

Antrim County
District 5
Commissioner Dawn LaVanway
<http://dawnlavanway.com>
231-631-1840

March 2023

County Employment Opportunities

- Animal Control Officer-FT; David Bertinelli will begin February 13th.
- Commission On Aging- Homemaker (PT)
- Commission On Aging-CENA (FT)
- Emergency Services Coordinator- (FT) Matt Adamek began February 1st
- Sheriff's Office-Civil Process (PT) (2 positions)
- Sheriff's Office-Dispatcher (FT)
- Sheriff's Office-Clerk/Typist-(FT) applications being reviewed
- Sheriff's Office-Corrections (FT)
- Sheriff's Office-Road Deputy (FT) (1 position)

Retirement-

Stan Moore, Farm Business Educator in Antrim County for MSU will be retiring after 32 years. A retirement event is scheduled for Friday, March 24th from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Antrim County Commission on Aging building. RSVP to 231-533-8818 or riderga@msu.edu.

County building façade project-

Due to a structure issue, the County Building Façade Project, went from 3.45 million (ARPA fund money) up to \$5.2 million. A motion was tabled to have Progressive AE Inc., Spence Brothers and the County Team to explore areas to cut costs. The materials were changed as well as glass entrances, parking lot and sidewalks to reach a not to exceed cost of ARPA fund money. **Moved by VanAlstine, and seconded by Hefferan, that the Board approve a budget amendment for the facade replacement plan, not to exceed \$4.52 million with funding coming from the American Rescue Plan Act Funds and the remainder coming from the Buildings and Structures fund. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Hefferan, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No – Rubingh; Absent – None.**

Progressive AE and Spence Brothers were hired as the architects and construction managers for the County Building Exterior. Progressive is currently working on design adjustments that were made to cut the costs. Next step, Spence Brothers will begin soliciting bids for the county building project as well as the work on the Sheriff Annex building being moved to the Health Department building next door for offices for the Sheriff department. Once the plans are completed, the project will go out to bid for a

general contractor. The Sheriff remodel was budgeted in this year's budget through the Capital Improvement Plan of last year.

Maintenance annual report-

The annual report for the maintenance department which provides custodial, grounds & maintenance for over 86,000 sq. ft. of main campus properties achieved:

- an electronic work order system that has been set up which allows to track progression, time spent, comments and provide updates to requestor. Since March 2022 there were 330 completed work orders with 35 reoccurring work orders.
- restored operability of building equipment that was out of service.
- all county owned generators are on a preventative maintenance program.
- changed cleaning chemicals to hands free dispensing systems with PH neutral chemicals.
- Capital Improvement Plan-maintenance submitted 21 new projects and updated 12 others.

Broadband-

The Board previously approved a resolution of support for a grant application by Peninsula Fiber Network (PFN) which, if granted, would benefit the County. A second-round opportunity of funding for the PFN project has opened up called the ROBIN grant. A True stream project grant is also available that would assist in getting broadband coverage in the southern part of the County. Letters of support were sent to townships and villages that will be affected. No money is required, just a support letter from the townships and villages.

Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP)-

Leslie Meyers, outgoing emergency service coordinator, has held meetings, the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) has provided input, and Community planners from Networks Northwest have been working on drafting a plan that reflects all input received. The plan has been provided to the Planning Commission as well as available to local municipalities for review. A public hearing is scheduled at the March 7th Planning Commission meeting at 4:30 p.m. in the board room. Once the hearing is complete, it will be sent to Michigan State Police and then to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for approval. After FEMA approves the plan, the Board will be asked to adopt it, followed by local jurisdictions. It is expected to be late spring to early summer. The plan is available on the Antrim County website as well as Networks Northwest's website.

911 Communication Tower-

The RFP for the 911 tower is still on hold at this point until a geological study is finished. It is not necessary to have the geological study beforehand, but without it, quotes could change drastically from those originally proposed. The core samples have been taken, and the soil study results are being reviewed by the consultants before it goes out to bid.

Animal Control-

PetPoint Data Management System is an unlimited software database for a one time cost of \$1,500 through the internet for Animal Control to use in the office as well as on the road with mobile devices that will allow input of medical records, shot dates, etc. on each animal in the center.

Moved by LaVanway, and seconded by Helwig, that the Board approve and authorize the chair to sign an agreement with PetPoint Data Management System for Animal Control. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Hefferan, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No – Rubingh; Absent – None.

Dam proposal-

On December 1, 2022, the Board of Commissioners (BOC) authorized the submission of a grant application to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE). The funding from the Flood Plain Management Services Program (FPMS) through the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) ran out before the model of a maximum flow event at both the Bellaire and Elk Rapids Dams. The grant was not received from EGLE. The purpose of the application was to determine IF there is a problem. The work is necessary to determine if there is a need for any improvements to the dam impoundments and whether capacity needs to be added with new overflow structures. The proposal from the Spicer Group is \$27,600 in which \$25,000 was budgeted for the year. Three of the lake associations will cover the shortfall of the difference. **Moved by LaVanway, and seconded by Helwig, that the Board approve the budgeted expenditure of \$25,000.00 and authorize the Operator of Dams to sign the proposal from the Spicer Group to complete a review, update, and analysis of the Elk River Chain of Lakes (ERCOL) Hydraulic Model (HEC-RAS). Motion carried as follows: Yes – Hefferan, Rubingh, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No – None; Absent – None.**

FREE tax filing-

Northern Michigan Community Action Agency is offering free tax filing if you are a senior, veteran, disabled or speak limited English and you make less than \$75,000 a year, than an IRS certified tax preparer is ready to file you taxes. In person appointments, drop offs and virtual. Visit nmcaa.net/taxes. A flier is on my website (dawnlavanway.com) also under County reports.