

The Regular Meeting of the Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners convened on May 24, 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 Regular Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2022
  - 22-071: Authorize Circuit Judge to Sign National Center for State Court Space Study Agmt.
  - 22-072: Allow Facilities Director to Seek Bids for the HVAC System - Friend of the Court
  - 22-073: Hillsdale County Morgue Services
  - 22-074: Appointment to the ETSB: Alternate Citizen-at-Large – Reppert-Re-assignment Knight
  - 22-075: Allocation to the Parks Commission
  - 22-076: Budget Amendment – Court Study
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. Judge Sara Lisznyai, Circuit Court Judge – Community Corrections
  - 9:40 a.m. Matt Word, Drain Commissioner and Kyle O'Meara, Associate with Fahey, Schultz, Burzych, Rhoades – Lake LeAnn Dam Easement
8. Committee Reports:
  - A. PUBLIC SAFETY/JUDICIARY – BRAD BENZING**
  - B. FACILITIES/TECH/ECON DEVELOPMENT – DOUG INGLES**
  - C. BUDGET – KATHY SCHMITT**
    - 22-077: Tentative Tax Levy
    - 22-078: Set Truth-In-Taxation Hearing
  - D. HUMAN SERVICES – BRENT LEININGER**
    - Discussion: Hillsdale Conservation District re: Free Tire Collection
  - E. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT/MANAGEMENT & PERSONNEL – MARK WILEY**
9. Public Comment
10. Additional Business
11. Adjournment
  - Present: Bob Eichler, Kelley Mapes, Shannon Clevenger, Maribeth Leonard, Steve Lanius, Laura Rahe, Stephenie Kyser, Bill Watkins, Karla Adams, Justin Adams, Joyce McLain and Clem McLain.
  - Bob Eichler, Karla Adams and Steve Lanius exited and entered several times throughout the meeting.
  - Under Public Comment, Stephenie Kyser, Hillsdale County Treasurer informed the Board that Century Bank and Trust was the winning bidder regarding the Delinquent Tax Anticipation Notes.
  - Laura Rahe informed the Board of the staffing changes that are being made at District Court. She stated that they have one employee who will be retiring in July and they will be hiring another Probation Officer.
  - Karla Adams addressed concerns regarding ARPA Money, played the preamble to the Constitution and confronted C/Benzing regarding his behavior after the last meeting which she took as assaultive.
  - Bill Watkins, Parks Manager, gave background information on Lewis Emery Park and stated that the parks are falling apart.
  - Kelley Mapes had questions regarding the parks.
  - Bob Eichler spoke to what Ms. Adams spoke about and referred to his incident.
  - 9:20 a.m. Judge Lisznyai entered.
  - C/Benzing moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of 22-074. Second by C/Leininger. Vote unanimous. CARRIED
  - C/Wiley informed the Board that Drain Commissioner Matt Word will not be here today and will reschedule.
  - C/Benzing moved to approve the Regular Agenda with the removal of Matt Word under Standing Order. Second by C/Schmitt. Vote unanimous. CARRIED
  - 9:28 a.m. Maribeth Leonard, CEO, LifeWays reviewed her Quarterly Report with the Board.
  - 9:31 a.m. Mark Nichols entered.
  - 9:41 a.m. Ms. Leonard finished and exited.
  - Judge Sara Lisznyai addressed the Board regarding Community Corrections. She explained that this program is to keep track of people who have been charged with crimes and are out on bond. Currently there is no tracking of these people. There was some discussion. Judge Lisznyai is asking for the Boards approval to proceed with this program.
  - 9:55 a.m. Judge Lisznyai finished and exited.

It was the consensus of the Board to bring a Resolution back to the next meeting.

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

10:04 a.m. Jenny Leininger and Cody Birdsell entered.

C/Benzing stated that the cook at the Sheriff's Department is retiring. The Sheriff stated that he will be using a contractual service for the inmate meals.

10:06 a.m. Nick Wheeler entered.

C/Ingles asked Bill Watkins to speak to the condition of the parks and the Lewis Emery Park rental house.

There was a very lengthy discussion regarding the condition of the house. Mr. Watkins stated that there are some details to be completed before showing the house.

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

10:20 a.m. Mr. Watkins exited.

C/Schmitt moved to approve Resolution 22-077: The tentative levy not to exceed 7.9007 mills for operating purposes in tax year 2022. Second by C/Leininger. Roll Call Vote: C/Schmitt – Yes, C/Wiley – Yes, C/Benzing – Yes, C/Leininger – Yes, C/Ingles – Yes. Vote: 5-Yes, 0-No. CARRIED

C/Schmitt moved to approve Resolution 22-078: Setting the Public Hearing for June 7, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. and directing the County Finance Manager to publish the notice in the Hillsdale Daily News. Second by C/Leininger. There was some discussion. It was the consensus of the Board to correct the resolution to add posting the Public Hearing on the County's Website and to direct the Hillsdale County Treasurer to do the publication. Vote unanimous. CARRIED

10:36 A.M. Mr. Wheeler exited.

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

It was discovered that the Public Hearing date on Resolution 22-078 was incorrect.

10:43 a.m. recess was called in order to correct Resolution 22-078.

10:50 a.m. back in session.

C/Leininger moved to reconsider Resolution 22-078. 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

C/Schmitt moved to amend Resolution to state that the Public hearing will be held on June 14, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., directing the Hillsdale County Treasurer to publish the Public Hearing and to post the Public Hearing on the County Website. Second by C/Benzing. Vote on amendment unanimous. CARRIED

Vote on Resolution as amended unanimous. CARRIED

C/Leininger asked Ms. Leininger and Mr. Birdsell from the Hillsdale County Conservation District updated the Board in regards to the tire collection that will be taking place on July 22, 2022 at the Hillsdale County Fairgrounds. They stated that they did not receive as much money as they had hoped for and are asking for donations.

C/Leininger moved to contract with the Hillsdale County Conservation District for \$1000.00 and to take the funds from the Contractual Services account. Second by C/Wiley. There was much discussion regarding the amount. C/Schmitt moved to Table. Second by C/Benzing. Roll Call Vote: C/Benzing – Yes, C/Leininger – No, C/Ingles – Yes, C/Schmitt – Yes, C/Wiley – No. Vote: 3-Yes, 2-No. TABLED

11:14 a.m. Ms. Leininger and Mr. Birdsell exited.

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

C/Wiley gave an update on items of interest.

Under Public Comment, Bob Eichler commented on C/Wiley not allowing an extension on his time to speak during the first Public Comment. He also commented on C/Benzing's behavior after the last meeting and accused C/Ingles of holding back information from the Road Commission.

Karla Adams questioned the integrity of the Board, read the contract for ARPA Money, asked for proof that COVID was real and questioned the lack of response to a FOIA request.

11:28 a.m. Don Hernandez entered.

Don Hernandez stated that he thought that Public Comment was for Agenda items only, feels the cameras should be shut off stating that they should not be used as a charade and commented on the Courthouse roof.

Kelly Mapes addressed Mr. Hernandez regarding his comments, asked why the Parks Commission is not asking more in rent for the house at Lewis Emery Park and stated she would donate her time to write grants for the Parks. She also questioned why the Health Department is not districted the same as other entities.

Mark Nichols thanked the Board for serving and stated that he knows that everybody will not see eye to eye on everything.

Under Additional Business, C/Benzing, C/Schmitt, C/Leininger and C/Wiley all had comments on various items.

11:56 a.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