

PUBLIC WORKS & PLANNING COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021

9:00 A.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Brian Lautzenheiser, Jim Mott, Terrance Augustine, Joseph Brehler, Blake Mulder, Barbara Rogers and Jane Whitacre

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioner Jeremy Whittum, Bill Hendrian, Troy Stowell, Gene Bryan, Morgan Feldpausch, Claudine Williams and John Fuentes

The Public Works and Planning Committee met in virtual session on April 14, 2021 as permitted by PA 228 of 2020, as amended and the local declaration of emergency declared by Eaton County on March 17, 2021. The members made an announcement of the location from which they are participating remotely as follows:

Commissioner Lautzenheiser, the County Courthouse in Charlotte, MI
Commissioner Mott, the County Courthouse in Charlotte, MI
Commissioner Augustine, their residence in the City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County, MI
Commissioner Brehler, their residence in the City of Lansing, Eaton County, MI
Commissioner Mulder, their second residence in Oneida Township, Eaton County, MI
Commissioner Rogers, the County Courthouse in Charlotte, MI
Commissioner Whitacre, their residence in Delta Township, Eaton County, MI

Chairperson Lautzenheiser called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all.

Commissioner Mott moved to approve the agenda, as presented. Commissioner Rogers seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Commissioner Augustine moved to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2021 meeting, as presented. Commissioner Rogers seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

There was no public comment.

Bill Hendrian, MSU Extension District Coordinator, was present to provide the agency's semi-annual update. A review of the agency's transition to remote work during the past year was provided, including data on the increases in users of the agency's website and page views. Additional information was provided on services that continued to be provided in-person safely throughout the pandemic and the ongoing evaluation of programs and services that can begin to return to in-person, under current State and University guidelines. Discussion held.

Troy Stowell, Parks and Recreation Director, was present to provide the Department's monthly update. An update was provided on seasonal staffing and planned summer events at Fitzgerald Park. An update was also provided on the parking lot expansion project at Crandell Park which is now scheduled to begin April 15, 2021. It was also reported that a project to provide an accessible

trail under Crandell Lake is being discussed. There was discussion regarding public and civic outreach related to the improvements scheduled, and under discussion at Crandell Park. There was also discussion regarding Michigan DNR Trust Fund grant opportunities.

A right-of-way easement drafted by County legal counsel to grant an easement to the owners of a property bisected by the Thornapple Trail in Vermontville for ingress and egress was presented and discussed.

Commissioner Augustine moved to recommend approval of the right-of-way easement between the County and Jeff Taylor and Chayla Robles-Taylor to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Whitacre seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Gene Bryan, Construction Code Enforcement Director, was present to provide the Department's monthly update. The permit and inspection activities were reviewed. It was reported that the Department has been notified of an upcoming ISO audit, tentatively scheduled for May 11, 2021.

An update on the request for the County to assume responsibility for building code enforcement in the City of Charlotte. The City requested consideration for a lesser reimbursement to the County of \$40 per inspection, to administer open permits issued by the City during the transition. It is recommended the County be reimbursed \$40 for remaining inspections of roof, fencing, and shed permits, and \$50 for all other inspections. Discussion held.

Commissioner Mulder moved to approve notifying the State that the County is willing to accept building code enforcement within the City of Charlotte and proposed inspection transition fees to the City as recommended. Commissioner Augustine seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Morgan Feldpausch, Resource Recovery Coordinator, was present to provide the monthly update for the Designated Implementing Agency. An update was provided on the Solid Waste Alternatives Grant Program. An update was also provided on the upcoming collection events. The pace of registrations exceeds prior years and due to safety protocols that will be in place, total programs have been reduced. Scheduled events will likely reach maximum capacity.

A proposal to create a pilot program for recycling of agricultural plastic film was presented and discussed. The pilot will be sited at the Sunfield Recycling Center and includes a proposed fee for service of \$0.08 per pound to offset the additional program administrative costs. Discussion held.

Commissioner Brehler moved to recommend creating the pilot program as discussed and establish the fee for the pilot program of \$0.08 per pound. Commissioner Augustine seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

It was also reported that a state-approved vendor had been identified for the regional scrap tire recycling grant programs.

Claudine Williams, Community Development Director, was present to provide the Department's monthly update. It was reported that the County has approximately \$37,000 available for eligible housing rehabilitation projects before June 30, 2021. Unexpended funds at that time must be returned to the State. It was also reported that the County has been identified to achieve "functional zero" status to eliminate veterans homelessness within the County.

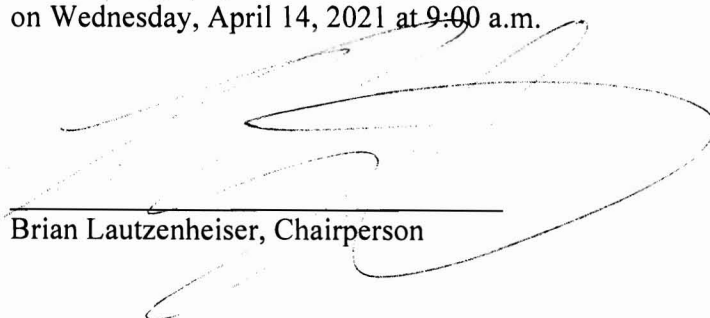
There was also discussion about the development of a text amendment for the zoning ordinance to provide for legal recreational marijuana activities. Discussion held. Currently all of the townships have enacted local ordinances to opt-out of allowing the statutory activities within their jurisdiction. Any language included within the zoning would not have practical effect at present given the township ordinances currently in effect. There was discussion regarding preparing such language now rather than later in response to a township rescinding their current ordinance, prohibiting these activities. Further discussion held related to the timing of developing a proposed text amendment. No action taken. Staff will research to determine timeframe for a township to reverse its decision on this matter for the Committee's information.

The executive summaries of the State requested PFAs sampling and routine groundwater monitoring reports for recent sampling events at the closed County landfill site were presented and reviewed. It was reported that the sampling results have been provided to the State and the County is awaiting response. The Committee will be provided the response when received.

Sue Spagnuolo, Eaton Conservation District, reported that the agency's annual tree sale program is currently underway. Order forms are available on the District's webpage and orders will be available for pickup on April 23, 2021 and April 24, 2021.

Chairperson Lautzenheiser adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Works and Planning Committee will be held on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.



Brian Lautzenheiser, Chairperson