

REPORT (MISC. #20257)

July 23, 2020

BY: Commissioner David T. Woodward, Chairperson, Pandemic Response and Economic Recovery Committee

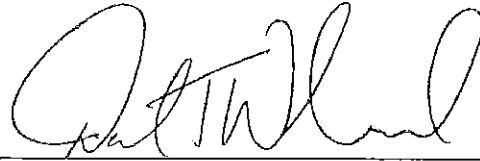
IN RE: MR #20257 – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – CREATION OF THE OAKLAND TOGETHER ABSENTEE BALLOT PROGRAM FOR ALL OAKLAND COUNTY VOTERS

To the Oakland County Board of Commissioners

Chairperson, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Pandemic Response and Economic Recovery Committee, having reviewed the above-referenced resolution on July 20, 2020, reports with the recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

Chairperson, on behalf of the Pandemic Response and Economic Recovery Committee, I move the acceptance of the foregoing report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David T. Woodward", is written over a horizontal line.

Commissioner David T. Woodward, District #19
Chairperson, Pandemic Response and
Economic Recovery Committee

PANDEMIC RESPONSE AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY COMMITTEE VOTE:

Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTION #20257

BY: Commissioners Nancy Quarles, District #17; Penny Luebs, District #16; Gwen Markham, District #9; Marcia Gershenson, District #13; Gary McGillivray, District #20

IN RE: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – CREATION OF THE OAKLAND TOGETHER ABSENTEE BALLOT PROGRAM FOR ALL OAKLAND COUNTY VOTERS

To the Oakland County Board of Commissioners

Chairperson, Ladies and Gentlemen:

WHEREAS elections are the foundation of our democracy; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 global pandemic is presenting unprecedented and unique challenges for holding safe and healthy elections in 2020; and

WHEREAS in the midst of this pandemic, voters should not need to choose between their health and casting their ballots; and

WHEREAS the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's safety guidelines endorses vote by mail during the pandemic and recommends that voters consider alternatives to casting their ballots in person during upcoming elections; and

WHEREAS because of the global pandemic, Oakland County is urging all County voters to vote by mail to reduce exposure to COVID-19 per Miscellaneous Resolution # 20172; and

WHEREAS the Oakland County Board of Commissioners formed the Oakland County Safe, Healthy and Secure Election Advisory Council to identify challenges and barriers for having safe, healthy and secure elections in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS the Advisory Council has recommended that the Board of Commissioners authorizes funding for return postage for all Oakland County absentee ballots for the November 2020 election and the creation of the Oakland Together Absentee Ballot program; and

WHEREAS the cost to cover this initiative is estimated not to exceed \$575,000; and

WHEREAS there is available funding in the Oakland Together Local Government Partnership program to cover these expenses; and

WHEREAS payment would be made in the form of direct payment to the vendor who prints county absentee ballots or reimbursement to local clerks' offices; and

WHEREAS paying the return postage for absentee ballots is an eligible expense as authorized by the County's CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Oakland County Board of Commissioners seeks to remove all barriers for safe participation in the upcoming November election during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners hereby amends the policies and procedures for the Oakland Together Local Government Partnership program to authorize its Oversight Committee to administer the Oakland Together Absentee Ballot program for all County voters who cast an absentee ballot in the November General Election.

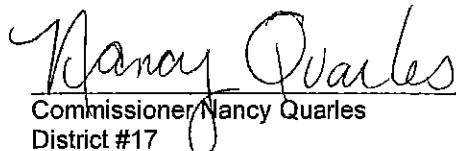
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Oakland Together Absentee Ballot program shall not exceed \$575,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no budget amendment is required as funding is to come from the Oakland Together Local Government Partnership program authorized by Miscellaneous Resolution #20187.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chairman to sign any contracts and agreements to implement this program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all of Oakland County local election clerks and the Michigan Association of Counties.

Chairperson, I move the adoption of the foregoing resolution.


Commissioner Nancy Quarles
District #17

Penny Luebs
Commissioner Penny Luebs
District #16

Marcia Gershenson
Commissioner Marcia Gershenson
District #13

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Gwen Markham
Commissioner Gwen Markham
District #9

Gary R. McGillivray
Commissioner Gary McGillivray
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Resolution #20257

July 15, 2020

The Chairperson referred the resolution to the Pandemic Response and Economic Recovery Committee.
There were no objections.

Resolution #20257

July 23, 2020

Moved by Gingell seconded by Zack the resolutions on the Consent Agenda be adopted (with accompanying reports being accepted).

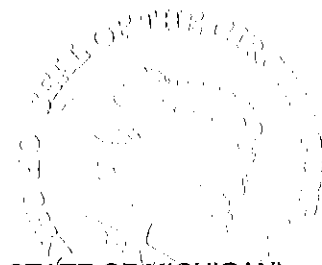
Discussion followed.

AYES: Gingell, Hoffman, Jackson, Kochenderfer, Kowall, Kuhn, Long, Luebs, Markham, McGillivray, Middleton, Miller, Nelson, Powell, Quarles, Spisz, Taub, Weipert, Woodward, Zack, Gershenson. (21)
NAYS: None. (0)

A sufficient majority having voted in favor, the resolutions on the Consent Agenda were adopted (with accompanying reports being accepted).



I HEREBY APPROVE THIS RESOLUTION
CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE
ACTING PURSUANT TO MCL 45.559A (7).



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

I, Lisa Brown, Clerk of the County of Oakland, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners on July 23, 2020, with the original record thereof now remaining in my office.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Circuit Court at Pontiac, Michigan this 23rd day of July, 2020.


Lisa Brown, Oakland County