



Muskegon County Board of Commissioners

Muskegon County Resolution to Urge the Adoption of Policies that will Lead to Environmental Sustainability in Muskegon County and the United States
Resolution #2024-01

WHEREAS, environmental sustainability promotes responsible and proactive decision-making that minimizes negative impacts and maintains balance between social, environmental, and economic growth to ensure a desirable planet now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan is to create a roadmap depicting where the County is today and where it would like to be in the future, in regards to achieving sustainability goals and targets by a specific time frame; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan is a living document intended to evolve over time and is divided into eight categories: Recycling and Waste Management, Solar Energy, Water Quality, Community Engagement, Municipal Engagement, Natural Resources, and Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan contains long-term objectives and short-term actions for helping the County achieve targets related to sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the objectives are intended to be quantifiable so that progress can be measured on an annual basis and reported to decision makers and stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, Muskegon County is responsible to promote the public health, safety, and welfare of residents, including access to clean air, clean water, and a safe environment; and

WHEREAS, energy resources we utilize as a local government and community significantly impact public health, safety, and welfare, including the economic and social well-being of current and future residents; and

WHEREAS, access to the financial benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy must be shared equitably across all economic classes; Muskegon County needs to seek strategies and equitable cost structures that protect and support low-income members of the community; and

WHEREAS, environmental sustainability is designed to boost local economies, help municipal operations become more efficient, reduce operating costs, facilitate grant opportunities, and offer additional support to municipalities as Muskegon County embraces an ongoing process of working toward greater sustainability; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Muskegon County adopts the following goals and will pursue local actions that support these goals:

1. Increased building energy efficiency, including HVAC systems and insulation to reduce energy consumption;
2. Increased renewable energy use;
3. Increased vehicle and equipment fuel efficiency;
4. Increased solid waste diversion;
5. Increased use of methane from landfills;
6. Reduced water consumption;
7. Increased water and wastewater infrastructure efficiency;
8. Promotion of sustainable solar at the Resource Recovery Center;
9. Apply for energy efficiency programs for public buildings, Marquette Campus, the county airport;
10. Investments in and expansion of public transportation systems to reduce reliance on individual cars, thus decreasing emissions and promotion of the use of hybrid vehicles within county fleets and electric vehicles when the charging infrastructure is available and the vehicles are economically feasible;
11. Promotion of recycling and composting programs and reduction of waste going to landfills;
12. Support for reforestation and the creation of green spaces within urban areas, which can help absorb carbon dioxide;
13. Partnerships with neighboring counties, cities, and states to develop regional environmental action plans and share resources and best practices;
14. Establish systems to collect and monitor data on emissions, energy usage and climate impacts, allowing for informed decision making and tracking progress.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to focus attention and effort within Muskegon County on matters of environmental sustainability and in order to promote Muskegon County's local initiatives and actions toward energy resiliency.

The Muskegon County Board of Commissioners, at its April 16, 2024, meeting recommended approval by Commissioner Marcia Hovey-Wright, supported by Commissioner Jessica Cook, the aforementioned resolution.

Ayes: Michelle Hazekamp, Marcia Hovey-Wright, Zach Lahring, Jessica Cook, Charles Nash, Darrell Paige

Nayes: Kim Cyr

I, Karen D. Buie, Clerk of the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners and Clerk of the County of Muskegon, do hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly adopted by said Board on April 16, 2024.

Karen D. Buie

Karen D. Buie, Clerk
County of Muskegon

April 17, 2024

Date



Muskegon County Ways & Means Committee

Request for Board Consideration

Requestor: Mark Eisenbath

Committee Date: 09/03/2024

Requesting Department: Administration

Full Board Date: 09/10/2024

Budgeted: No

Agenda Number: WM24/09-69

Partially Budgeted: No

Non-Budgeted: Yes

Suggested Motion:

Move to authorize the Administration staff to begin the process of developing a Muskegon County Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Summary of Request:

The name of this Committee is the Muskegon County Sustainability Advisory Committee.

The Sustainability Advisory Committee is charged with researching opportunities to reduce the environmental footprint of the County of Muskegon activities when possible, practical, and efficient and making recommendations to the Board of Commissioners and staff for consideration and implementation.

