

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2020

The Eaton County Board of Commissioners met in virtual session on Wednesday, April 29, 2020.

Chairman Augustine called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given by all.

Invocation was given by Commissioner Mulder.

Roll call. Commissioners present: Rob Piercefield, Blake Mulder, Terrance Augustine, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Jane M. Whitacre, Brandon Haskell, Joseph Brehler, Glenn Freeman, Brian Droscha, Matthew S. Bowen, Wayne Ridge, Brian Lautzenheiser, Jim Mott, Lisa Deavers, Barbara Rogers.  
Commissioners absent: none

Chairman Augustine requested the addition of the following resolutions under VII. Resolutions and Action Items: #2a Temporary Remote Work Policy; #3 Workers Memorial Day; #4 Police Week; and #5 Corrections Officer Week.

Commissioner Rogers moved the agenda be approved as amended. Seconded by Commissioner Whitacre. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Rob Piercefield, Blake Mulder, Terrance Augustine, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Jane M. Whitacre, Brandon Haskell, Joseph Brehler, Glenn Freeman, Brian Droscha, Matthew S. Bowen, Wayne Ridge, Brian Lautzenheiser, Jim Mott, Lisa Deavers, Barbara Rogers. Nays: none. Carried.

Public Comment: None

Barry-Eaton District Health Department Health Officer Colette Scrimger was available to answer Commissioner questions regarding current COVID-19 conditions in Eaton County.

#### RESOLUTIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

Commissioner Brehler moved #20-4-40 Resolution to Adjust the Eaton County 9-1-1 Surcharge.

WHEREAS, under MCL 484.1714(1)(g), the State 911 Committee is required to provide notice to communication providers of the 911 surcharge in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, this includes the counties' 911 surcharge, the state 911 surcharge, and the monthly prepaid surcharge; and

WHEREAS, surcharge guidelines set by the state are:

- Counties may raise or lower their surcharge collection amount once annually;
- Modifications to the surcharge collection amounts go into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup> each year;
- Counties requesting to raise their current surcharge, not to exceed the voter approved cap, must do so by commissioner resolution; and
- Resolutions must be received by the State 911 Office by May 15<sup>th</sup> each year; and

WHEREAS, Eaton County set the surcharge at \$1.75, effective July 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Eaton County's surcharge cap was set at \$1.75 by voter approval on November 7, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Eaton County has determined that the surcharge shall be modified to a rate of \$1.65, starting July 1, 2020.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eaton County Board of Commissioners hereby determines that the Eaton County monthly 911 surcharge shall be set at \$1.65 effective July 1, 2020.

Seconded by Commissioner Bowen.

Discussion held.

Controller Fuentes spoke regarding the Central Dispatch Millage Operating fund and 5-year revenue projections in regards to 911 surcharge collections based on the updated projections for the two funding sources, the proposed reduction in the surcharge is not expected to create a funding shortfall in the short-term.

911 Director Armitage spoke regarding the Millage Operating fund balance and potential surcharge reduction.

Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Rob Piercefield, Blake Mulder, Terrance Augustine, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Jane M. Whitacre, Brandon Haskell, Glenn Freeman, Joseph Brehler, Matthew S. Bowen, Lisa Deavers.

Nays: Blake Mulder, Brian Droscha, Wayne Ridge, Brian Lautzenheiser, Jim Mott, Barbara Rogers. Carried.

Controller Fuentes spoke regarding a County Restoration of Services plan, to gradually increase the availability of essential county services in the coming weeks as restrictions and public health recommendations are revised.

Chief Judge Cunningham spoke regarding the Court's plan for conducting electronic court hearings as well as plans for staffing and public attendance during the coming weeks.

Commissioner Mulder moved to approve the County Restoration of Services Plan with amendment to provide employees the ability to elect to supplement a reduced work schedule determined by their department head or elected official with their accrued leave time and provide for a similar election for employees deemed non-essential by their department head or elected official.

