



# Newaygo County Board of Commissioners

Health, Education & Human Services Committee

MINUTES

May 26, 2021

10:30 A.M.

**CALL TO ORDER** James Maike, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Brenda Bird, Mike Kruithoff, James Maike

**AGENDA - MOTION NO.** 21-200  
Motion by Brenda Bird, second by Mike Kruithoff, to approve the Agenda of May 26, 2021. Ayes – Brenda Bird, Mike Kruithoff, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** None

**MINUTES – MOTION NO.** 21-201  
Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Brenda Bird, to approve the Health, Education & Human Services Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2021. Ayes – Brenda Bird, Mike Kruithoff, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.

**UPDATE** Lori Schultz, DHHS Director

- DHHS remains closed except by appointment. Planning on opening back up on July 12<sup>th</sup> and are currently working on opening protocols.
- Introduced Abby Reegs as the NC3 Coordinator who was hired 3 weeks before the pandemic.

**DEPARTMENT UPDATE** Joseph Fox, Director, Commission on Aging

The following departmental updates were reported by Joseph Fox:

- Meals on Wheels is currently delivering over 200 meals per day. Special delivery routes have begun to the Fremont area which focuses on several senior housing locations.
- Giving out 35 – 40 Grab & Go Meals on weekdays in Fremont & White Cloud.
- Plans on delivering the final 80 USDA Farms to Families Food boxes on Wednesday, May 26.

**DEPARTMENT UPDATE** Steven Cain, Veteran Affairs

The following departmental updates were reported by Steven Cain:

- Department staff are processing claims, answering questions, and assisting Veterans and their families obtain benefits. Have been handling claims using online resources, over the phone and talking with customers at the window.
- Part time VSO Jenelle VanHouten is working 20 hours per week as a partially grant funded employee.
- Volunteer drivers are available for Veterans of all wartime eras.

**NEW BUSINESS MOTION NO.** 21-202  
Motion by Brenda Bird, second by Mike Kruithoff, to recommend to the Finance Committee to approve Resolution #06-007-21 opposing vaccine passports within the boundaries of Newaygo County. Ayes – Brenda Bird, Mike Kruithoff, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT** Christopher Wren, County Administrator

- Closed the 2020 claims for health insurance.

- The County has hired 16 employees in the last 30 days and there are currently 9 job openings.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Christina Parks, Oceana County Resident

- Concerned about the youth and being pressured to be vaccinated.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Theresa Em

- Appreciates the committee passing the Resolution regarding vaccine passports and has some questions regarding some of the wording that she will address with Commissioner Bird following the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Robert Smythe

- Appreciates the committee passing the Resolution regarding vaccine passports and is very concerned how this is affecting children.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Gary Anderson, White Cloud Business Owner

- Appreciates the committee passing the Resolution regarding vaccine passports. Many people he speaks with are against vaccine passports.

**ADJOURNMENT – MOTION NO.** 21-203

Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Brenda Bird, to adjourn the meeting at 11:16 a.m. Ayes – Brenda Bird, Mike Kruithoff, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.

**COUNTY CLERK CERTIFICATION**

**CHAIRPERSON CERTIFICATION**

**DATE**

June 23, 2021