

Antrim County
District 5
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May 2023

County Employment Opportunities

- Barnes Park-Park Ranger-(PT) seasonal
- Elk Rapids Day Park-Park Ranger (PT) seasonal Candidate in background check.
- Commission On Aging- Homemaker (PT)
- Commission On Aging-CENA (FT)
- Sheriff's Office-Civil Process (PT) (2 positions)
- Sheriff's Office-Dispatcher (FT) Candidate in background check.
- Sheriff's Office-Corrections (FT) (3 positions)
- Sheriff's Office-Clerk/Typist (FT) **Natasha Cook** started April 18th.
- Sheriff's Office-Marine Patrol (PT)
- Sheriff's Office-Road Deputy (FT) (2 positions)
 - Zachariah Haynes** began on April 17.
 - One candidate attending the academy on his own.
 - One candidate is sponsored & will graduate May 2023.
- Veterans Affairs – VSO II – Irregular PT Candidate in background check.
- Animal Control Officer- **David Bertinelli** hired and started working.
- Emergency Manager-**Matt Ademak** hired and started working.

Antrim Conservation District-

Looking to hire employees to assist with soil erosion and educational outreach and a temporary office and program assistant.

May 27th will be the native plant sale

Wednesday, June 18th will be the ACD annual meeting.

Household Hazardous Waste-

Saturday, June 10th 8 a.m. - noon - Elk Rapids DPW Station

Saturday, July 22nd 8 a.m. – noon - Bellaire HS Parking lot

Saturday, Sept. 30th 8 a.m - noon – Antrim County Road Commission

The flier is on my website (www.dawnlavanway.com) under County reports tab.

Township Spring clean ups-

May 11th **curbside** Cleanup day (have items out by 6 a.m.)-Star Township

May 18th **curbside** Cleanup day (have items out by 6 a.m.)- Chestonia Township

May 20th 7 a.m. to noon Cleanup day-Mancelona Township @ Palmer Park

June 24th 8 a.m. to noon Cleanup day-Echo Township

Barnes Park-

Playground installation is complete. Reservations opened on April 12. Camping opens on May 26th. Petoskey Stone Festival is May 27th.

Veterans Affairs-

May 5 from noon to 3 p.m. is an open house at the Bellaire office in the County building to meet your accredited Veterans Service officers. Free food and refreshments and open to the public. Email veteransaffairs@antrimcounty.org for any questions regarding veteran services.

Coffee talks for veterans are every 3rd Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the M88 Morning Grind in Bellaire.

Free Dinner for Veterans every 3rd Thursday from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. at South Torch Lake Fire Department at 8765 Helena Rd. Alden, MI.

Sheriff Department boats-

Moved by Hefferan, and seconded by LaVanway, that the Board approve the release of funds for two (2) marine boats for the Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol as budgeted for a total of \$92,735.00. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Hefferan, Rubingh, VanAlstine, LaVanway; No – None; Absent - Helwig.

County Building Façade-

Progressive AE and Spence Brothers were hired as the architects and construction managers for the County Building Exterior. It is expected the bid documents to be put out at the end of April, with sub-contractor selections in May, and work beginning in July and be completed by February 2024. The 6' tall fence around the building is scheduled for July 5th. The removal of the exterior panels and installation of the cold formed metal framing is tentatively scheduled to start in August. Exterior wall departments that will be relocated will be in their temporary offices for up to six months. The plans are to move equalization/GIS permanently into Room 120, move the Register of Deeds permanently into equalization office, move the clerk temporarily during construction into the Register of Deeds current space, and move the Building Department permanently into the Register of Deeds current space after the façade construction is complete. Public parking plans are underway. This is the ARPA fund money to upgrade the exterior of the County Administration building to not be more than \$4.5 million.

Health Dept. Building Renovations:

Progressive was also hired in December to work on relocating the Sheriff Departments road patrol and undersheriff offices to half of the Health Department building. This has been a planned move since last year and it is being coordinated with the County building construction job for better pricing. The project is budgeted at \$412,827.

