

**Antrim County**  
**District 5**  
**Commissioner Dawn LaVanway**  
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**231-631-1840**

**December 2023**

**County Employment Opportunities**

- Commission On Aging-CENA (PT)
- Commission On Aging- Homemaker (PT)
- Commission On Aging-Meal Site Coordinator (PT)
- Road Commission-Labor to plowing snow (FT)
- Sheriff's Office-Corrections (FT)
- Sheriff's Office-Snowmobile Patrol Officer (PT)
- Township Ambulance Authority-Paramedic (FT)

**Drain Commissioner-**

Moved by Hefferan, and seconded by Rubingh, that the Board approve and set the Drain Commissioner's wage at \$800 a year and remove healthcare benefits from the elected position as of January 1, 2025. Motion carried as follows: Yes-Hefferan, Rubingh, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No-None; Absent-None.

**County Building Façade-**

Progressive AE and Spence Brothers continue to work on the new exterior framing and sheathing, getting close to re-enclosing the building. The stairwell door near the former main south entrance continues to be the visitor entrance. The charcoal insulated metal panels are being installed.

**Health Dept. Building Renovations:**

The Sheriff Departments road patrol and undersheriff offices will be relocated to half of the current Health Department building in Bellaire. It is in hopes the Sheriff and employees will be soon moving into this building.

**Public Safety Center (new jail)-**

A Public Safety Center webpage has been created to keep everyone informed on [https://www.antrimcounty.org/departments\\_services/administration\\_planning/public\\_safety\\_center/index](https://www.antrimcounty.org/departments_services/administration_planning/public_safety_center/index).

### **Broadband-**

Peninsula Fiber Network was awarded \$61 million in grant funding for their project that will provide a middle mile of fiber through the middle of Antrim County which is a critical step in County-wide broadband. Truestream was awarded a ROBIN grant in which Mancelona and Helena Twp. are expected to be completed by the end of 2025. A second round was awarded to Spectrum in which the villages in the County will be part of the this grant.

### **Brownfield Redevelopment Authority-**

Recent brownfield legislation now allows certain types of housing developments to qualify as eligible projects. The developer of the Spillway Lodge is using this new legislation to construct a workforce housing project on the Bellaire Hwy. The Village, the Township, and the ACBRA, approved of the plan and it will now go to a public hearing at a Board of Commissioners meeting on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> for approval. If approved, it will then be sent to the Michigan Housing Development Authority for approval.

### **Unified Court System-**

Moved by Rubingh, and seconded by Hefferan, that the Board direct the County Administrator to proceed with exploring the concept of Antrim County becoming a unified court system as proposed if it is cost saving and will create an increase of in person services to our residents. Motion carried as follows: Yes-Hefferan, Rubingh, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No-None; Absent-None.

### **Health Department-**

Wastewater Surveillance Program which has been testing wastewater in the 4 county region since 2020 through a grant which will end at the end of June 2024 was discussed. Commissioner Rubingh made a motion to end the Wastewater Surveillance Program effective immediately. Seconded by Commissioner Chamberlain. Roll call. Four (4) ayes, Commissioners Turnbull, Chamberlain, Rubingh, and Mason. Four (4) no, Commissioners Ahrens, LaVanway, Mapes, and Hankins. Motion Failed.