



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 1, 2024

WORKING SESSION

I. ROLL CALL

A Working Session of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners was held at the Administration Building, in the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on May 1, 2024.

The meeting was called to order at 05:35 PM by Comm. Somerville, Chair of the Working Session.

Members Present:	Comms. Shannon Beeman, Justin Hodge, Crystal Lyte, Jason Maciejewski, Yousef Rabhi, Caroline Sanders, Katie Scott, Annie Somerville
Members Absent:	Comm. Andy LaBarre
Others Present	Greg Dill, County Administrator; Andrew DeLeeuw, Deputy County Administrator; Michelle Billard & Michael Auten, Corporation Counsel; Crystal Campbell, Public Information Officer; Catherine Jones-Alther, Finance; Brady Peck, Director of Operations; Jason Fee, Facilities Management; Guillermo Hernandez, Director of Human Resources; Jeff Rose, ITS; Ashley Hall, BOC Communications and Operations Manager; Bryce Allmacher, Clerk's Office; and members of the public.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

III. REPORT FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

IV. REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LIAISON

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Jocelyn Benson, Michigan Secretary of State, gave an update on SOS's efforts to secure and efficiently administer elections in the 2024 cycle. Benson additionally reported on the Secretary of State's various customer service programs which have grown more efficient and reached larger numbers of Michigan residents. Benson stated that SOS's mobile office will be visiting the Chelsea Retirement Community on May 9 and the Washtenaw Expungement Fair at the WCC Morris Lawrence Building on May 17.

Benson stated that [Michigan.gov/vote](https://www.michigan.gov/vote) is the best source of information for voters across the state and summarized the myriad changes to Michigan elections including early voting, expanded vote by mail opportunities, and the legalization of voter transportation. Benson provided an overview of various programs designed to combat election misinformation at the local level.

Comm. Rabhi expressed his appreciation for the Secretary of State's work to secure voting rights in Michigan.

Comm. Scott expressed interest in helping facilitate a mock election at local high schools. Comm. Scott asked about getting ballots to individuals staying in the hospital.

Benson said that the primary recommendation would be to involve local clerks to deliver ballots to those individuals.

Comm. Hodge asked about the State's improvement in terms of providing access to the ballot.

Benson said that Michigan has gone from the 31st to 2nd healthiest democracy in the Country during her term of office.

Comm. Beeman expressed appreciation for the Secretary's efforts to combat misinformation surrounding elections.

- B. Kristen Schweighoefer, Environmental Health Director, gave a presentation on the Health Department's Pollution Prevention Program. Schweighoefer stated that the program recently reduced administrative burdens involved with participating in the program as a partner agency. Schweighoefer listed the types of facilities that are exempt from program regulations and summarized the reporting and inspection process. Schweighoefer reiterated that the Pollution Prevention Program is entirely fee-driven and does not currently command any Country general fund dollars.

Comm. Rabhi asked about the proposal to reduce the number of regulated businesses.

Schweighoefer stated that program is exempting facilities that have regularly reported 5-55 gallons of regulated material. Schweighoefer said that the Health Department did not see very much value in maintaining reporting requirements for those facilities.

Comm. Rabhi asked about the proposal to amend the fee schedule.

Schweighoefer stated that smaller facilities are currently paying less in fees than what it costs to administer the program, thus the proposed increase for those facilities.

Comm. Hodge asked about Comm. Rabhi's thoughts on the fee schedule.

Comm. Rabhi stated that he believes an increase in fees for the smaller facilities only is inequitable.

VI. ITEMS FOR CURRENT/FUTURE DISCUSSION

VII. ADJOURN TO NEXT SESSION

Comm. Beeman, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved to adjourn. Voice vote - motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 06:30 PM.

Annie Somerville, Chair of the Working Session
Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register

By: Bryce Allmacher, Deputy Clerk

Board Approved: May 15, 2024