



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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### **Cheboygan County Resolution #2022-03 Urging The Return Of State Workers To In-Person Operations**

**WHEREAS**, in October 2021 the State of Michigan removed the set date for State workers to return to in-person operations and left each department or agency to set their own scheduled to return; and,

**WHEREAS**, each department and agency have the knowledge and resources to develop agency work plans to return to in-person operations; and,

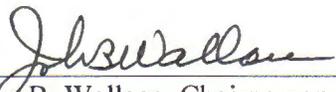
**WHEREAS**, the majority of businesses, industry, governmental operations, school districts and non-profit agencies have returned to on-site operations; and,

**WHEREAS**, Cheboygan County has received complaints from citizens concerning the lack of accessibility and the delay of responsiveness due to State workers not operating within their on-site offices, as well as have experienced difficulties and delays in coordinating services between County Offices and State departments and agencies such as DHHS; and,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cheboygan County Board of Commissioners urges Governor Whitmer to immediately direct department and state agencies to complete work plans to return to on-site operations as quickly as possible in order to provide the services and convenience that the citizens of Michigan expect from their government; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to all Michigan Counties, Senator Wayne Schmidt, Representative Sue Allor, Representative John Damoose, Governor Gretchen Whitmer, and the Michigan Association of Counties.

Adopted this 22nd day of February, 2022

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John B. Wallace, Chairperson  
Cheboygan County Board of Commissioners

I, Karen L. Brewster the undersigned, the Clerk of the County of Cheboygan, Cheboygan, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of certain proceedings taken by the Cheboygan County Board of commissioners at its regular meeting held on February 22, 2022, relative to adoption of the resolution therein set forth; that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and

District 1  
Curtis Chambers

District 2  
Richard B. Sangster  
Vice-Chairman

District 3  
Michael Newman

District 4  
Ron Williams

District 5  
Roberta Matelski

District 6  
John B. Wallace  
Chair

District 7  
Steve Warfield

that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the seal of said Court and County, this 22nd day of February, 2022.

*Karen L. Brewster*

Karen L. Brewster

Cheboygan County Clerk/Register

# County of Muskegon



## RESOLUTION Honoring Black History Month Resolution #2022-01

WHEREAS, in 1776, people envisioned the United States as a new nation dedicated to the proposition stated in the Declaration of Independence that “all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness . . .”; and

WHEREAS, Africans were first brought involuntarily to the shores of America as early as the 17th century; and

WHEREAS, African Americans suffered enslavement and subsequently faced the injustices of lynch mobs, segregation, and denial of the basic and fundamental rights of citizenship; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, the vestiges of those injustices and inequalities remain evident in the society of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in the face of injustices, people of good will and of all races in the United States have distinguished themselves with a commitment to the noble ideals on which the United States was founded and have fought courageously for the rights and freedom of African Americans and others; and

WHEREAS, African Americans, such as Lieutenant Colonel Allen Allensworth, Maya Angelou, Arthur Ashe Jr., James Baldwin, James Beckwourth, Clara Brown, Blanche Bruce, Ralph Bunche, Shirley Chisholm, Holt Collier, Frederick Douglass, W. E. B. Du Bois, Ralph Ellison, Medgar Evers, Alex Haley, Dorothy Height, Lena Horne, Charles Hamilton Houston, Mahalia Jackson, Stephanie Tubbs Jones, B.B. King, Martin Luther King, Jr., Thurgood Marshall, Constance Baker Motley, Rosa Parks, Walter Payton, Bill Pickett, Homer Plessy, Bass Reeves, Hiram Revels, Amelia Platts Boynton Robinson, Jackie Robinson, Aaron Shirley, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Booker T. Washington, the Greensboro Four, and the Tuskegee Airmen, along with many others, worked against racism to achieve success and to make significant contributions to the economic, educational, political, artistic, athletic, literary, scientific, and technological advancements of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of African Americans from all walks of life throughout the history of the United States reflect the greatness of the United States; and

WHEREAS, many African Americans lived, toiled, and died in obscurity, never achieving the recognition they deserved, and yet paved the way for future generations to succeed; and

WHEREAS, African Americans continue to serve the United States at the highest levels of business, government, and the military; and

WHEREAS, the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass inspired the creation of Negro History Week, the precursor to Black History Month; and

WHEREAS, Negro History Week represented the culmination of the efforts of Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the “Father of Black History”, to enhance knowledge of Black history through the Journal of Negro History, published by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, which was founded by Dr. Carter G. Woodson and Jesse E. Moorland; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month, celebrated during the month of February, originated in 1926 when Dr. Carter G. Woodson set aside a special period in February to recognize the heritage and achievement of Black people of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carter G. Woodson stated: “We have a wonderful history behind us.... If you are unable to demonstrate to the world that you have this record, the world

will say to you, 'You are not worthy to enjoy the blessings of democracy or anything else.'"; and

WHEREAS, since the founding of the United States, the Nation has imperfectly progressed toward noble goals; and

WHEREAS, the history of the United States is the story of people regularly affirming high ideals, striving to reach those ideals but often failing, and then struggling to come to terms with the disappointment of that failure, before committing to trying again; and

