

AMENDED AGENDA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, July 14, 2020 – 4:00 p.m.
TheDow Event Center – Red Room
303 Johnson St., Saginaw, MI 48607

Members: Carl Ruth - Committee Chair, Kathy Dwan, Cheryl Hadsall, Kyle Harris, Kirk Kilpatrick, Dennis Krafft, Sheldon Matthews, Amos O’Neal, Charles Stack, James Theisen, Michael Webster

Others: Controller/CAO, Civil Counsel, Board Staff, Elected Officials, Department Heads

[**NOTE:** To mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, protect the public health, and provide essential protections to Saginaw County residents, the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners will conduct entrance screening on all individuals prior to entry into the Red Room and masks are required. Entrance screening will consist of a temperature check and answering health questions. Masks, gloves and hand sanitizer will be provided. No food or drink will be provided. **6’ Social Distancing and use of masks will be strictly enforced.**]

- I. Call to order
- II. Welcome
- III. Public comment (*Speakers limited to 3 minutes*)
- IV. Agenda
 - 1. Presentation of proposed FY 2021 Budget – Robert Belleman, Controller/CAO
 - 2. Requests to modify proposed FY 2021 Budget – Appearances of Elected Officials and Appointed Department Heads (*See attached*)
 - Katie Kelly, Register of Deeds
 - Christina Harrington, Health Department
 - John McColgan, Prosecutor
 - JoAnn Crary, Saginaw Future, Inc.
 - Mark Rankin, MSU Extension
 - 3. Next steps in budget process
 - A. **August 6, 2020** Budget/Audit Committee – make any recommended changes and submit final draft of proposed FY 2021 Budget
 - B. **August 25, 2020** Board of Commissioners meet, proposed FY 2021 Budget is presented, Public Hearing is held and Budget is laid on the table until September 22, 2020 Board meeting
 - C. **September 10, 2020** Budget/Audit Committee recommends any additional changes to FY 2021 Budget
 - D. **September 22, 2020** Board of Commissioners meet - Board formally adopts FY 2021 Budget
 - 4. Other Issues of Interest/Concern – Board of Commissioners
- V. Miscellaneous
- VI. Adjournment

Note: Upon completion of discussion, only motions to refer to an organized committee or to postpone indefinitely shall be allowed - Article IX, Section 9.5, 2020 Board Rules.



From the desk of
**Katie A. Kelly - Register
of Deeds**

TO: Chairman Michael Webster – Saginaw County
RE: Request to Appear
Date: July 8, 2020

RECEIVED
SAGINAW COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
2020 JUL -9 AM 9:20

Dear Chairman Webster,

I am writing this letter as a means to request an opportunity to speak at the Committee of the Whole meeting on July 14, 2020 to present an alternative means to the Controller's proposed budget for the Register of Deeds office in FY2021.

As discussed in our meeting in June which included the two of us as well as Chief Deputy Register, Penny Klein and Controller Robert Belleman we mentioned multiple reasons why the Controller's proposals did not make good financial sense for the County as it would affect over \$250,000.00 in revenue delay to the General Fund. We had a good discussion and have since met with Koren to discuss the specifics of balancing the budget for the Register of Deeds department without cutting a staff member which would ultimately result in a gross delay in revenue.

Alternatively we have come up with revenues totaling \$79,547.00. They include increasing document volume, increasing collection of transfer tax, increasing subscription fees and implementing a fee that would include emails into the current fee schedule for faxing documents.

The residential real estate market is increasing as the Federal interest rate continues to be at a low. The document volume has increased drastically in the last month and we have seen an increase in transfer tax collection of roughly \$100,000.00 over a two week period. We expect to continue to see these transactions increase and estimate that our document volume could increase recording fees by as much as 21% as was seen back in 2002 – 2004. I look forward to sharing the specific numbers with the Board of Commissioners and Controller at the Committee of the Whole meeting on July 14, 2020.

