

2021

# KNOW YOUR KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



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

***[www.accessKent.com](http://www.accessKent.com)***

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*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

<b>1</b>	BEN GREENE .....970-3033 1935 4 Mile Rd NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525
<b>2</b>	TOM ANTOR .....887-7210 9341 Laubach Sparta, MI 49345
<b>3</b>	ROGER MORGAN .....866-4264 10585 Tefft Rockford, MI 49341
<b>4</b>	DIANE JONES .....874-8740 6561 Laguna Vista Dr Rockford, MI 49341
<b>5</b>	MANDY BOLTER, Board Chair .....295-7909 2097 Steketee Woods Dr Grand Rapids, MI 49546
<b>6</b>	STAN STEK, Board Vice-Chair .....776-6324 1274 Whitepine SW Walker, MI 49534
<b>7</b>	STAN PONSTEIN .....726-2331 3967 Edgewood Grandville, MI 49418
<b>8</b>	DAN BURRILL .....292-3876 2879 Barcroft Dr SW Wyoming, MI 49418
<b>9</b>	MATT KALLMAN .....915-5098 4099 108 <sup>th</sup> St SW Byron Center, MI 49315
<b>10</b>	EMILY P. BRIEVE .....502-5010 7438 Missoula Dr SE Caledonia, MI 49316
<b>11</b>	LINDSEY THIEL .....560-3870 510 Arrowhead Ave SE Grand Rapids, MI 49546
<b>12</b>	MONICA SPARKS ..... 813-9397 4764 Wolf Run Ave SE Kentwood, MI 49548
<b>13</b>	MICHELLE MCCLLOUD.....517-927-0229 4699 Raintree Dr SE Kentwood, MI 49512
<b>14</b>	CAROL HENNESSY .....453-9167 1510 Kenan NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504
<b>15</b>	MELISSA LAGRAND .....540-2448 255 College Ave SE Grand Rapids, MI 49503
<b>16</b>	DAVID BULKOWSKI .....560-2293 322 Woodmere SE Grand Rapids, MI 49506
<b>17</b>	ROBERT WOMACK.....295-8953 909 Hancock SE Grand Rapids, MI 49507
<b>18</b>	STEPHEN WOODEN .....304-5555 865 Aberdeen St NE Grand Rapids, MI 49505
<b>19</b>	PHIL SKAGGS, Board Minority Vice-Chair .....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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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  
Ben Greene  
Roger Morgan  
Monica Sparks  
Robert Womack  
Stephen Wooden

#### LEGISLATIVE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Stan Stek, Chair  
Phil Skaggs, Vice-Chair  
Dan Burrill  
Carol Hennessy  
Matt Kallman  
Melissa LaGrand  
Michelle McCloud  
Stan Ponstein  
Lindsey Thiel

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mandy Bolter, Board Chair  
Stan Stek, Board Vice-Chair & LHR Chair  
Phil Skaggs, 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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 Greene & 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