The purpose of the Sustainability Advisory Committee is to encourage education, stewardship, and policy leadership that will make our community a leader in economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

The mission of the Sustainability Advisory Committee is to provide guidance on and lead projects that maintain balance between economic, social, and ecological needs of residents and businesses for today and future generations.

The Sustainability Advisory Committee shall consist of seven members, which include the following:

- One member shall be an educator or represent the educational community with an interest in the environment or sustainability.
- One member shall be an environmental scientist or licensed professional environmental engineer.
- One member shall be a LEED certified licensed architect or construction manager.
- One member shall be a representative from a waste and/or recycling hauler operating in Muskegon County.
- One member shall be a representative of an Electric or Gas utility company with Customers in Muskegon County.
- One member shall be from a business located in Muskegon County that focuses on sustainability or has implemented sustainable practices.
- One member shall be from an organization or research institution with a focus on natural resource conservation.

The members above are residents that are appointed by the Board of Commissioners and serve a two-year term.

Attachments:

1. Muskegon County Sustainability Resolution



Angela Gasiewski, Finance Director

Date: August 26, 2024



Mark Eisenbath, County Administrator

Date: August 30, 2024

Muskegon County Sustainability Committee Information

On September 3, 2024, during the Ways & Means Committee meeting and during the September 10, 2024, Full Board Meeting, the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners approved developing the Muskegon County Sustainability Advisory Committee ([WM24/09-69](#))

Muskegon County Sustainability [Website](#)

Muskegon County Sustainability Committee [Application](#)

On March 18, 2025, the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners approved the Sustainability Advisory Committee Citizen Appointments ([10. Chairman's Report/Committee Liaison Reports A. Citizen Appointments: Sustainability Advisory Committee](#))

Muskegon County Sustainability Committee Members

One member shall be an educator or represent the educational community with an interest in the environment or sustainability.

- **Amanda Buday**

One member shall be an environmental scientist or licensed professional environmental engineer.

- **Adam Mulling**

One member shall be a LEED certified licensed architect or construction manager.

- **Kevin D. Osterhart**

One member shall be a representative from a waste and/or recycling hauler operating in Muskegon County.

- **American Classic - Sam Flanery**

One member shall be a representative of an Electric or Gas utility company with Customers in Muskegon County.

- **DTE - Jonathan Wilson**

One member shall be from a business located in Muskegon County that focuses on sustainability or has implemented sustainable practices.

- **Aldea Coffee - Elizabeth Kuyt**

One member shall be from an organization or research institution with a focus on natural resource conservation.

- **Chelsey Lawton**

Two member shall be at-large appointments.

- **Renae Hesselink**
- **Rory Thibault**



Muskegon County Board of Commissioners Full Board

Charles Nash, Board Chair
Jessica Cook, Vice Chair

March 18, 2025 at 4:00 PM

via Zoom and in-person at: Muskegon County Marquette Campus, 1903 Marquette Avenue, Muskegon, MI 49442

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Charles Nash at 4:00 p.m. in person and was available to the public via Zoom.

2. Invocation: Vice Chair Jessica Cook

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Chris McGuigan

4. Roll Call

Present: Vice-Chair Jessica Cook
Commissioner Kim Cyr
Commissioner Michelle Hazekamp
Commissioner J. Brett Herman
Commissioner Chris McGuigan
Chairman Charles Nash
Commissioner Darrell Paige

Also Present: Mark Eisenbath, County Administrator

Matthew Farrar, Deputy County Administrator

Linda Larsen, Administrative Coordinator

Karen D. Buie, County Clerk

Breanna Armstrong, Executive Operations Administrator

Michael Homier, Corporate Counsel

5. Approval of Agenda

ACTION: 2025-75 Moved by Commissioner Darrell Paige, supported by Commissioner Kim Cyr

VOICE VOTE: Passed

6. Approval of Minutes

A. Move to approve the Minutes of February 18, 2025

ACTION: 2025-76 Moved by Commissioner Jessica Cook, supported by Commissioner Chris McGuigan

VOICE VOTE: Passed

7. Public Comment (on an agenda item)

HealthWest Board

Janice Hilleary (Consumer/Primary) term through 3/31/28 - Reappointment
Jeff Fortenbacher term through 3/31/28 - Reappointment

