

2020

KNOW YOUR KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



300 Monroe Avenue, NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 632-7580

www.accessKent.com

Through responsible budgeting and thoughtful planning, Kent County government is committed to providing resources and services that promote a high quality of life for the entire community.

Check accessKent.com for Commissioner e-mail addresses

1	TED VONK.....874-2604 4122 Boulder Meadow Belmont, MI 49306
2	TOM ANTOR887-7210 9341 Laubach Sparta, MI 49345
3	ROGER MORGAN866-4264 10585 Tefft Rockford, MI 49341
4	DIANE JONES874-8740 6561 Laguna Vista Dr Rockford, MI 49341
5	MANDY BOLTER, Board Chair295-7909 2097 Steketee Woods Dr Grand Rapids, MI 49546
6	STAN STEK, Board Vice-Chair776-6324 1274 Whitepine SW Walker, MI 49534
7	STAN PONSTEIN726-2331 3967 Edgewood Grandville, MI 49418
8	HAROLD VOORHEES534-1876 5380 Kenowa Ave Wyoming, MI 49418
9	MATT KALLMAN.....915-5098 4099 108 th St SW Byron Center, MI 49315
10	EMILY P. BRIEVE502-5010 7438 Missoula Dr SE Caledonia, MI 49316
11	LINDSEY THIEL560-3870 510 Arrowhead Ave SE Grand Rapids, MI 49546
12	MONICA SPARKS 813-9397 4764 Wolf Run Ave SE Kentwood, MI 49548
13	BETSY MELTON.....656-4095 3560 52 nd St Kentwood, MI 49512
14	CAROL HENNESSY453-9167 1510 Kenan NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504
15	JIM TALEN, Board Minority Vice-Chair.....454-2243 30 College Ave SE #78 Grand Rapids, MI 49503
16	DAVID BULKOWSKI560-2293 322 Woodmere SE Grand Rapids, MI 49506
17	ROBERT WOMACK.....295-8953 909 Hancock SE Grand Rapids, MI 49507
18	STEPHEN WOODEN304-5555 865 Aberdeen St NE Grand Rapids, MI 49505
19	PHIL SKAGGS.....446-2280 2615 Hall St SE Grand Rapids, MI 49506

HOW THE BOARD IS ORGANIZED

The voting citizens of Kent County elect the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners elects a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Minority Vice-Chair for the Board. The Board of Commissioners has three Standing Committees: Finance and Physical Resources Committee, Legislative and Human Resources Committee, and the Executive Committee.

FINANCE AND PHYSICAL RESOURCES (FPR) COMMITTEE

- Reviews the County's operating and capital budgets
- Reviews the annual financial statement of the County
- Has supervision over the maintenance and operation of all buildings or portions belonging to or leased by the County
- Supervises and directs the work of the County Administrator while carrying out the County purchasing policies
- Meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

LEGISLATIVE AND HUMAN RESOURCES (LHR) COMMITTEE

- Determines the compensation of officials whose salaries are not fixed by law
- Examines matters of public safety and law enforcement
- Plans a formal legislative program
- Recommends revisions to the Standing Rules of the Board of Commissioners
- Reviews the performance measures of County Departments
- Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Advises the Board Chair regarding policy matters, processes, Board Chair appointments, and strategic direction
- Provides input to the Administrator/Controller regarding various procedures and processes
- Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

FINANCE AND PHYSICAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Diane Jones, Chair
Emily Brieve, Vice-Chair
Tom Antor
David Bulkowski
Roger Morgan
Monica Sparks
Harold Voorhees
Robert Womack
Stephen Wooden

LEGISLATIVE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Stan Stek, Chair
Jim Talen, Vice-Chair
Carol Hennessy
Matt Kallman
Betsy Melton
Stan Ponstein
Phil Skaggs
Lindsey Thiel
Ted Vonk

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mandy Bolter, Board Chair
Stan Stek, Board Vice-Chair & LHR Chair
Jim Talen, Board Minority Vice-Chair & LHR Vice-Chair
Diane Jones, FPR Chair
Emily Brieve, FPR Vice-Chair

FUNCTION OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/CONTROLLER

The County Administrator/Controller is the chief administrative officer of the County. This position is comparable to that of a city or county manager. The Administrator is appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. The Administrator's Office serves in the capacity of:

- County Administration
- All accounting, auditing, and budget preparation
- Administers the policies established by the Board of Commissioners
- Provides a central information source for persons wishing to communicate with the Board or seeking assistance from any branch of County Government
- Assists the Board in evaluating existing policies and programs and in formulating recommendations that are designed to improve the efficient operation of County Government
- Operates centralized Fiscal Services, Human Resources, and Information Technology Departments

BOARD PARTICIPATION

The public is encouraged to attend the meetings of the Board. An individual may speak on items on the agenda by standing and being recognized by the Chair of the Board of Commissioners under public comment. If individuals are unable to attend a Board meeting but wish to have their thoughts known on a certain subject, they may contact:

- The Commissioner of their District
- The Chair of the Board of Commissioners
- The Chair or a member of a Standing Committee
- The Board of Commissioners' Office on the third floor of the County Building
Phone: 632-7580; Fax: 632-7560; email: pam.vankeuren@kentcountymi.gov

You are a part of County Government and your Board of Commissioners hopes that you will show an interest in it by sharing your ideas, opinions, and comments, and by voting in all regular and special elections.

