

The Regular Meeting of the Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners convened on March 9, 2021 at the Board of Commissioners Room, 33 McCollum Street, Suite 210, Hillsdale, Michigan.

Join meeting by video go to www.WebEx.com Meeting ID 129 475 3226, Passcode 9948106 or by phone at 414-397-1516 and use the meeting ID above.

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	Doug Ingles	
	2	Kathy Schmitt	
	3	Mark Wiley	
	4	Brad Benzing	
	5	Brent Leininger	

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 February 23, 2021
 - 21-031: Payroll, Payables, Transfers – 2021
 - 21-032: Authorize Drain Commissioner to Purchase Truck
5. Correspondence – Listed
6. Regular Agenda
7. Standing Order: None
8. Committee Reports:
 - A. HUMAN SERVICES – BRENT LEININGER**
 - 21-033: Rules and Procedure and By-Laws (C/Leininger and C/Schmitt)
 - 21-034: Term of Elected Chair – Board of Commissioners
 - B. PUBLIC SAFETY/JUDICIARY – BRAD BENZING**
 - C. FACILITIES/TECH/ECON DEVELOPMENT – DOUG INGLES**
 - D. BUDGET – KATHY SCHMITT**
 - E. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT/MANAGEMENT & PERSONNEL – MARK WILEY**
9. Public Comment
10. Additional Business
11. Adjournment

Present: Laura Rahe, Roy Bodinus, Chris Myers, Jim Graves and Mary Wallin

Present via WebEx: Scott Sharp.

Under Public Comment, Chris Myers expressed concerns regarding communication from the Road Commission to the Township Boards.

C/Benzing moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by C/Leininger. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

There was some discussion regarding item #6 under correspondence which is a letter from Judge Bianchi regarding the purchase of office furniture for Probate Court.

C/Ingles moved to approve the Regular Agenda with the addition of Resolution 21-035: Calling for changes in how the Governor handles pandemics, under Human Services. Second by C/Schmitt. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

9:10 a.m. Wes Nakagiri joined via WebEx.

C/Leininger moved to approve Resolution 21-034: Setting the election of Chairperson for the Board of Commissioners at every year. Second by C/Benzing. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

C/Leininger moved to approve Resolution 21-033: Approval of the March 9, 2021 Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners Rules of Procedure and By-Laws. Second by C/Ingles. There was some discussion. Roll Call Vote: C/Ingles – Yes, C/Schmitt – Yes, C/Wiley – Yes, C/Benzing – Yes, C/Leininger – Yes. Vote: 5-Yes, 0-No. CARRIED

It was the consensus of the Board to enter the Resolution number 21-034 into the Rules of Procedures and By-Laws under section 1.7 Officers, Agents and Employees.

C/Leininger moved to approve Resolution 21-035: Calling on the Governor to implement a new, regional approach to mitigation that values local input; takes cases, vaccinations, seasonality, and regional differences into

consideration; and sets clear benchmarks for easing of restrictions on businesses for the public to follow regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Second by C/Ingles. There was much discussion regarding wording concerning the Sheriff and Prosecutor will not enforce or prosecute unconstitutional mandates due to the implications it could create regarding different laws.

C/Benzing moved to strike the following wording: Whereas Hillsdale County Sheriff and Hillsdale County Prosecutor have declared to not enforce or prosecute unconstitutional mandates; Now, Therefore, be it hereby resolved that the Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners support Hillsdale County Sheriff and Hillsdale County Prosecutor in not enforcing or prosecuting unconstitutional mandates. Second by C/Leininger. There was a lengthy discussion regarding this amendment. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

C/Ingles moved to insert the following; Whereas, the Hillsdale County Sheriff and the Hillsdale County Prosecutor have declared to not enforce or prosecute unconstitutional mandates pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners support the Hillsdale County Sheriff and Hillsdale County Prosecutor in not enforcing or prosecuting unconstitutional mandates pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic. Second by C/Schmitt. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

C/Leininger moved to refer this Resolution, with the amendments, back to the Human Services Committee in order to bring forth a clean copy for approval. Second by C/Ingles. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

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

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

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

C/Wiley gave an update on items of interest.

Under Public Comment: Wes Nakagiri, Livingston County Board of Commissioners Chair, stated that he had been tracking the distribution of COVID vaccines and has discovered that Hillsdale County is being shorted. He felt the Board should be made aware of this.

Laure Rahe, District Court Administrator, requested that as the Personal Committee works on a hiring policy that they not forget to speak with the Judges who are not as available as other Elected and Appointed department heads.

Jim Graves commented on Resolution 21-035 and the Constitution.

10:42 a.m. adjournment by call of the Chair.

Mark E. Wiley, Chair
Board of Commissioners

Marney M. Kast,
County Clerk