



# Liv.Co UPDATE

Monthly News from the  
Livingston County Commissioners



September 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=SUdLVVFFcmozWnFxbm0vcHRjWkVlZz09>
  - 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**
- 10/3/2022 - General Government & Health & Human Services Meeting at 6:00 PM followed by the Asset Management Committee
- 10/11/2022 - Full Board Meeting at 6 PM
- 10/17/2022 - Courts, Public Safety, Infrastructure Development Committee at 6 PM followed by the Personnel Committee
- 10/24/2022 - Full Board Meeting at 6 PM

*"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."*

## Veteran Services 2022 Millage Renewal Proposal

In the upcoming November 8<sup>th</sup> election, Livingston County residents will find an operational millage on their ballots that would raise funds to support improving services for veterans. In June 2022, the Livingston County Board of Commissioners approved ballot language for the proposal, which if passed, would assess 0.1127 mils for six years and

generate slightly over \$1 million per year, if levied, to provide support for veterans and their dependents in our community. That would cost the owner of a home in our community with a market value of \$170,000 about \$10 a year. There are over 12,000 veterans in our community that are our family members, friends, and neighbors. For over twenty-three years, Livingston County's Veteran Services has proudly served our local veterans by helping them access the benefits they so bravely earned. Veteran Services routinely helps veterans navigate the claims process, processes burial allowances, provided financial assistance for indigent veterans and their families, provides door-to-door medical transportation, and much more. In recent years, the office has seen an increase in requests for helping our veterans with mental health evaluations, legacy planning and burial benefits, and financial assistance to help pay for food and gas to home repairs and utility bills.

Renewing the Veteran Services Millage would provide funding for many services that would make a huge impact on the lives of our veterans. Additional staff would be added to the office to provide for greater benefits counseling. Financial relief would be increased along with burial benefits. The office would be able to focus on ways to better reach our local veterans and educate them about what benefits are available to them. Transportation services for medical appointment would be expanded within a 50-mile radius. Finally, the Office would be able to maintain their new expanded facility and increase its use as a community center.

To learn more about the proposal, Veteran Services invites residents to visit their website, where they have created a "2022 Millage Proposal" section. The site can be accessed by visiting <https://www.livgov.com/veterans/> and clicking on "Veterans Services Millage Proposal" banner. The site contains third party analysis of the proposal, the official ballot language, and a list of FAQs, which will help answer most questions about the proposal. If you have a question that has not been addressed, the department welcomes the public to email them at [veterans@livgov.com](mailto:veterans@livgov.com). Questions and answers will be added to the FAQ list periodically.

## Resolutions Passed by the Board of Commissioners

- Veteran Services will convert their current Veteran Benefits Counselor II position to a Veteran Benefits Counselor I based on the level of experience of the incumbent.
- The cost of the County Clerk's APEX Vital Records Document Management Software System of \$60,000 for the first year and \$15,000 for 2023 that was paid from the Clerk's budget will now be paid from American Rescue Plan funds until 2024.
- The cost of the purchase of advanced backup, storage, logging systems, and maintenance and support of \$685,000 that was previously paid under resolution 2022-03-040 will now be paid from American Rescue Plan funds.
- The Sheriff's Office will add three patrol vehicles to their fleet. The vehicles will be leased through Enterprise Fleet Management for a term of 60 months at an annual cost of \$16,500 per vehicle. The addition of the vehicles is a result of the Office hiring two additional deputies in 2022 and one in 2023.
- \$125,000 from American Rescue Plan funds will be utilized by the Drain Commissioner to fund improvements to the Howell City Drain, which will help reduce the frequency and severity of flooding at the American Red Cross facility.
- Due to the price of fuel being higher than what was originally budgeted for 2022, the Airport will amend their operating budget. The amendment projects revenues balancing with expenses.
- An easement has been granted to DTE for the power distribution to a new commercial business located on the southeast portion of the Public Safety Complex at 1920 Tooley Rd.
- LETS has renewed their sub-recipient agreement with People's Express of Whitmore Lake to provide public transportation services in southeastern Livingston County for a period of one year. State and funding for this program is estimated at \$213,000 which will be passed-through to People's Express on a reimbursement basis.
- Merit Networks and Triple R Consulting will be providing fiber optic cable and network planning and consulting services for the County at amounts not to exceed \$125,000 and \$25,000, respectively.
- Bill Anderson and Paul Funk have been reappointed to the Livingston County Planning Commission with terms expiring October 31, 2025.
- Four vehicles will be replaced in 2023 with replacements leased through the County's partnership with Enterprise Fleet Management for a projected annual lease cost of \$34,065.
- St. Joseph Mercy Health System, Ascension Providence Health System, and Michigan Medicine have renewed their annual funding contributions for LETS' Healthcare Transportation Collaborative Service for another three years at an annual total of \$127,216. The service provides door-to-door transportation for doctor appointments, pharmacy visits, emergency department discharges, and other medical necessities. For the new three year period, St. Joseph Mercy Health System will have a dedicated van for their hospital to assist with emergency department discharges. During the first three years of the service LETS noted a 33% increase in medical passenger trips and a significant increase in stops at each of the healthcare system. The contributions from the local healthcare systems leverage approximately \$600,000 in Federal and State operating grants each year, which has enabled LETS to add four full-time drivers, establish two new medical routes, and increase capacity for on-demand emergency department discharges.
- Advanced Correctional Health Care will provide inmate medical services for the Jail for four years at an annual cost of \$1,452,294.
- Livingston County's Community Mental Health Services will provide behavioral health managed care services for Juvenile Court for the period of one year at a cost of \$248,000. \$40,000 from the Community Mental Health Partnership of Southeast Michigan Substance Abuse Coordinating Agency and \$5,000 from the Livingston County Health Department are being donated to offset the Courts' portion of the program.
- Previously approved Resolution 2021-03-033 allowed LETS to purchase six replacement buses at a cost not to exceed \$600,00, but due to a price increase as a result of large cost increases for bus chassis and components, the resolution has been amended to increase the total cost to \$1,007,040.