

OAKLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Marcia Gershenson
Vice Chairperson
Adam Kochenderfer
Minority Vice Chairperson

Kristen Nelson, Chairperson

May 18, 2021

Janet Jackson
Penny Luebs
Karen Joliat

Chairperson Nelson called the meeting of the Legislative Affairs and Government Operations Committee to order at 9:35 a.m. via Videoconference.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kristen Nelson, Waterford Township, MI; Marcia Gershenson, Bloomfield Township, MI; Janet Jackson, Morena, AZ; Penny Luebs, Clawson, MI; Karen Joliat, Waterford Township, MI; David Woodward, Ex-Officio Member, Royal Oak, MI

MEMBERS ABSENT WITH NOTICE:

Adam Kochenderfer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Nelson led the Committee in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Luebs moved approval of the minutes of April 27, 2021 and May 4, 2021, as presented. Seconded by Joliat.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Gershenson moved approval of the agenda, as presented. Seconded by Luebs.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following Oakland County residents spoke during Public Comment: Brandon Eldridge, West Bloomfield; Melissa Williams, West Bloomfield; Lisa Ferrari, Birmingham; Kathryn Kennedy, Lake Orion; Victoria Zilch, Farmington; Erin Pruitt, Rochester Hills; Emily Neiman, Clarkston; Megan Fluetsch, Farmington Hills; Patricia Neuenschwander, White Lake; Heather Schueler, Berkley; Juliana LaRose, Rochester Hills; Alfredo Baliad, West Bloomfield; Kris Siegfried, Waterford Township; Betty Kallis, Birmingham; Evelyn Archer, Oxford; and Meghan Pott, Pleasant Ridge

COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Charter Township of Orion – Board of Trustees Resolution to Support Continuance of Youth Athletics During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Joliat moved to receive and file the Communications item. Seconded by Luebs.

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – 2021 STEPPING UP INITIATIVE TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES IN JAILS**
2. **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – DECLARATION OF MAY 25, 2021 AS NATIONAL MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY IN OAKLAND COUNTY**
3. **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – DESIGNATING MAY 2021 AS NATIONAL DRUG COURT MONTH IN OAKLAND COUNTY**
4. **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – DESIGNATION OF MAY 2021 AS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH AND MAY 7, 2021 AS CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY IN OAKLAND COUNTY**
5. **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – DECLARATION OF JUNE 4, 2021 AS NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY IN OAKLAND COUNTY AND SUPPORT THE WEAR ORANGE CAMPAIGN**

Luebs moved to recommend approval of the attached suggested resolutions on the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Gershenson.

Motion carried on a roll call vote with Kochenderfer and Jackson absent.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. HUMAN RESOURCES – EXTENSION OF ELIGIBILITY LIST

Joliat moved approval of the extension of the requested Eligibility List. Seconded by Luebs.

Motion carried on a roll call vote with Kochenderfer absent.

7. HUMAN RESOURCES AND MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET – BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR SALARY ADMINISTRATION PLAN APPROVED WITH MR #20659

Luebs moved to recommend approval of the attached suggested resolution. Seconded by Gershenson.

Motion carried on a roll call vote with Kochenderfer absent.

8. MR #21190 – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – ENCOURAGING OAKLAND COUNTY PARTICIPATION IN UNITED WAY FOR SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN'S 21 DAY EQUITY CHALLENGE

Gershenson moved to report to recommend approval of the attached suggested resolution. Seconded by Jackson.

Gershenson moved to report to amend the resolution, as follows:

1. Amend the 9th WHEREAS clause, as follows:

WHEREAS as the Oakland County Board of Commissioners values every community member and ~~are~~ **is** committed to creating an equitable and antiracist system that honors and elevates all.;
and

2. Insert the following as the 10th WHEREAS clause:

WHEREAS anyone who would like to participate can join the 21-day challenge by visiting this website: <https://unitedwaysem.org/about-us/equity-and-inclusion/21-day-equity-challenge/>.

Seconded by Woodward.

Motion carried on a roll call vote with Kochenderfer absent.

Main motion, as amended, carried on a roll call vote with Kochenderfer absent.

9. MR #21193 – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE 2021 TRI-COUNTY SUMMIT

Joliat moved to recommend approval of the attached suggested resolution. Seconded by Jackson.

Motion carried on a roll call vote with Kochenderfer absent.

