

The Regular Meeting of the Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners convened on May 25, 2021 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 (via WebEx)	
	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 May 11, 2021
 - 21-055: Payment to Michigan Township Association – County Membership Dues
5. Correspondence – Listed
6. Regular Agenda
7. Standing Order:
 - 9:10 a.m. Maribeth Leonard, Chief Executive Officer, LifeWays Community Mental Health Quarterly Update
 - 9:30 a.m. Doug Sanford – State Radio System
8. Committee Reports:
 - A. PUBLIC SAFETY/JUDICIARY – BRAD BENZING**
 - B. FACILITIES/TECH/ECON DEVELOPMENT – DOUG INGLES**
 - C. BUDGET – KATHY SCHMITT**
 - 21-056: Tentative Tax Levy
 - 21-057: Set Truth-In-Taxation Hearing
 - D. HUMAN SERVICES – BRENT LEININGER**
 - E. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT/MANAGEMENT & PERSONNEL – MARK WILEY**
 - 21-058: Updated COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan
 - 21-059: Drains – Maintain and Repair Lake Level Improvements on Bear Lake
 - 21-060: Drains – Pleasant Lake Drain Bonds, Series 2021
9. Public Comment
10. Additional Business
11. Adjournment

Present: Doug Sanford, Maribeth Leonard, Matt Word, Namoo Carolan, Laura Rahe, Jim Graves, Stephanie Kyser and Glenn Frobel.

Present via WebEx: Steve Rand, Kris Kuhl and John Warner.

Under Public Comment, Namoo Carolan addressed the Board regarding the update Hillsdale County Commission Ordinance. She stated that the Board of Commissioners will need to hold a Public Hearing and approve the ordinance.

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

CARRIED

C/Schmitt moved to approve the Regular Agenda with the addition of discussion regarding the Courthouse Limited Access Policy under Public Safety. Second by C/Leininger. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

9:09 a.m. Maribeth Leonard, Chief Executive Officer of LifeWays, gave her quarterly report to the Board. There was some discussion.

9:25 a.m. Sheriff Hodshire entered.

9:26 a.m. Ms. Leonard finished and exited.

Doug Sanford, E-911 Director along with Steve Rand, Kris Kuhl and John Warner from the Michigan Public Safety Communications Systems (MPSCS) presented information regarding the need for implementing the State Radio System. There was a lengthy discussion.

C/Benzing moved that the Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners direct ETSB Director Doug Sanford to proceed with plans to move Hillsdale County's public safety agencies from high band VHF to the state's 800 Mhz system. Director Sanford will prepare a needs study and cost estimates to include the equipment needed by Hillsdale County fire, EMS and law enforcement agencies, Hillsdale Hospital's Emergency Department, tornado sirens maintained by public and private non-profit entities and Emergency Management as well as any additional infrastructure needs such as additional towers required to properly operate the system. This report shall be presented to the Board of Commissioners in order that a plan for paying for this system can be formulated. Second by C/Leininger. There was more discussion. Vote unanimous.

CARRIED

10:16 a.m. Mr. Sanford finished. Sheriff Hodshire, Glenn Frobel and Jim Graves exited.

10:17 a.m. Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Warner and Mr. Rand exited from WebEx.
C/Benzing gave an update on items under his committee which included the need to update the county's Limited Access Policy.

10:22 a.m. Glenn Frobel and Jim Graves re-entered.

C/Wiley stated that the Hire in Checklist and the Exit Checklist will be presented at the next meeting.

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

10:28 a.m. Nick Wheeler entered.

C/Schmitt moved to approve Resolution 21-056: Tentative Levy not to exceed 7.9432 mills for operating purposes in tax year 2021. Second by C/Leininger. Mr. Wheeler, Equalization Director, explained the purpose of this Resolution. Roll Call Vote: C/Ingles – Yes, C/Schmitt – Yes, C/Wiley – Yes, C/Benzing – Yes, C/Leininger – Yes. Vote: 5-Yes, 0-No. CARRIED

C/Schmitt moved to approve Resolution 21-057: Setting the Public Hearing for the purpose of receiving testimony and discussing the levy of an additional millage rate for the 2021 tax year for June 8, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Commissioner Room and to publish said hearing not less than six days before the hearing in the Hillsdale Daily News. Second by C/Benzing. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

10:52 a.m. Mr. Wheeler exited.

C/Schmitt gave an update on items under her committee. C/Wiley stated that he feels that the 4.4 million dollars that was received from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) be transferred into its own savings account. There was some discussion.

C/Leininger moved to authorize County Treasurer Kyser to move the funds to a CEDARS Account at County National Bank. It is understood that this is a liquid account and that money can be transferred at any time without penalty. Second by C/Ingles. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

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

C/Wiley moved to approve Resolution 21-058: Authorizing the Chair to sign the updated copy of the County of Hillsdale COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan. Second by C/Leininger. There was much discussion regarding what MIOSHA has stated regarding vaccinations. Roll Call Vote: C/Schmitt – Yes, C/Wiley – Yes, C/Benzing – No, C/Leininger – Yes, C/Ingles – Yes. Vote: 4-Yes, 1-No. CARRIED

11:26 a.m. Derek Ringman entered.

C/Wiley moved to approve Resolution 21-059: Authorizing the Drain Commissioner to spend \$10,000 to perform repairs and maintenance on Bear Lake's lake level improvements by imposing such costs on the applicable special assessment district. Second by C/Benzing. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

C/Wiley moved to approve Resolution 21-060: Pledging the limited tax full faith and credit of the County to the Pleasant Lake Drain Bonds for improvements to the Pleasant Lake Drain pursuant to a petition filed with the Hillsdale County Drain Commissioner. Second by C/Benzing. Roll Call Vote: C/Wiley – Yes, C/Benzing – Yes, C/Leininger – Yes, C/Ingles – Yes, C/Schmitt – Yes. Vote: 5-Yes, 0-No. CARRIED

Matt Word, Drain Commissioner asked how the Board would like him to handle replacing one of his trucks. He stated that they purchase used vehicles and that it would be over the \$23,000 which requires sealed bids. He stated that getting sealed bids on a used vehicle would be next to impossible. It was the consensus of the Board to go ahead and get the truck and document why he could not get sealed bids.

11:45 a.m. Mr. Word exited.

11:50 a.m. Mr. Frobel exited.

Under Public Comment, Doug Sanford, E-911 Director, requested to replace an employee. There was discussion.

C/Benzing moved to allow Mr. Sanford to replace his employee. Second by C/Schmitt. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

Jim Graves complimented and gave encouragement to the Board.

11:59 a.m. Mr. Graves exited.

12:01 p.m. Ms. Carolan exited.

12:01 p.m. adjournment by call of the Chair.

Mark E. Wiley, Chair
Board of Commissioners

Marney M. Kast,
County Clerk