Seconded by Commissioner Ridge. Roll Call vote.

Ayes: Rob Piercefield, Blake Mulder, Terrance Augustine, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Jane M. Whitacre, Brandon Haskell, Brian Droscha, Matthew S. Bowen, Wayne Ridge, Brian Lautzenheiser, Jim Mott, Lisa Deavers, Barbara Rogers.

Nays: Joseph Brehler, Glenn Freeman. Carried. (on file)

Commissioner Droscha moved the Temporary Remote Work Policy.

Seconded by Commissioner Pearl-Wright.

Discussion held.

Commissioner Bowen moved the policy be referred to the Information Technology & Communications Committee for revision of certain work policy requirements. Seconded by Commissioner Haskell.

Discussion held.

Commissioner Lautzenheiser discussed whether the referral motion as made and seconded would be more appropriate for discussion by the Ways & Means Committee. Commissioners Bowen and Haskell agreed to the motion amendment proposed by Commissioner Lautzenheiser.

Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Rob Piercefield, Blake Mulder, Terrance Augustine, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Jane M. Whitacre, Brandon Haskell, Joseph Brehler, Matthew S. Bowen, Brian Lautzenheiser, Jim Mott, Lisa Deavers, Barbara Rogers. Nays: Brian Droscha, Wayne Ridge. Carried. (on file)

Commissioner Rogers moved the following three resolutions:

#20-4-41 Resolution to Recognize April 28, 2020 As National Workers' Memorial Day.

WHEREAS, On December 28, 1970, President Richard Nixon signed into law the Occupational Safety and Health Act, which went into effect on April 28, 1971; and

WHEREAS, April 28 is also the day OSHA first opened its doors in 1971, after Congress passed the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and American workplaces have become much safer in the decades since; however one life lost is one too many; and

WHEREAS, Despite the OSHA Act, intended to provide American workers the right to a safe workplace and requiring employers to provide safe conditions, thousands of American workers are killed by workplace injuries and occupational disease every year; and

WHEREAS, Tens of thousands more workers are permanently disabled, injured or made ill; and

WHEREAS, All employers, including local governments, are urged to dedicate their efforts to improving workplace safety and seeking stronger health standards enforcement, and to treating workers with dignity as we all pursue constant improvements in worker safety; and

WHEREAS, Americans can honor our workers by observing Workers Memorial Day as a day to remember those victims of workplace injuries and disease and by rededicating ourselves to improving safety and health in every American workplace.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Eaton County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim, April 28, 2020, as *WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY* in Eaton County and ask all citizens to recognize and honor all workers killed, injured and disabled on the job, thank them for their service and offer sympathy to their families and loved ones and to respect today's workers by providing safe workplaces.

#### #20-4-42 Resolution Declaring National Police Week 2020.

WHEREAS, there are approximately 900,000 law enforcement officers serving in communities across the United States, including the dedicated members of the Eaton County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, approximately 60,000 assaults against law enforcement officers are reported each year, resulting in approximately 17,500 injuries; and

WHEREAS, since the first recorded death in 1791, almost 22,000 law enforcement officers in the United States have made the ultimate sacrifice and been killed in the line of duty, including three members of the Eaton County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, the names of these dedicated public servants are engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, names of fallen heroes are added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial each spring; and

WHEREAS, the service and sacrifice of all officers killed in the line of duty will be honored during a National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund virtual Candlelight Vigil during the COVID-19 pandemic, on the evening of May 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Candlelight Vigil is part of National Police Week, which takes place this year on May 10-16, 2020; and

WHEREAS, May 15 is designated as Peace Officers Memorial Day, in honor of all fallen officers and their families and U.S. flags should be flown at half staff;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners formally designates May 10-16, 2020, as Police Week in Eaton County, to honor

the service and sacrifice of those law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty while protecting our communities and safeguarding our democracy, and publicly salutes the service of law enforcement officers in our community and in communities across the nation.