Respectfully,

Katie A. Kelly
Register of Deeds Saginaw County

FY 2021 Budget

Current deficit: \$60,000

Controller's Suggested Solution: elimination of one position

Alternative Solution: Increase Revenue

1. Document Recording

- a) **Current Request: \$700,000.** Due to the increase in residential real estate interest/transactions and the Federal Interest Rate drop document volume is expected to increase by as much as 20% or more. The last time the market experienced a boom due to low interest rates the Register of Deeds saw an increase in document recordings of 21.7% from 2002 – 2003 which sustained through the 2004 FY and then steadied again in 2005.
- b) **New Request: \$734,495** would reflect a 6.47% increase in volume. This estimate is modest due to COVID-19. The industry has started to see astronomical increases that have begun resulting in more recordings for the ROD office. In the last two weeks the Register of Deeds office has seen an increase of roughly \$100,000.00 in transfer tax collection.

2. Transfer Tax

- a) **Current Request: \$550,000.** Due to a 3.57% increase in assessed property values the amount of transfer tax will also increase by this amount.
- b) **New Request: \$570,860** which reflects a 3.57% increase

3. Monarch Subscription Fee

- a) **Current Fee to Customers is \$3600**
- b) **New Fee: \$10,000**
 - i. **Requesting this item be added to the ROD fee schedule**

4. Email or "no touch" Fee

- a) **Change fax fee to include emails at a flat rate of "up to \$5.00" per document or create a new email fee county wide**

Total changes result in a \$79,547 increase in revenue and will prevent a union job from being cut in the 2021 Fiscal Year.

Christina A. Harrington, M.P.H.
Health Officer



Delicia J. Pruitt, M.D., F.A.A.F.P.
Medical Director

Saginaw County HEALTH DEPARTMENT

For health. For everyone.

July 9, 2020

Honorable Michael A. Webster, Chairman
Board of Commissioners
County of Saginaw
111 S. Michigan Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48602

RE: REQUEST FY21 INCREASE FOR HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Dear Chairman Webster:

Please permit this letter to serve as my request to meet with the Committee of the Whole on July 14th, regarding the following financial matter:

- **Request to increase Health Department allocation of funds for Fiscal Year 2021 to ensure continued critical service delivery and COVID-19 pandemic response totaling \$816,620.**

As you know this is an unprecedented time for our county, state, nation, and the world experiencing the COVID-19 pandemic. As the definition of a pandemic means worldwide spread of a disease above any establish threshold, the fact this is a novel (new) disease never circulating within the human race, present significant challenges for us all. Your health department has been the Incident Commanding organization during this response doing our VERY best to limit community spread and fulfilling our obligation as the local Health Officials directing our local response. Our problem is not only managing the large number of unknowns about this disease but the Incredible lack of resources we have to effectively respond.

During this pandemic we have dedicated virtually EVERY resource within the department to this response, closing almost all other services and re-assigning staff in an unprecedented way. When we discuss essential services in the county, you have no other department more essential during this pandemic than the HEALTH DEPARTMENT. Your staff at the SCHD have flattened this curve in Saginaw by:

- Providing direction to health care agencies, businesses, non-profits, schools, faith based organizations, events, elected officials, and the general public
- Coordinating of care and testing for COVID-19, creating a comprehensive testing plan with community partners
- Investigating over 1300 positive cases and notification of thousands of direct contacts
- Issuing Isolation and quarantine orders for cases and contacts

RECEIVED
SAGINAW COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
2020 JUL 10 AM 11:08

Christina A. Harrington, M.P.H.
Health Officer



Delicia J. Pruitt, M.D., F.A.A.F.P.
Medical Director

Saginaw County HEALTH DEPARTMENT

For health. For everyone.

