



Liv.Co UPDATE

Monthly News from the
Livingston County Commissioners



March 2019

Livingston County Board of Commissioners

District 1 - Kate Lawrence

District 2 - William Green

District 3 - Wes Nakagiri

District 4 - Douglas G.
Helzerman

District 5 - Donald S. Parker
(Board Chairman)

District 6 - Robert J. Bezotte

District 7 - Carol S. Griffith

District 8 - Dennis L. Dolan
(Board Vice-Chairman)

District 9 - Gary Childs

"The mission of Livingston County is to be an effective and efficient steward in delivering quality services within the constraints of sound fiscal policy. Our priority is to provide mandated services which may be enhanced and supplemented to improve the quality of life for all who work, reside, and recreate in Livingston County."

Livingston County Joins Nationwide Opioid Litigation



In an effort to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Livingston County, the Board has authorized an agreement with Weitz & Luxenberg, P.C., the Sam Bernstein Law Firm, and the Behm & Behm Law Firm (collectively, "Claimant's Counsel") to investigate and pursue, if appropriate, the County's claims against the manufacturers and/or wholesale distributors of controlled substances in Livingston County. Opiate and opioid abuse, addiction, morbidity, and mortality has created a serious public health and safety crisis in Livingston County. The Board has expended, is expending, and will continue to expend County public funds in the future to respond to this serious public health and safety crisis. The Board received information that indicates that the manufacturers and wholesale distributors of controlled substances who dispensed opioids in Livingston County may have violated Federal and State laws and regulations that were enacted to prevent the diversion of legally produced controlled substances into the illicit market. Livingston County will join more than 60 Michigan governments in the litigation. There are currently more than 1,500 lawsuits filed nationwide against opioid manufacturers.

Monthly Meetings

3/4/2019 - General Government &
Health & Human Services
Meeting at 7:30 PM

3/6/2019 - Finance Committee at
7:30 AM

3/11/2019 - Full Board Meeting at
7:30 PM

3/13/2019 - Personnel
Committee at 8:00 AM

3/18/2019 - Infrastructure &
Development & Public Safety
at 7:30 PM

3/20/2019 - Finance Committee
at 7:30 AM

3/25/2019 - Full Board Meeting at
7:30 PM

County Participation In Michigan Statewide Tornado Drill

Livingston County will participate in the Michigan Statewide Tornado Drill that will take place on Wednesday, March 27th at 1:00 p.m. 2019 will be the fourth year that the County has participated in the drill. This year the County will continue to emphasize communications and warning along with the sheltering portion of the drill. An initial warning will be sent to the public and all County buildings, then a 20 minute waiting period will pass before an "all clear" message is sent out. The drill is a tribute to the proactive efforts to support preparation and planning for severe weather or tornado emergency.

Resolutions Passed by the Board of Commissioners & Appointments

- A full time Animal Shelter Assistant position has been created after the full time Animal Shelter Coordinator position was dissolved. The Coordinator position had been formed to assist the previous directors with management of the shelter so they could remain focused on Animal Control issues. After Animal Control's departure from the Shelter, duties have been realigned.
- The Board signed a Specialized Services Contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation. This contract provides funding for LETS services that are distributed to service providers based on passenger trip mileage.
- The Jail Educator will be moved from part-time to full-time. With the increase in hours, the Jail Educator will offer a Nurturing Parenting class and a resume workshop.
- The Board has passed a resolution of intent to apply for state financial assistance for the LETS department and named Transportation Director, Greg Kellogg as the Transportation Coordinator for all public transportation matters within Livingston County.
- The Michigan Department of Health & Human Services awarded the Crime Victim Rights Division of the Prosecutor's Office a grant.
- A 3-month extension of the IT Mental Health Court Attorney Services has been approved.
- EMS Policy #116 has been adopted by the Board. The policy was modified with the purpose to enhance EMS' ability to recruit and retain EMTs and Paramedics.
- Matthew Ikle has been appointed to the Community Mental Health Authority Board with a term expiring December 31, 2020.
- The Board approved the appropriation of funds to complete projects that had been approved in 2018, but weren't completed.
- Jere Michaels has been appointed as the 2019 Livingston County Member-at-Large representing the general public on the Tax Allocation Board during the term of the 2019 Tax Allocation Board Meeting which begin on April 15, 2019.
- EMS will be purchasing two Type III Medix Ambulances directly through the manufacturer, utilizing contract pricing.
- The following individuals were appointed to the Livingston Leadership Council on Aging with terms expiring December 31, 2020:

Christine Hoskins	Dan Curry
Dianne McCormick	Kate Lawrence
Penny Jones	Anne King Hudson
Kim Bannon	Marie Verheyen
Cathy Wormsbacher	

Pending Resolutions

- The County Clerk will ask the Board to increase the compensation for members of the Board of County Canvassers. Current compensation for the Board of County Canvassers has not been increased since it was established on December 1, 1986.
- The Board will consider an agreement with the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission to have funding provided to comply with the Michigan Indigent Defense Act.