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2008, the people of the United States elected Barack Obama, an African-American man, as President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, on February 22, 2012, people across the United States celebrated the groundbreaking of the National Museum of African American History and Culture on the National Mall in Washington, District of Columbia, which opened to the public on September 24, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Muskegon County Commissioner Rillastine Wilkins has made her mark in Muskegon County. She has been known as being an influencer, leader and role model throughout her life. She was born the 4<sup>th</sup> of 10 children in Taft, OK, and attended the University of Wisconsin, the Technical Instructors Institute, and Muskegon Business College. She settled with her family in Muskegon Heights where she became very busy over the years. Commissioner Wilkins' list of civic and community affiliations is very extensive. She lobbied on behalf of the City of Muskegon Heights to seek federal and state grants which helped build partnerships in the area. Some of her affiliations are: Co-Founder and host of her FOCUS television show, Muskegon Blue Sky Lions Club, Muskegon/Oceana Community Action Partnership, founding member of the Muskegon Community Health Project, Muskegon Chamber of Commerce, Muskegon Branch NAACP, Michigan Municipal League, National League of Cities Human Development, Muskegon County Building Authority, Muskegon Regional Planning Commission, State of Michigan Women in Municipal Government, Muskegon Heights Zoning Board of Appeals. Over the past 36 years, she has also held political positions including 8 years as the Mayor of the City of Muskegon Heights, a 3-decade tenure on the Muskegon Heights City Council where she was the first female elected in 1974, President of Progressive Democratic Women's Caucus, Vice-Chair of the Muskegon County Democratic party, President of the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, and Hackley Community Care Board member, (to name a few). She was also a featured prominent figure in a documentary about Muskegon. Commissioner Wilkins has always believed she could do anything and proved that as she rose through the ranks to become a manager at General Telephone (Verizon) where she spent most of her working life and retired from after 34 years of service. She has remained true to the people she was elected to serve and genuinely cares for all those in her community and the city in which she lives and represents, Muskegon Heights.

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2010 The Muskegon Silversides Museum along with many of Muskegon County black leaders and veterans help to establish the Robert E. Garrison Jr. award to annually honor black war veterans of Muskegon County. This award was named after Dr. Robert E. Garrison Jr. who was known to be one of the original "Tuskegee Airmen" during World War II, who moved to Muskegon to establish a respectable career as a family physician for many residents of Muskegon County; and

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2019 Governor Gretchen Whitmer appointed Muskegon County's own Zaneta Adams to be the first black female Director of Michigan Department of Veteran Affairs. Zaneta Adams rose to the rank of private first class during her eight years of service as a member of the Army, National Guard, and Reserve before she was medically discharged with honor; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners—

- (1) acknowledges that all people of the United States are the recipients of the wealth of history provided by Black culture;
- (2) recognizes the importance of Black History Month as an opportunity to reflect on the complex history of the United States, while remaining hopeful and confident about the path ahead;
- (3) acknowledges the significance of Black History Month as an important opportunity to commemorate the tremendous contributions of African Americans to the history of the United States;





## Resolution 16-2022

Date: February 16, 2022

### **Resolution Supporting the Community Mental Health Authority and Opposing Current State Legislation to Change the CMHA**

**WHEREAS**, Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority has served for more than 50 years as the public mental health service provider for this community, serving approximately 2,100 residents yearly in Grand Traverse County; and

**WHEREAS**, Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority was created by the Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners as duly authorized under the Community Mental Health Act of 1963; and

**WHEREAS**, every year, thousands of individuals and their families in this community depend on the public behavioral health system for daily and life-long supports and services; and

**WHEREAS**, Grand Traverse County opposes any behavioral health redesign that harms the state and county partnership for community mental health and related Medicaid safety net services, or seeks to privatize Medicaid behavioral health services; and

**WHEREAS**, recent proposals in the Michigan House and Senate fundamentally change the public behavioral health system and will harm those served by the system. The Grand Traverse County Board opposes these proposals because:

Local public oversight, local governance, local operations, and local accountability would be ended;

Beneficiaries would stand to lose access to services, supports, and input into the design and operation of their services and support system. Many of our residents would be left out of the redesign proposals completely;

The Senate proposal specifically incentivizes and prioritizes profits to private companies at the expense of the public and the people served by our public behavioral health system; and

**WHEREAS**, instead of damaging our public behavioral health system through pursuit of these proposals, recent innovations by the Public Health system should be supported. The Grand Traverse County Board supports, and asks our Legislative and Executive Branch leaders to support:

- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs)
- Behavioral Health Homes

- Opioid Health Homes, and

**WHEREAS**, the public behavioral health system is the safety net system for our state's most vulnerable and needy people. We believe strongly that the public safety net behavioral health system must remain public in governance, public in accountability, funding, and operation. We believe strongly that Grand Traverse County must have direct in-person access to their board member representatives in the community and to the whole board of directors through participation in local public board meetings under the Open Meetings Act. Recent state legislation by the Senate and House eliminates these key features of the behavioral health system. We stand united in opposing these proposals; and

**WHEREAS**, the House and Senate proposals as they currently stand shifts the responsibility for managing public services from local involvement and oversight to either a privatized plan or to a state-run plan. The premise of these proposals seems to be that privatization (Senate) and state-centralization are better than local access, local control, local accountability, collaborative and regional/local management, and local oversight. These are just a few of the beneficial features of the current public behavioral health system that the House and Senate proposals ignore, and for these reasons we stand united in opposition to them; and

**WHEREAS**, having come through a recent pandemic, and currently dealing with further results of the pandemic, this is no time for a major upheaval of the public behavioral health system that so many thousands of persons, their families, and our entire community relies on for support. The public behavioral health safety net has ensured continued services and supports for all these people in our community throughout the pandemic period.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Commissioners of the County of Grand Traverse, that we request that our policy making representatives support, improve, and strengthen the public behavioral health safety net system, and that you support improvements in the delivery of publicly governed, publicly accountable, publicly operated regional, and community-based systems, invest in and expand initiatives that are proven to improve citizen access, beneficiary engagement, individual and population health, behavioral wellbeing, quality of life, and community betterment, such as those mentioned above. These are among the accomplishments of the public system that would be destroyed by pursuing these new legislative proposals.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor Gretchen Whitmer, State Senator Wayne Schmidt, State Representative John Roth, the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC), and the other 82 Michigan counties.