- Issuing local Public Health Orders to control the spread of disease; mandating under the authority of the Health Officer, coordination of personal protective equipment, employee screening for businesses that remained open during the Stay Home Stay Safe Executive Orders, and issuance of isolation/quarantine facility usage for houseless individuals

These are just some of the functions your health department has been able to accomplish with very limited resources. This was done by taking restaurant inspectors to do positive case investigations, contact tracing, and recovery investigations; having clerks become COVID-19 experts answering calls from the public and healthcare providers throughout our community; having billing, administrative, and inspectors become website and data analysis experts; having nursing Leadership become medical experts for nursing homes; having laboratory personnel become experts in nasal swab collections and COVID-19 testers; and the list could go on and on.

Providing critical services **MUST** continue as we progress through this pandemic; yet with a budget deficit of \$816,620; we cannot continue to protect our public from COVID-19 and all the other diseases in our community. As the County Controller mentioned in his budget submittal to you, we cannot continue to do both! We need the support of the BOC to prioritize what is important for our County and what is important for every resident in Saginaw County – PUBLIC HEALTH.

I am therefore kindly requesting \$816,620 from the county general fund to continue the skeleton crew staffing that we currently have to ensure we can continue to provide COVID-19 response and be able to eventually continue critical public health services. I am asking you prioritize the health department and allow us the ability to continue to respond to COVID-19. Without this funding we will need to eliminate all non-mandated services the health department provides, which will mean eliminating over 20 positions (that 1/3 of our current workforce), losing another \$2 Million in grant dollars, and will leave us with only 2 Nurses for COVID-19 investigations at time when a second wave will likely strike.

I plan on attending the Committee of the Whole meeting to answer any questions about this request. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christina Harrington".

Christina A. Harrington, MPH
Health Officer



John A. McColgan, Jr.
Saginaw County Prosecuting Attorney

COURT HOUSE
111 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48602

Mark J. Gaertner
Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney

July 10, 2020

Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board of Commissioners
and Controller Belleman
County of Saginaw
111 S. Michigan Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48602

RECEIVED
SAGINAW COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
2020 JUL 10 AM 11:08

RE: 2012 Fiscal Year Budget

Dear Chairman, Commissioners and Mr. Belleman,

I am requesting to be included on the BOC Committee of the Whole agenda to address the proposed FY 21 Budget.

Some observations in regard to the documents sent the other day. Mental Health Court was left out of the paragraph on the Specialty Courts. I would like to know who did the job study on my office to determine that we can perform our mandated function with 3 less clerical positions?

I would like to know, county wide, year by year, how many positions have been eliminated over the past 10 years?

I would like to know why we aren't utilizing the concept that the District Court is putting forth county wide?

The concept referred to in the previous sentence would be the reduction to 72 hours which corresponds to our (electeds) proposal we forwarded previously in regard to furlough days and other suggestions which appear to have been dismissed without thoughtful consideration.

I would like to know why my office isn't getting credit for the saved matching dollars gained by not applying for the Auto Theft Grant.

I look forward to seeing you all.

John A. McColgan Jr. *ja*
Saginaw County Prosecutor



www.SaginawFuture.com

July 10, 2020

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Michael Webster, Chairman
Saginaw County Board of Commissioners
111 South Michigan Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48602

RE: County of Saginaw FY 20/21 Budget Proposal

Honorable Chairman Webster,

I am writing to request an appearance before the Committee of the Whole Meeting, Tuesday, July 14, 2020 to speak on the proposed budget.

The top priority during the County's strategic planning session included economic development, marketing and image and quality of life. Saginaw Future Inc. is the County's Economic Development Organization formed to address these important priorities. Unfortunately, the proposed 75% funding cut will devastate our organization and greatly reduce our ability to provide job creation, new investment and increasing the County's tax base.

We appreciate the opportunity to speak to the Board of Commissioners and discuss the important budget decisions in front of you.

Sincerely,

JoAnn Crary, CEcD, FM, HLM
President

515 N. Washington Avenue, 3rd Floor • Saginaw, MI 48607 P 989.754.8222

W GreatLakesBaySites.com GreatLakesTechnologyPark.com facebook.com/SaginawFuture