

Antrim County
District 5
Commissioner Dawn LaVanway
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June 2023

County Employment Opportunities

- Antrim County Transportation-Driver (PT)
- Commission On Aging- Homemaker (PT)
- Commission On Aging-CENA (FT & PT)
- Sheriff's Office-Civil Process (PT) (2 positions)
- Sheriff's Office-Dispatcher (FT)
- Sheriff's Office-Corrections (FT)
- Sheriff's Office-Marine Patrol (PT)

Antrim County Sheriff Vacancy-

The position of Antrim County Sheriff will become vacant upon the retirement of Sheriff Daniel Bean, effective September 8, 2023. Per MCL 201.35, a statutory committee consisting of the judge of probate, the clerk, and the prosecuting attorney, shall appoint an interim Sheriff. Anyone interested in applying for the position, shall submit a written request/letter of interest to the Antrim County Clerk, P.O. Box 520, Bellaire, MI 49615 by June 8, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. As provided in Section 1 of Article XI of the State Constitution, the person appointed shall take the oath of office, grant bond in the manner required by law, and hold the office for the remainder of the unexpired term. The Antrim County Sheriff is an elected official. The open position will be on the 2024 ballot. A summary of the Antrim County Sheriff's duties and responsibilities have been posted in the local newspapers and on the County's facebook page.

Veterans Affairs Committee Vacancy-

Antrim County is seeking Interest Notification Forms for one (1) position on the Veterans Affairs Committee. Interested individuals must be an Antrim County resident and a registered voter in Antrim County who have served honorably on active duty in the United States armed forces. Interested residents should fill out and submit an Interest Notification Form found on the County website www.antrimcounty.org/. The completed form and a copy of the applicant's DD-214 must be returned no later than June 22, 2023 to the Administration Office, Antrim County Building, Room 204; emailed to countyadmin@antrimcounty.org; or mailed to Antrim County Administration Office, PO Box 187, Bellaire, MI 49615.

MSU Extension-

Stan Moore has retired from the MSU Extension Antrim County office. Chris Bardenhagen will be replacing Stan. Chris is from Northwest Lower Michigan, where he grew up working on his families' farms, raising cherries, apples, and potatoes. After graduating from M.S.U. with a bachelor's degree in Philosophy, he returned to the farm and began to engage in his own farming enterprises. He raised organic poultry, small grains, hay and experimented with heritage cattle breeds for grass fed beef. Through working with various organic-oriented agricultural researchers, and from working with organic policy advocates and the Michigan Legislature on policy issues, Chris decided to return to the academy to study law and policy in relation to regional food systems and organic farming practices. Chris recently graduated from Wayne State University Law School where he studied business law and taxation and is excited to be with the Department of Community Sustainability working on an interdisciplinary PhD. In addition to his studies, he is currently working with the MSU Product Center's Cooperative Development Program.

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 HHW flier is on my website <http://dawnlavanway.com> under County reports tab.

County Maps-

A 27" x 39" map printed by the Road Commission shows roads, township boundaries, and village inset maps. Maps are available at all five chambers of commerce, village and township offices, and in the County Administration building. For multiple copies, contact countyadmin@antrimcounty.org or 231-533-6265.

Road Commission-

The 2023 Township Road Selected Projects list as of June 1st is located on my website at <http://dawnlavanway.com> under County reports tab. Eddy School Road is a main project this year.

County Building Façade-

Progressive AE and Spence Brothers were hired as the architects and construction managers for the County Building Exterior. It is expected that work will begin 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. **Moved by Helwig, and seconded by LaVanway, that the Board approve a budget for the façade replacement plan, not to exceed \$5 million and authorize the Finance Director to make a budget amendment of \$67,000.00 from 101.000-272.20-969.000 General Fund Contingencies. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Hefferan, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No – Rubingh; Absent – None.**

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 the 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. **Moved by LaVanway, and seconded by Hefferan, that the Board approve and authorize the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$61,750.00 for the County Building offices renovation project and authorize the Finance Director to make all appropriate Budget Amendments. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Hefferan, Rubingh, VanAlstine, LaVanway; No – None; Absent – Helwig.**

Health Dept. Building Renovations:

Progressive was hired in December to work on relocating the Sheriff Departments road patrol and undersheriff offices to half of the Health Department building in Bellaire. 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 scheduled to begin the second week in June. **Moved by Hefferan, and seconded by Helwig, that the Board approve and accept the health department building renovation bids as submitted by South Arm Construction and Top Line Electric contingent on satisfactory interviews and reference checks, to authorize \$228,480.00 for project construction and IT infrastructure, and to authorize the Board Chair to execute agreements with South Arm Construction and Top Line Electric. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Hefferan, Rubingh, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No – None; Absent – None.**

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 new updated plan. A Public Safety Center webpage has been created to keep everyone informed on progress and to answer questions. It is at:

https://www.antrimcounty.org/departments_services/administration_planning/public_safety_center/index.php.

