

The Regular Meeting of the Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners convened on October 27, 2020 at the Board of Commissioners Room, 33 McCollum Street, Suite 210, Hillsdale, Michigan.

Commissioner Wiley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America by Commissioner Wiley.

<u>ROLL CALL:</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>PRESENT:</u>	<u>ABSENT:</u>
	1	Ruth Brown	
	2	Julie Games	
	3	Mark Wiley	
	4	Bruce Caswell	
	5	Namrata Carolan	

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order
2. Prayer & Pledge by Commissioner Wiley
3. Public Comment
4. Consent Agenda:

Review & Correction/Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2020

20-093: Appointment to the Department of Health and Human Services/Medical Care Facility Board

20-094: PA 116 – Amos and Miriam Eicher

5. Correspondence – Listed
6. Regular Agenda
7. Standing Order:

9:10 a.m. Matt Word, Drain Commissioner – Annual Drain and Lake Level Assessments

9:30 a.m. District Court Judge Sara Lisznyai & Dennis MacDonell, Court Security Specialist from the State Court Administrators Office (via Zoom) – Courthouse Guidelines

8. Committee Reports:

A. FINANCE – BRUCE CASWELL

B. HUMAN SERVICES – RUTH BROWN

C. PUBLIC SAFETY/JUDICIARY – NAMRATA CAROLAN

Discussion: County Planning Commission Budget

D. FACILITIES/TECH/ECON DEVELOPMENT – JULIE GAMES

20-095: Designated Assessor

E. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT/MANAGEMENT & PERSONNEL – MARK WILEY

20-096: Ratify & Confirm Actions Approved by the Board of Commissioners During Remote Meetings

20-097: Authorize the Chair to sign MGT County-Wide Cost Allocation Plan Certificate of Indirect Costs

9. Public Comment
10. Additional Business
11. Adjournment

Present: Cullan Wilkerson, Sheriff Scott Hodshire, Chief Scott Hephner, Penny Swan, Stephenie Kyser, J.P. Rudell, Karen Winchell, Matt Word, Judge Bianchi, Joel Stewart, Doug Ingles, Judge Lisznyai, Sherri Lemke and Brad Benzing.

Under Public Comment, C/Brown read a letter that was submitted by Jon Paul Rutan, via e-mail regarding his opinion on restricting carrying a gun in the Courthouse and the Courthouse Annex.

C/Games moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by C/Carolan. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

C/Carolan asked to have Resolution 20-092: Rescinding the portion of the Hillsdale County COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan that requires the wearing of face coverings.

C/Games moved to approve the Regular Agenda with the addition of Resolution 20-092. Second by C/Carolan. Vote: 4-Yes, 1-No (C/Caswell) CARRIED

9:11 a.m. Matt Word, Drain Commissioner, reviewed the 2020 Annual Drain and Lake Level Assessments with the Board.

9:20 a.m. Neal Brady entered.

C/Brown moved to accept the 2020 Annual Drain and Lake Level Assessments as presented. Second by C/Games. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

9:22 a.m. Mr. Word finished and exited.

C/Caswell wanted to inform those present that the Supreme Court has the authority to tell the lower courts how to handle their courtrooms; they do not have the authority to tell the Commissioners.

9:25 a.m. Dennis MacDonell, Court Security Specialist from the State Court Administrator's Office addressed the Board regarding whether or not the Chief Judge has the authority to ban weapons from the Courthouse and the Courthouse Annex.

There was a very lengthy discussion with comments made by Mr. MacDonell, Judge Lisznyai, Neal Brady, Judge Bianchi, Hillsdale City Chief of Police Scott Hephner, Sheriff Scott Hodshire and C/Caswell.

10:48 a.m. the discussion was finished and Mr. MacDonell, Judge Lisznyai, Judge Bianchi, Karen Winchell, Sheriff Hodshire and Mr. Rudell exited.

C/Caswell gave an update on items under his committee.

10:58 a.m. Mr. Rudell re-entered.

C/Brown gave an update on items under her committee.

C/Carolan moved to approve Resolution 20-092: Rescinding the portions of the Hillsdale County COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan that mandate the use of face coverings. Second by C/Games. There was a very lengthy and heated discussion.

C/Brown called the question. Vote on calling the question: 4-Yes, 1-No (C/Carolan) CARRIED

Roll Call Vote on the Resolution: C/Wiley – No, C/Caswell – No, C/Carolan – Yes, C/Brown – No, C/Games - No.

Vote: 1-Yes, 4-No. FAILED

11:17 a.m. Nick Wheeler entered.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the Hillsdale County Planning Commission and what should be set for their budget.

C/Brown moved to refer this issue to the Finance Committee. Second by C/Carolan. Vote unanimous.

CARRIED

C/Carolan gave an update on other items under her committee.

C/Games gave an update on items under her committee.

C/Games moved to approve Resolution 20-095: Approval of the Interlocal Agreement between the Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners, the Hillsdale County Assessing District and Edward K. VanderVries as the proposed Hillsdale County Designated Assessor. Second by C/Brown. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

C/Wiley moved to approve Resolution 20-096: Ratifying and confirming actions approved by the Board of Commissioners during remote meetings. Second by C/Brown. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

C/Wiley moved to approve Resolution 20-097: Authorizing the Chair to sign the Hillsdale County 2019 County-wide Cost Allocation Plan Certificate of Indirect Costs with MGT America. Second by C/Brown. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

There was some discussion regarding whether or not to release Attorney/Client Privilege information regarding the proposed Pathogenic Threat and Crisis Ordinance. C/Wiley stated that the attorney has cautioned the Board about releasing Attorney/Client privilege information.

C/Brown moved to release the Attorney Client Privilege information as it relates to the proposed Pathogenic Threat and Crisis Ordinance. Second by C/Carolan. There was more discussion. Roll Call Vote: C/Caswell – No, C/Carolan – Yes, C/Brown – Yes, C/Games – Yes, C/Wiley – No. Vote: 3-Yes, 2-No. CARRIED

Under Public Comment, Brad Benzing commented on who could ban guns at the Courthouse or any other buildings according the PA 319 of 1990.

Joel Stewart, Executive Director of Stand Up Hillsdale commented on the proposed ordinance.

Under Additional Business, C/Carolan announced that she was running as a write-in in the General Election.

12:40 p.m. adjournment by call of the Chair.

Mark E. Wiley, Chair
Board of Commissioners

Marney M. Kast,
County Clerk