Public Safety Center (new jail)-

Byce & Associates were hired last year to outline a preliminary plan and renderings for a Public Safety Center. The Sheriff with a committee has worked together on a concept plan. The consultants are working on a fourth plan. A Public Safety Center webpage in order to keep everyone informed on progress and to answer questions has been created. It is at:

https://www.antrimcounty.org/departments_services/administration_planning/public_safety_center/index.php. The administration will be working on a timeline that would bring this to a public vote in the future.

Bellaire Health Center-

There will be a renovation and reuse anticipated to open by end of year at the old Bellaire Health Center site in Bellaire due to an overwhelming need for behavioral health services.

NMRE-SUD Board-

Motion by Helwig, seconded by LaVanway, that the Board confirm the Chairman's appointment of Pam Singer to the Northern Michigan Regional Entity Substance Use Disorder (NMRE-SUD) Policy Oversight Board to fill the partial term expiring on March 31, 2024. Motion carried as follows: Yes-Hefferan, Rubingh, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No-None; Absent-None.

Prosecutor software-

Motion by Helwig, and seconded by LaVanway, that the Board approve and authorize the Board Chair to execute the Prosecuting Attorney's contract with Karpel Solutions and to authorize the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$60,000 as budgeted. Motion carried as follows: Yes-Hefferan, Rubingh, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No-None; Absent-None.

800 MHz radios-

This was approved last year, but the previous Emergency Services Coordinator did not get the grant in by the deadline so it is getting approved again. These radios are used for emergencies (Like Gaylord tornado), events and for the Certified Emergency Response Team for disasters and training.

Motion by LaVanway, and seconded by Helwig, that the Board approve and authorize the Emergency Services Coordinator to apply and accept if awarded a 2% tribal grant in the amount of \$40,000 with a County match of \$10,000 for (20) twenty 800 MHz radios to serve as an emergency cache of radios for first responders, and authorize the Finance Director to make the budget amendment for the County match to be taken from the 911 Fund #261. Motion carried as follows: Yes-Hefferan, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No-Rubingh; Absent-None.

Health Department-

A third party expert will be hosting community listening sessions for the Health Department of Northwest Michigan. The in person and virtual gatherings are designed to give residents the opportunity to share their experiences and perceptions of the HDNW. At each session the consultant will listen and document the information shared. She will review her notes with attendees to make sure they are accurate and then prepare her findings for the HDNW. This has been planned for over a year. A grant has allowed the Health Department to form a community-based Citizen Advisory Committee which contains volunteers from all four counties with various backgrounds and belief systems. Antrim County has Kellie Hogerheide, Clancey Baker and Hali Argetsinger on this committee.

Listening sessions in person are from 6 -7:30 p.m. at the following locations:

May 2 – Petoskey (Petoskey District Library)

May 3-Charlevoix (Charlevoix Public Library)

May 17- Bellaire (Bellaire Senior Community Center)

May 18-Gaylord (Otsego County United Way)

Listening sessions virtually are from noon – 1:30 p.m. for:

May 17- Emmett County Residents

May 18-Charlevoix County Residents

May 24-Antrim County Residents

May 25-Otsego County Residents

Road Commission Brine-

New, stricter rules on acquiring and using mineral brine on roadways were delayed by the state Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) to further study the matter. In February, EGLE announced it would enforce new rules on brine on April 1, 2023. Mineral brine is a product used by road agencies to suppress dust on dirt roads and control ice. However, EGLE did not consult industry experts or provide evidence to support these added restrictions. The County Road Association held an emergency meeting in March with their members to discuss the impact of these changes and the lack of transparency by EGLE. Dozens of county road commissioners expressed how vital mineral brine is for dust control, and how limiting its use could have devastating effects on rural communities and the health of residents in those areas. The group also discussed mineral brine's ability to mitigate ice during winter months. The freeze/thaw cycle leads to cracks in our roads. Limiting the use of mineral brine for ice control would cause roads to deteriorate even further. While EGLE has expressed a willingness to meet, it still intends to make changes of some kind to the rules.