

**NOTICE OF SEMI-MONTHLY COUNTY BOARD MEETING
And AUDIT/FINANCE MEETING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners will meet on **Thursday, March 9, 2023**, in the District Courtroom of the Schoolcraft County Building, Manistique, Michigan, commencing at **5 P.M.** The following is the proposed Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of Minutes: February 23, 2023, Board and Audit-Finance Meeting
5. Approval of agenda
6. Public Hearings:
7. Brief Public Comment:
8. Old and unfinished business:
9. New Business:
 - MIFSM - Deputy Medical Examiner Appointment
 - Letter of Support to Expand Highline Internet through a ROBIN Grant
 - EDC Board Appointments
 - Audit-Finance Report & Action Items
10. Committee and department reports
11. Announcements and notices
12. Public Comment
13. Commissioner's Comments
14. Communications
15. Audit Claims and Vouchers
16. Adjournment

And, to take up and consider any other matter which may lawfully come before the Board at this time.

Paul Walker ,

Paul Walker, Chairperson
Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners

Daniel P. Hoholik ,

Daniel P. Hoholik, Chairperson Audit-Finance
Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners

Public may view this meeting via zoom (listening purposes only) no public comment or interaction via zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5117745749>

Meeting ID: 511 774 5749

Passcode: 987456

**SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING and AUDIT/FINANCE MEETING**

The Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioner's Board Meeting / Audit Finance Meeting met on Thursday, February 23, 2023, in the District Courtroom of the Schoolcraft County Building, City of Manistique, Michigan. Chairman Paul Walker called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The roll was called with the following members present and/or absent:

Present: Commissioner Craig Reiter
 Commissioner Bruce Birr
 Commissioner Paul Walker
 Commissioner Daniel P. Hoholik
 Schoolcraft County Clerk Beth A. Edwards

Absent: Commissioner Troy Bassett (excused)

Chairman Paul Walker led the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners and the members of the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

It was moved by Commissioner Bruce Birr and was seconded by Commissioner Craig Reiter to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2023, Board and Audit-Finance Meeting, February 15, 2023, and February 16, 2023, Annual Report Meeting, and February 16, 2023, Meeting of the Whole of the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners, inclusive. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present. [Copies of minutes are available at the Office of the Schoolcraft County Clerk.]

It was moved by Commissioner Craig Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2023, Special Meeting of the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present. [Copies of minutes are available at the Office of the Schoolcraft County Clerk.]

Chairman Paul Walker asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the printed agenda. Commissioner Paul Walker asked to remove Personnel Committee Report and Action Items and add LMAS Office Space. **It was moved** by Commissioner Bruce Birr and was seconded by Commissioner Daniel P. Hoholik to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Public Hearings: None

Brief Public Comment: None

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

It was moved by Commissioner Craig Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to approve 23-1 Resolution of the Adoption of the 2023 Schoolcraft County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Daniel P. Hoholik and was seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to appoint Barbara Reiter to the Schoolcraft County Building Authority for a full term. Roll call vote: Daniel P. Hoholik, yes; Bruce Birr, yes; Craig Reiter, abstain; Paul Walker, yes. The motion carried by a majority aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Bruce Birr and seconded by Commissioner Paul Walker to authorize Jane Couwlier-Bridges, County Treasurer, invest the ARPA funds committed but unspent in MI Class Investment or whatever gains the most interest. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Commissioner Craig Reiter addressed LMAS needs more office space. There was discussion with regard to the Emergency Manager and Mental Health Treatment Court Office space would be ideal and move them elsewhere in the building. This will be put on the next Building and Grounds Agenda for discussion.

Under Committee and Department Reports, the following matters were heard:

Commissioner Craig Reiter : attended Hiawatha Behavioral Health Planning Meeting, Annual Reports, Seney Township, Commission on Aging, Doyle Township, Personnel Committee, Hiawatha Behavioral Health Finance, Community Action, and Personnel Committee meetings.

Commissioner Bruce Birr: attended none as he was just appointed as Commissioner.

Commissioner Paul Walker: attended City Council (City Community Garden was discussed), Meeting of the Whole, and Audit/Finance Committee.

It was moved by Commissioner Craig Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to authorize Paul Walker, Chairman, to draft and sign a letter of support for the City Community Garden Grant. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Commissioner Daniel P. Hoholik: attended Audit/Finance and Courthouse Security/MMRMA Grants were discussed.