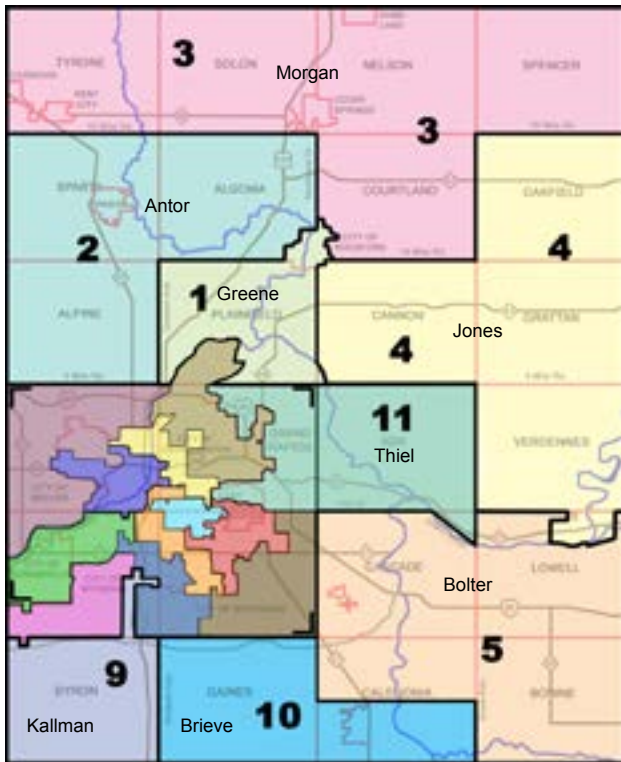
  

CITIES	COMMISSIONER(S)
Cedar Springs.....	Commissioner Morgan
East Grand Rapids...	Commissioners Skaggs & Thiel
Grand Rapids.....	Commissioners Bulkowski, Hennessy, LaGrand, Skaggs, Stek, Womack & Wooden.
Grandville.....	Commissioner Ponstein
Kentwood.....	Commissioners McCloud & Sparks
Lowell.....	Commissioner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

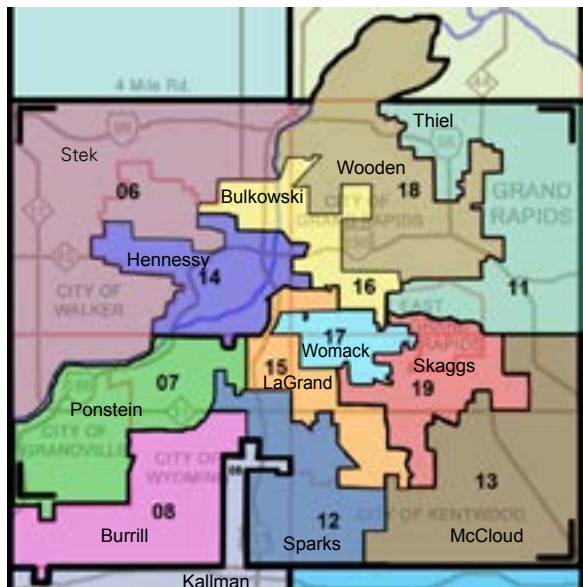
\*Please call either the County Clerk’s Office (632-7640) or the Board of Commissioners’ Office (632-7580) for specific information when more than one Commissioner represents a Governmental Unit.

**See Commissioner District Maps on the following page**

## COMMISSIONER'S DISTRICTS



See detailed map below of the Grand Rapids area.



## KENT COUNTY AT A GLANCE

### KENT COUNTY AT A GLANCE - 2021

Population (2019 Estimate) 656,955 Square Miles 864  
Cities – 9, Villages – 5, Townships – 21

#### 2021 Budget

General Fund	\$192,251,617
Total	\$496,065,471

State Equalized Value - SEV (2020)	\$31,909,061,889
State Taxable Value - STV (2020)	\$25,416,817,753
STV as % of SEV	79.65%
Millage Rate (2020) – Total	6.2100
Operating	4.2243
Debt Service/Operating –	
Correctional Facilities (exp. 12/29)	0.7717
Senior Services (exp. 12/21)	0.4888
Veteran's Services (exp. 12/21)	0.0487
Early Childhood Services (exp. 12/24)	0.2464
Public Museum/John Ball Zoo (exp. 12/25)	0.4301

#### Credit Ratings

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

#### Debt Statistics as of 12/31/2019

Legal Debt Limit	\$2,950,208,057 (10% of SEV)
Outstanding Debt Subject to Debt Limit	\$ 314,606,601
Debt Outstanding as % of SEV	1.07%

Budgeted FTE positions (2021)*	1,807.10
County Commissioners	19
Countywide Elected Officers	5
Circuit Court Judges	14
Probate Court Judges	1
63 <sup>rd</sup> District Court Judges	2
County Departments, Offices, Agencies	25

County Park Properties 42 sites (7,358.8 acres);  
42 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**  
**Pam VanKeuren - (616) 632-7580**  
**[pam.vankeuren@kentcountymi.gov](mailto:pam.vankeuren@kentcountymi.gov)**  
**[www.accessKent.com](http://www.accessKent.com)**