looking back at the year and highlighting the many ways Livingston County helped our community continue to thrive. Thank you to all who joined us to make the event such a success!

Resolutions Passed by the Board of Commissioners

- The Board has granted an easement on the County's Lutz Park property to Consumers Energy. A gas nest owned by Consumers Energy is located on the property and new regulations require the gas valve to be monitored and electronically controlled, which requires electricity. The closest electrical supply closet is located at the corner of Lutz and Latson roads. The easement will allow for an underground electrical line to be run to the gas nest.
- After reviewing the overall budgets in the General Fund and the Benefit Fund, there were sufficient funds for the Board to approve an additional payment of \$1 million to MERS to reduce the County's long-term liability. Additional payments were applied to the Ambulance, Building Inspection, and Dispatchers union employee groups to help fully fund the pension liability for those groups.
- Matt Bolang was appointed as the County's Public Health Officer.
- EMS will purchase a replacement ambulance from Emergency Vehicles Plus at a cost of \$289,280, as authorized for reimbursement from the County's insurer, MMRMA.
- The Board approved the levy of the Veteran Services Millage at the rate of 0.0564. Due to the addition of the Veteran Services Millage, a correction was also made to the County's 2022 Apportionment Report.
- November 2022 has been proclaimed as Homeless Awareness Month. As such, the Livingston County Board of Commissioners encourages all citizens to compassionately support those in need and support private/public nonprofit service entities.

"Thank You, Livingston County!" Veteran Services Shares Their Appreciation



With Thanksgiving days away, Livingston County Veteran Services wanted to send a sincere "Thank You" to everyone in our community for the renewal of their millage. Millage funding will be

dedicated to expanding vital services and increasing financial relief and outreach. The Veteran Services Office deeply appreciates the community support for the millage and looks forward to improving services for our veterans. "We have a lot of vision and ideas for our veterans and can now do it comfortably for the next 6 years. I am very happy to be a part of it!" said Ramon Baca, Veteran Services Director.

Since celebrating the Grand Opening of their new location at 1420 Lawson Dr., the Veteran Services Office has seen a dramatic increase in Veterans dropping by and making appointments to explore their benefits. In 2022, the team has completed over 3,000 appointments and as a result, many of our local Veterans started receiving compensation for claims, pensions, and stipends. With the addition of a full-time driver and vehicle, the transport team has

completed over 1,600 rides to medical appointments. This is an increase of more than double of 2021's completed rides.

The Veteran Assistance Programs (VAP) has provided financial assistance to more than 115 Veteran families. Assistance ranges from assisting with rent or mortgage, home and auto repairs, food and fuel vouchers, medical bills, emergency shelter, mental health services and burial benefits. With the approval of the millage, LCVS is able to maintain recently expanded VAP programs. In particular, VINA dental assistance, child clothing vouchers, and the Meals on Wheels pilot program were started in 2022. In addition, the Death Benefits policy was expanded to assist veteran families with the reimbursement of funeral expenses up to \$1,000. Across all VAP programs, Veteran Services is on track to provide more than \$82,000 in burial benefits and more than \$235,000 in relief funds this year.

If you or someone you know in our community is a Veteran, make a plan to visit the Veteran Services Office. The helpful team members can schedule an appointment to explore your benefits, help you sign up for transportation services for medical appointments, or simply give you a tour of the new location where you can relax with a cup of coffee.