10. MR #21189 – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – RETURN TO IN PERSON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

Joliat moved to report to recommend approval of the attached suggested resolution. Seconded by Luebs.

Woodward moved to report to amend the resolution, as follows:

1. Amend the 1st WHEREAS clause, as follows:

WHEREAS the Oakland County Board of County Commissioners (the “Board”) recognizes the concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic ~~balanced with the competing goods of public transparency and open government; and; and~~

2. Insert the following language after the 1st WHEREAS clause:

***WHEREAS the Board has remained committed to public transparency and open government throughout the pandemic; and
WHEREAS the Board quickly pivoted to implement virtual meetings with full video capabilities, providing for continued transparency and opportunities for public participation when the pandemic began as well as throughout the following months; and***

3. Delete the 3rd WHEREAS clause, as follows:

~~WHEREAS many if not most Commissioners are ‘fully vaccinated’, defined as 2 shots (or the one dose Johnson and Johnson) + 14 days; and~~

4. Amend the 5th WHEREAS clause, as follows:

WHEREAS ***Commissioners***, Board staff ~~also~~, ***and the public*** has had access to the COVID-19 vaccination; and

5. Amend the 6th WHEREAS clause, as follows:

WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners ***approved*** ~~has already spent at least \$25,000 on~~ ***for social*** distancing and safety equipment ***in the Board auditorium***; and

6. Insert the following language after the 6th WHEREAS clause:

WHEREAS the Human Resources Department is requesting all departments prepare for services to be in-person by June 15, 2021; and

7. Delete the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th WHEREAS clauses, as follows:

~~WHEREAS hybrid virtual options are available for anyone who is unvaccinated or believes they would still be at risk, to participate remotely; and
WHEREAS in-person meetings facilitate greater transparency, accountability, and public participation; and
WHEREAS extreme public health measures have been a feature of a pandemic Emergency Regime, but after over a year it is time to move from a State of Emergency to a more sustainable and open routine; and
WHEREAS the State of Michigan has had to pursue a one-size-fits-all approach for the entire State, while Oakland County can tailor specific policy to its specific situation; and~~

8. Insert the following language after the 10th WHEREAS clause:

WHEREAS the Michigan Open Meetings Act provides for some continued remote attendance to meetings through December 31, 2021, due to military service, health reasons, or local states of emergency; and

9. Amend the 12th WHEREAS clause, as follows:

~~WHEREAS the Oakland County Board of Commissioners' return to in-person meetings is a positive step closer toward getting through this pandemic together. can show leadership by transitioning to a Post-Emergency structure and protocol; and~~

10. Delete the 13th WHEREAS clause, as follows:

~~WHEREAS it is possible to pursue both responsible safety and openness.~~

11. Amend the NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED clause, as follows:

~~NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Oakland County Board of Commissioners will return to in-person public meetings and access, subject to appropriate public safety measures, effective for the May 26, 2021 Board of Commissioners meeting.~~ ***plans to return to in-person public meetings, subject to appropriate public safety measures, effective for the June 8, 2021 Board of Commissioners meeting.***

12. Insert the following BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED clauses:

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the standing committees of the Board plan to return to in-person public meetings effective June 8, 2021.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners will continue to follow State and local public health orders and follow the Center for Disease Control guidelines.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board Chair may consider holding future virtual Board meetings in consultation with the Oakland County Department of Health and Human Services Director, the County's Medical Officer, or in the future issuance of local or State health orders.***

Seconded by Gershenson.

Motion carried on a roll call vote with Kochenderfer absent.

Main, motion, as amended, carried on a roll call vote with Kochenderfer absent.

11. MR #21192 – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – PROHIBITING HAIRSTYLE BASED RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN OAKLAND COUNTY

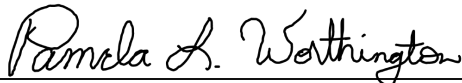
Jackson moved to recommend approval of the attached suggested resolution. Seconded by Joliat.

Motion carried on a roll call vote with Kochenderfer absent.

OTHER BUSINESS/ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Gershenson suggested that each Caucus Chair open up discussions about the Board of Commissioners' policy for non-binding resolutions, especially if they are political.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.



Pamela L. Worthington, Committee Coordinator



Megan C. Sellers, Operations Supervisor

NOTE: The foregoing minutes are subject to Committee approval.