Veteran's Advisory Committee

Terry Sabo term through 3/31/28 - Appointment

Sustainability Advisory Committee

Adam Mulling (environmental scientist) term through 12/31/2027 - Appointment
Elizabeth Kuyt – Aldea Coffee (representative of a business located in Muskegon County that focuses on sustainability or has implemented sustainable practices) term through 12/31/2027 - Appointment
Sam Flanery – American Classic (representative of a waste and/or recycling hauler operating in Muskegon County) term through 12/31/2027 - Appointment
Jonathan Wilson – DTE Energy (representative of an Electric or Gas utility company with Customers in Muskegon County) term through 12/31/2027 - Appointment
Amanda Buday (educator or individual that represents the educational community with an interest in the environment or sustainability) term through 12/31/2027 - Appointment
Kevin Osterhart (LEED certified licensed architect) term through 12/31/2027 – Appointment
Chelsey Lawton -Muskegon Conservation District (representative of an organization or research institution with a focus on natural resources conservation) term through 12/31/2027 – Appointment
Renae Hesselink (At-Large) term through 12/31/2027 – Appointment
Rory Thibault (At-Large) term through 12/31/2027 – Appointment

Move to appoint Janice Hilleary and Jeff Fortenbacher to the HealthWest Board, term through 3/31/28

ACTION: **2025-92** Moved by Commissioner Charles Nash, supported by Commissioner Kim Cyr

VOICE VOTE: **Passed**

Move to appoint Terry Sabo to the Veteran's Advisory Committee, term through 3/31/2028

ACTION: **2025-93** Moved by Commissioner Charles Nash, supported by Commissioner Chris McGuigan

VOICE VOTE: **Passed**

Move to appoint the following individuals to the Sustainability Advisory Committee, terms through 12/31/2027:

Adam Mulling (environmental scientist) term through 12/31/2027 - Appointment
Elizabeth Kuyt – Aldea Coffee (representative of a business located in Muskegon County that focuses on sustainability or has implemented sustainable practices) term through 12/31/2027 - Appointment
Sam Flanery – American Classic (representative of a waste and/or recycling hauler operating in Muskegon County) term through 12/31/2027 - Appointment
Jonathan Wilson – DTE Energy (representative of an Electric or Gas utility company with Customers in Muskegon County) term through 12/31/2027 - Appointment

Amanda Buday (educator or individual that represents the educational community with an interest in the environment or sustainability) term through 12/31/2027 - Appointment
Kevin Osterhart (LEED certified licensed architect) term through 12/31/2027 – Appointment
Chelsey Lawton -Muskegon Conservation District (representative of an organization or research institution with a focus on natural resources conservation) term through 12/31/2027 – Appointment
Renae Hesselink (At-Large) term through 12/31/2027 – Appointment
Rory Thibault (At-Large) term through 12/31/2027 – Appointment

ACTION: **2025-94** Moved by Commissioner Charles Nash, supported by Commissioner Darrell Paige

VOICE VOTE: **Passed**

B. Highlighted Muskegon County Community Events:

March 22, 2025 @ 8:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. - White Lake Community Business Expo, Whitehall High School Gym, 3100 W. White Lake Drive, Whitehall, MI.

March 26, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Legacy of Women in the Hackley & Hume Households, North Muskegon Library, 1522 Ruddiman Drive, North Muskegon, MI

11. Administrator's Report

A. Move to approve Amendment #9 to the contract with C&S Companies (airport engineering consultant) for construction administration and oversight services related to \$20.3M Taxiway "Alpha" relocation and reconstruction project in the amount of \$1,870,703 and authorize the Board Chair to sign the amendment.

ACTION: **2025-95** Moved by Commissioner Jessica Cook, supported by Commissioner Darrell Paige

YES: Jessica Cook, Kim Cyr, Michelle Hazekamp, J. Brett Herman, Chris McGuigan, Charles Nash, Darrell Paige

NO: None

Passed 7:0

B. Move to approve Amendment #1 to Reimbursable Agreement GL-006110 between the County and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), in the amount of \$243,133.92 for FAA-specific construction activities related to the Muskegon County Airport's FY2025 Taxiway A reconstruction project, and further authorize the Board Chair to execute the amendment.

ACTION: **2025-96** Moved by Commissioner Darrell Paige, supported by Commissioner Jessica Cook

YES: Jessica Cook, Kim Cyr, Michelle Hazekamp, J. Brett Herman, Chris McGuigan, Charles Nash, Darrell Paige

NO: None