#20-4-43 Resolution Declaring National Correctional Officers and Employees Week 2020.

WHEREAS, correctional officers are highly trained professionals dedicated to maintaining secure correctional facilities and ensuring public safety; and

WHEREAS, correctional facilities across the United States, both civilian and military, public and private are run by highly-qualified and experienced men and women with a deep understanding of the challenges and difficulties within the profession; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers and employees are responsible for the custody, care and reform of thousands of offenders every year as well as the maintenance of safe and secure facilities; and

WHEREAS, correctional employees work in very demanding and stressful conditions, face many challenges and put their lives at risk every day; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers and employees are some of the most resourceful, capable, committed, patient and persistent professionals in criminal justice and in our nation; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers and employees serve admirably in many different capacities, including jail administrators, chaplains, nurses, supervisors, managers and directors; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers and employees teach, train, mentor, counsel and treat thousands of offenders; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers and employees provide offenders with direction, hope and a new focus while preparing them for reentry and life outside of corrections; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers and employees rise to meet most any challenge and serve this honorable profession nobly and admirably.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners formally designates May 5-11, 2020, as National Corrections Officers and Employees Week in Eaton County, to commend these employees for the tremendous job they do and for the exceptional performance of duties under the most difficult of circumstances.

Seconded by Commissioner Freeman. Roll call vote on the motion to approve the Resolutions recognizing Workers' Memorial Day, Police Week and Correctional Officers Week. Ayes: Rob Piercefield, Blake Mulder, Terrance Augustine, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Jane M. Whitacre, Brandon Haskell, Joseph Brehler, Glenn Freeman, Brian Droscha, Matthew S. Bowen, Wayne Ridge, Brian Lautzenheiser, Jim Mott, Lisa Deavers, Barbara Rogers. Nays: none. Carried.

Public Comment: None

Chairman Augustine adjourned the meeting to Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

  
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Chairman of the Board of Commissioners

  
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Clerk of the Board of Commissioners

**EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**April 29, 2020**

**RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE THE EATON COUNTY 911 SURCHARGE**

**Introduced by the Public Safety Committee**

Commissioner Brehler moved the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Bowen.

**WHEREAS**, under MCL 484.1714(1)(g), the State 911 Committee is required to provide notice to communication providers of the 911 surcharge in Michigan; and

**WHEREAS**, this includes the counties' 911 surcharge, the state 911 surcharge, and the monthly prepaid surcharge; and

**WHEREAS**, surcharge guidelines set by the state are:

- Counties may raise or lower their surcharge collection amount once annually;
- Modifications to the surcharge collection amounts go into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup> each year;
- Counties requesting to raise their current surcharge, not to exceed the voter approved cap, must do so by commissioner resolution; and
- Resolutions must be received by the State 911 Office by May 15<sup>th</sup> each year; and

**WHEREAS**, Eaton County set the surcharge at \$1.75, effective July 1, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, Eaton County's surcharge cap was set at \$1.75 by voter approval on November 7, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, Eaton County has determined that the surcharge shall be modified to a rate of \$1.65, starting July 1, 2020.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Eaton County Board of Commissioners hereby determines that the Eaton County monthly 911 surcharge shall be set at \$1.65 effective July 1, 2020. Carried. Nays: Commissioner Mulder, Droscha, Ridge, Lautzenheiser, Mott, Rogers.

**EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE APRIL 28, 2020 AS NATIONAL  
WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY**

**APRIL 29, 2020**

Commissioner Rogers moved the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Freeman.