Regular meetings of the Board are open to the public and are held in the Board of Commissioners' Chambers (Room 310) on the third floor of the County Administration Building. They typically meet on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 8:30 a.m. Check accessKent.com for current meeting schedule.

The County of Kent complies with the Open Meetings Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Language and sign interpreter services are available for free for individuals attending a meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Finance and Physical Resources and/or Legislative and Human Resources Committee. If interpreter services are needed, please contact KentCountyAdministrator@kentcountymi.gov at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled meeting. While every effort will be made to accommodate the request, the ability to do so depends on several variables outside the control of the County Administration Office.

COMMISSIONER REPRESENTATION FOR GOVERNMENTAL UNITS*

TOWNSHIPS, VILLAGES	COMMISSIONER(S)
Ada Township.....	Commissioner Thiel
Algoma Township.....	Commissioner Antor
Alpine Township.....	Commissioner Antor
Bowne Township	Commissioner Bolter
Byron Township	Commissioner Kallman
Caledonia Township	Commissioner Bolter & Brieve
Caledonia Village	Commissioner Brieve
Cannon Township.....	Commissioner Jones
Cascade Township	Commissioner Bolter
Casnovia Village.....	Commissioner Morgan
Courtland Township	Commissioner Morgan
Gaines Township.....	Commissioner Brieve
Grand Rapids Township	Commissioner Thiel
Grattan Township.....	Commissioner Jones
Kent City Village	Commissioner Morgan
Lowell Township	Commissioner Bolter
Nelson Township.....	Commissioner Morgan
Oakfield Township.....	Commissioner Jones
Plainfield Township	Commissioner Vonk & Wooden
Sand Lake Village	Commissioner Morgan
Solon Township	Commissioner Morgan
Sparta Township.....	Commissioner Antor
Sparta Village.....	Commissioner Antor
Spencer Township.....	Commissioner Morgan
Tyrone Township.....	Commissioner Morgan
Vergennes Township.....	Commissioner Jones

CITIES	COMMISSIONER(S)
Cedar Springs	Commissioner Morgan
East Grand Rapids ...	Commissioners Skaggs & Thiel
Grand Rapids	Commissioners Bulkowski, Hennessy, Skaggs, Stek, Talen, Womack & Wooden.
Grandville.....	Commissioner Ponstein
Kentwood.....	Commissioners Melton & Sparks
Lowell.....	Commissioner Jones
Rockford	Commissioner Vonk
Walker	Commissioner Stek
Wyoming	Commissioners Kallman, Ponstein, Sparks & Voorhees

*Please call either the County Clerk’s Office (632-7640) or the Board of Commissioners’ Office (632-7580) for specific information when more than one Commissioner represents a Governmental Unit.

See Commissioner District Maps on the following page

KENT COUNTY AT A GLANCE

KENT COUNTY AT A GLANCE - 2020

Population (2018 Estimate) 653,786 Square Miles 864
 Cities – 9, Villages – 5, Townships – 21

2020 Budget

General Fund	\$187,882,616
Total	\$475,389,333

State Equalized Value - SEV (2019)	\$29,502,080,572
State Taxable Value - STV (2019)	\$24,219,497,487
STV as % of SEV	82.09%
Millage Rate (2019) – Total	6.2584
Operating	4.2571
Debt Service/Operating –	
Correctional Facilities (exp. 12/29)	0.7777
Senior Services (exp. 12/21)	0.4926
Veteran's Services (exp. 12/21)	0.0491
Early Childhood Services (exp. 12/24)	0.2484
Public Museum/John Ball Zoo (exp. 12/25)	0.4335

Credit Ratings

Moody's Investors Service	Aaa
Standard & Poor's	AAA

Debt Statistics as of 12/31/2018

Legal Debt Limit	\$2,713,196,362 (10% of SEV)
Outstanding Debt Subject to Debt Limit	\$ 341,085,551
Debt Outstanding as % of SEV	1.26%

Budgeted FTE positions (2020)*	1,788.72
County Commissioners	19
Countywide Elected Officers	5
Circuit Court Judges	14
Probate Court Judges	1
63 rd District Court Judges	2
County Departments, Offices, Agencies	25

County Park Properties 42 sites (7,354.5 acres);
 40 miles of paved, multi-jurisdictional trails

Health Department Clinics 4
 (Fuller, North County, South, and Sheldon)

Sheriff Substations 2
 (North/South)

* Adopted, including vacant positions, elected officials, judges, and Board of Commissioners

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Kent County Board of Commissioners' Office
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