911 Tower-

A new 911 tower has been planned to improve communications for 911. **Moved by LaVanway, and seconded by Helwig, that the Board approve and accept the bid from Allstate Tower, to authorize the expenditure of \$260,970.00 contingent on zoning approval, and to authorize the Board Chair to execute an agreement with Allstate Tower to erect a 199-foot tower, to include foundation, new tower fabrication, and demolition of the old tower, at the Orchard Hill tower location. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Hefferan, Rubingh, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No – None; Absent – None.**

2023 Tax Rate Request-

The board approved of the following:

	<u>Expires</u>	<u>Voted</u>	<u>2023</u>
General Fund	8/2020-12/2024	5.4000	5.2737
COA	8/2020-12/2024	.4000	.3905
Meadowbrook	8/2010-12/2029	1.0000	.9653
Conservation Distr.	8/2020-12/2024	.1000	.0975
E911	8/2022-12/2026	.5000	.5000
Recycling	8/2020-12/2024	.2500	.1650
TOTAL		7.6500	7.3920

Motion by Hefferan, and seconded by Helwig, that the Board approve and authorize the 2023 Tax Rate Request (L-4029) and that the County operating millage be set at 5.2737 mill, the Commission on Aging at 0.3905 mill, Meadow Brook Medical Care Facility at 0.9653 mill, Antrim Conservation District at 0.0975 mill, E-911 at 0.5000 mill, and the recycling millage at 0.1650 mill, and to authorize the Board Chairman and County Clerk to execute the L-4029 Tax Rate Request. Motion carried as follows: Yes –Hefferan, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No – Rubingh; Absent – None.

Property Tax Forclosures-

If your property was taken and sold due to non-payment of property taxes, you could receive money from a recent court settlement. Forty-three (43) Western and Northern Michigan counties that sold tax-delinquent properties and kept the sale proceeds have agreed to return certain amounts in excess of the past due taxes and costs. This applies to sales between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2020. You MUST file a claim by August 7, 2023, or you could lose your right to those funds. Information on how to file a claim is at the following website: <https://www.taxforeclosuresettlement.com/>

Spillway Lodges, LLC-

Spillway Lodges is putting in rental lodges in the area behind the Health Department building in Bellaire which is the area originally was going to be tiny houses. **Moved by LaVanway, and seconded by Hefferan, that the Board authorize the chair to execute an easement agreement for signage between Antrim County and Spillway Lodges, LLC. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Hefferan, Rubingh, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No – None; Absent – None.**

Moved by LaVanway, and seconded by Rubingh, that the Board approve the Spillway Lodges, LLC sign design “A” presented per the Spillway Lodges Easement Agreement. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Hefferan, Rubingh, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No – None; Absent – None.

Lot 33 property-

The County was given a lot on Torch Lake many years ago that had to be used for a public park in which it has been vacant property. The township has a chance to be gifted the house next door to use both lots as a park. The township in a partnership with the Land Conservancy will be writing a grant to make it a park on the South side of Torch Lake. **Moved by VanAlstine, and seconded by Hefferan, that the Board approve and authorize the Chair to execute a forty-year (40) lease with Milton Township for the Lot 33 property and that lease be reviewed every ten (10) years. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Hefferan, Rubingh, VanAlstine, Helwig, LaVanway; No – None; Absent – None.**

Commission on Aging ID Program-

Commission on Aging and the Sheriff's office is working together to promote "Miles for Memories" –Help Home Personal ID Program. It's a new program to assist loved ones with dementia or autism to return home safely. The program provides waterproof hypoallergenic bracelets which hold a QR code for participants to wear. The code can be loaded with medical and emergency contact information by the advocate. This will help reunite the lost with their loved ones by simply scanning the bracelet with a smart phone. There is a small monthly cost to users and is serviced through Verizon. The bracelets will be distributed at the COA office by appointment only if you know of someone that needs one.