**WHEREAS**, On December 28, 1970, President Richard Nixon signed into law the Occupational Safety and Health Act, which went into effect on April 28, 1971; and

**WHEREAS**, April 28 is also the day OSHA first opened its doors in 1971, after Congress passed the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and American workplaces have become much safer in the decades since; however one life lost is one too many; and

**WHEREAS**, Despite the OSHA Act, intended to provide American workers the right to a safe workplace and requiring employers to provide safe conditions, thousands of American workers are killed by workplace injuries and occupational disease every year; and

**WHEREAS**, Tens of thousands more workers are permanently disabled, injured or made ill; and

**WHEREAS**, All employers, including local governments, are urged to dedicate their efforts to improving workplace safety and seeking stronger health standards enforcement, and to treating workers with dignity as we all pursue constant improvements in worker safety; and

**WHEREAS**, Americans can honor our workers by observing Workers Memorial Day as a day to remember those victims of workplace injuries and disease and by rededicating ourselves to improving safety and health in every American workplace.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Eaton County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim, April 28, 2020, as *WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY* in Eaton County and ask all citizens to recognize and honor all workers killed, injured and disabled on the job, thank them for their service and offer sympathy to their families and loved ones and to respect today's workers by providing safe workplaces. Nays: none. Carried.

**EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESOLUTION DECLARING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK 2020**

**APRIL 29, 2020**

Commissioner Rogers moved the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Freeman.

**WHEREAS**, there are approximately 900,000 law enforcement officers serving in communities across the United States, including the dedicated members of the Eaton County Sheriff's Office; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 60,000 assaults against law enforcement officers are reported each year, resulting in approximately 17,500 injuries; and

**WHEREAS**, since the first recorded death in 1791, almost 22,000 law enforcement officers in the United States have made the ultimate sacrifice and been killed in the line of duty, including three members of the Eaton County Sheriff's Office; and

**WHEREAS**, the names of these dedicated public servants are engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C.; and

**WHEREAS**, names of fallen heroes are added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial each spring; and

**WHEREAS**, the service and sacrifice of all officers killed in the line of duty will be honored during a National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund virtual Candlelight Vigil during the COVID-19 pandemic, on the evening of May 13, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Candlelight Vigil is part of National Police Week, which takes place this year on May 10-16, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, May 15 is designated as Peace Officers Memorial Day, in honor of all fallen officers and their families and U.S. flags should be flown at half staff;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners formally designates May 10-16, 2020, as Police Week in Eaton County, to honor the service and sacrifice of those law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty while protecting our communities and safeguarding our democracy, and publicly salutes the service of law enforcement officers in our community and in communities across the nation. Nays: none. Carried.

**EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESOLUTION DECLARING NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND  
EMPLOYEES WEEK 2020**

**APRIL 29, 2020**

Commissioner Rogers moved the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Freeman.

**WHEREAS**, correctional officers are highly trained professionals dedicated to maintaining secure correctional facilities and ensuring public safety; and

**WHEREAS**, correctional facilities across the United States, both civilian and military, public and private are run by highly-qualified and experienced men and women with a deep understanding of the challenges and difficulties within the profession; and

**WHEREAS**, correctional officers and employees are responsible for the custody, care and reform of thousands of offenders every year as well as the maintenance of safe and secure facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, correctional employees work in very demanding and stressful conditions, face many challenges and put their lives at risk every day; and

**WHEREAS**, correctional officers and employees are some of the most resourceful, capable, committed, patient and persistent professionals in criminal justice and in our nation; and

**WHEREAS**, correctional officers and employees serve admirably in many different capacities, including jail administrators, chaplains, nurses, supervisors, managers and directors; and

**WHEREAS**, correctional officers and employees teach, train, mentor, counsel and treat thousands of offenders; and

**WHEREAS**, correctional officers and employees provide offenders with direction, hope and a new focus while preparing them for reentry and life outside of corrections; and

**WHEREAS**, correctional officers and employees rise to meet most any challenge and serve this honorable profession nobly and admirably.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners formally designates May 5-11, 2020, as National Corrections Officers and Employees Week in Eaton County, to commend these employees for the tremendous job they do and for the exceptional performance of duties under the most difficult of circumstances. Nays: none. Carried.