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Kent County Board of Commissioners Seek Applicants to Fill Upcoming County Commission Vacancy

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (Feb. 19, 2020) – The Kent County Board of Commissioners is announcing the process to fill an unexpired term of District 11, which represents residents living in Grand Rapids Township, Ada Township and the City of East Grand Rapids. The vacancy was created by the resignation of Commissioner Jim Saalfeld, effective March 15, 2020. His term is set to expire December 31, 2020.

State law requires the Board of Commissioners fill the vacancy within 30 days. The Standing Rules of the Board (5.2.D) state the Executive Committee will “review applications, interview candidates, and make recommendations to the full Board to fill Commissioner vacancies.” To adhere to these requirements, the County Commission will appoint a replacement according to the following timeline:

- **Feb. 19:** Qualified applicants are encouraged to apply for the position via the County’s website at <https://www.accesskent.com/BOCAApplication>. Applicants for this seat must have a principal residence within District 11, which includes Grand Rapids Township, Ada Township and the City of East Grand Rapids and must be a registered voter.
- **March 5:** Applications must be received by the close of business.
- **March 12:** The Executive Committee will evaluate all potential candidates and select a list of candidates to interview.
- **March 17:** The Executive Committee will interview the selected candidates, deliberate and recommend a candidate to the full Board.
- **March 26.** The Board of Commissioners will vote on the Executive Committee’s recommendation to fill the vacancy. Should the recommendation fail to carry, the Executive Committee and Board will have until April 13 to repeat the evaluation, recommendation and selection process.

All Executive Committee and Board of Commissioner meetings will be publicly noticed and open to the public.

Applicants with questions may contact the Board Office at (616) 632-7580. To learn more about the Kent County Board of Commissioners, visit <https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/BOC/>.

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