

The Regular Meeting of the Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners convened on March 8, 2022 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	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 Special Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2022  
Review/Correction/Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2022  
22-033: Payroll, Payables & Transfers – February 2022  
22-034: Appointment to the Planning Commission – Natural Resources - Clark

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

9:10 a.m. Michael Crafts, 4-H Program Coordinator for Hillsdale County – MSUE - Updates

8. Committee Reports:

- A. HUMAN SERVICES – BRENT LEININGER**
- B. PUBLIC SAFETY/JUDICIARY – BRAD BENZING**
- C. FACILITIES/TECH/ECON DEVELOPMENT – DOUG INGLES**
- D. BUDGET – KATHY SCHMITT**  
22-031: Authorize Chair to Sign the Mission Square Retirement Corp. – 401 Money Purchase Plan Adoption Agreement
- E. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT/MANAGEMENT & PERSONNEL – MARK WILEY**  
22-035: Appointment to Lifeways – Brown  
22-036: Appointment tot Lifeways – Caswell

9. Public Comment
10. Additional Business
11. Adjournment

Present: Michael Crafts, Don Hobbs, Bob Eichler, Ruth Brown, Kelley Mapes and via WebEx Karen Cascadden.

Under Public Comment, Ruth Brown explained to the Board her qualifications for the re-appointment to the LifeWays Board as a member of the public.

Kelley Mapes, asked for more information regarding the underfunding of MERS at the Health Department.

Don Hobbs, commented on the situation at the Road Commission.

Bob Eichler, had concerns regarding allegations at the Jail in regards to sexual harassment.

C/Leininger moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of Resolution 22-034 and placing it under Facilities. Second by C/Ingles. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

9:16 a.m. Ms. Mapes exited.

9:17 a.m. Mr. Hobbs and Mr. Eichler exited. Ms. Mapes re-entered.

C/Benzing moved to approve the Regular Agenda. Second by C/Schmitt. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

9:19 a.m. Michael Crafts, MSUE 4-H Coordinator, introduced himself to the Board and gave an update on what 4-H has been doing.

9:35 a.m. Mr. Crafts finished and exited. Mr. Hobbs re-entered.

9:38 a.m. Mr. Eichler re-entered.

C/Leininger gave an update on items under his committee. He stated that the demolition of the property in Pittsford is complete and ready to be sold. There was a lengthy discussion.

C/Leininger moved to authorize the Building Inspector to post the property on the county website to receive sealed bids until 4:00 p.m. on March 18, 2022 at which time they will be opened and presented to the Board on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March. Second by C/Benzing. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

C/Benzing stated that he would like to have a work session to meet with Motorola and Kentwood in regards to the 800mghz radio system for E-911 and Emergency Services. There was some discussion.

C/Benzing moved to set the Special Meeting for March 29, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioner/Conference Room, 33 McCollum Street, Hillsdale, MI. Second by C/Ingles. There was much discussion regarding the time of day for this meeting. Vote: 4-Yes, 1-No (C/Leininger) CARRIED

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

C/Ingles moved to approve Resolution 22-034: The appointment of Michael Clark to the Hillsdale County Planning Commission. Second by C/Benzing. There was some discussion regarding the qualifications of this appointment. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

10:06 a.m. Derek Ringman entered. Ms. Mapes exited.

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

10:09 a.m. Ms. Mapes re-entered.

10:24 a.m. Karla and Dustin Adams entered.

C/Schmitt asked Mr. Ringman to review the Mission Square document with the Board. Mr. Ringman found three areas that he felt needed to change to correspond with the Employee Handbook. There was much discussion.

C/Benzing moved to change page 4, Section V (2) to N/A which means that employees will be eligible to join the retirement program on the date of hire. Second by C/Leininger. There was a lengthy discussion. Vote: 4-Yes, 1-No (C/Schmitt). CARRIED

C/Schmitt moved to approve Resolution 22-031: Authorizing the Chair to sign the ICMA Retirement Corporation doing business as MissionSquare Retirement Adoption Information 401 Money Purchase Plan Document Restatement. Second by C/Leininger. Roll Call Vote: C/Leininger – Yes, C/Ingles – Yes, C/Schmitt - Yes, C/Wiley – Yes, C/Benzing – Yes. Vote: 5-Yes, 0-No. CARRIED

Mr. Ringman informed the Board that there have been some changes by the State in regards to OPEB which is a post-employment plan at the Sheriff's Department for health insurance. He stated that only two employees are on this plan currently. There is to be a ZOOM call with Marnie Daggett from MERS regarding how to handle the changes.

There was discussion regarding the next step in deciding where to spend the ARPA money. It was suggested that on the March 29<sup>th</sup> meeting a Special Meeting be set to make those decisions.

There was discussion regarding the Sheriff's purchase of 800 MHz radios.

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

11:32 a.m. Don Hernandez entered.

The subject of the Sheriff purchasing the radios and not complying with the Purchase Policy was raised again. The Budget Committee stated that they were aware but the Chart of Accounts was in progress and there was no way to establish an account. There was more discussion.

C/Benzing moved to hold the invoice until a Budget Amendment is presented and passed by this Board. Second by C/Leininger. Roll Call Vote: C/Ingles – Yes, C/Schmitt – No, C/Wiley – No, C/Benzing – Yes, C/Leininger – Yes. Vote: 3-Yes, 2-No. CARRIED

C/Wiley moved to approve Resolution 22-035: The re-appointment of Ruth Brown to the LifeWays Board. Second by C/Schmitt. There was a lengthy discussion. Roll Call Vote: C/Schmitt – Yes, C/Wiley – Yes, C/Benzing – No, C/Leininger – Yes, C/Ingles – No. Vote: 3-Yes, 2-No. CARRIED

C/Wiley moved to approve Resolution 22-036: The re-appointment of Bruce Caswell to the LifeWays Board as a Secondary Consumer. Second by C/Benzing. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

C/Wiley gave an update on items of interest.

11:59 a.m. Ms. Brown exited.

12:00 p.m. Mr. Eichler re-entered.

Under Public Comment, Karla Adams commented on the Sheriff's Department, Rebecca Burns and spoke against the appointment of both Ruth Brown and Bruce Caswell to the LifeWays Board.

Kelley Mapes asked for the details on the property in Pittsford that is for sale.

Don Hernandez, explained to the Board that if there were ever a situation where an emergency personal were ever injured and family needed to come in from out of town, he would offer his Air B&B for free for them to stay. He also stated that this would be true if any refugees from Ukraine were to make it to Hillsdale County.

Bob Eichler commented on LifeWays and the Sheriff Department.

There were additional comments made by some Board members.

12:26 p.m. adjournment by call of the Chair.

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Mark E. Wiley, Chair  
Board of Commissioners

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Marney M. Kast,  
County Clerk