Sheriff Charles Willour advised that he had received the drawings for the extra Security Door at the back entrance of the jail.

Steve Videtich addressed the snow and trying to keep up.

Announcements and Notices: None

Public Comment: Bruce Birr, Conservation District, the annual tree sale went live on their website February 22, 2023.

Commissioner's Comment: Paul Walker stated that Little Jiggers is this weekend and VFW Vet Wall Fund Raiser Saturday with auction, taco bar, and live music.

Craig Reiter addressed MIDC Grant Attorney Contract Ad and Jodi Tiglas from 11th Circuit Court stated that they have received application for the Court Recorder position.

Communications: None.

At 5:24 p.m., meeting was turned over to Daniel P. Hoholik, Audit-Finance Chairman.

It was moved by Commissioner Craig Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Paul Walker to approve the claims and vouchers numbered **4001 through 4070**, inclusive. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Paul Walker and was seconded by Commissioner Craig Reiter to approve the budget adjustments numbered **23-51 through 23-65**, inclusive. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

At 5:25 p.m., the meeting was turned back over to Chairman Paul Walker. Chairman Paul Walker asked if there was any further business to come before the Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Bruce Birr and was seconded by Commissioner Craig Reiter to adjourn. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Chairman Paul Walker adjourned the Board and Audit Finance Meeting at 5:26 P.M.

Beth A. Edwards, County Clerk

Approved: _____

DRAFT

[Date]

Subject: Letter of Support for Highline’s Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern,

We are writing in strong support of the proposed grant application for Highline to serve [name] County. Highline is currently serving parts of our county, and we believe that expansion of Highline’s fast, reliable gigabit fiber internet is critical to [county name]. Grant assistance will enable Highline to reach significantly more residences and businesses in our communities. The following facts were taken into consideration in our support of Highline.

- **Technology** – Highline is building a **fiber-to-the-home** (FTTH) network. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) recently stated in its Notice of Funding Opportunity that fiber will receive priority for funding.¹ Unlike other technologies, fiber customers do not share bandwidth.
- **Speed** – Highline provides FTTH **1 Gbps x 1 Gbps service** (1 Gbps = 1,000 Mbps) - the fastest residential internet found in the country, rural or urban. Highline’s service is **symmetrical**, meaning that both upload and download speeds are the same fast speed.
- **Sustainability** – A fiber network is **future-proof**, sustainable, easier and **more cost-effective** to update, and less costly to maintain.
- **Affordability** – Highline’s **gigabit internet plus Wi-Fi 6 service is only \$99** per month, with no contracts, extra fees, or taxes. This is a competitive rate anywhere in the country. Additionally, Highline participates in the FCC’s **Affordability Connectivity Program (ACP)**, which helps qualified households pay for internet service. ACP discounts the service price by \$30/month for eligible customers and \$75/month for eligible tribal customers (bringing the monthly Highline service cost down to **\$69 and \$24, respectively**).
- **Experience** – Highline, its parent company, and its partners have decades of experience connecting people to the best internet technology available.
- **Commitment** – Highline is not serving the area just to take advantage of grant funding. Highline has already made private investments in the area, having launched their UP fiber network before receiving any funding. Highline wants to serve the entire region but requires grants to do so.
- **Community Support** – In addition to providing connectivity to our communities, Highline has demonstrated superior financial and in-kind support to area communities, including their Teacher of the Month program, sponsorship of school and non-profit events, college scholarship awards to community teens, and annual support of the UP State Fair. Additionally, Highline is prepared to help qualified consumers take advantage of the ACP program through Digital Literacy programs.

Grant Support Will Extend Highline’s Reach

In its current fiber deployment, Highline is slated to serve more than 40,000 households in the UP – all homes that lack access to 25 Mbps x 3 Mbps internet (the lowest standard considered “broadband”). Unfortunately, many other unserved homes still won’t have 25 Mbps x 3 Mbps internet under Highline’s current RDOF-funded plan. If Highline received additional grant funds, however, these households would be served with Highline’s 1 Gbps x 1 Gbps fiber internet service.

<insert information or data about your county if you wish>

Our county deserves digital equity with the rest of Michigan and the country, which will help provide economic development, online work, education, telehealth, and more. **We ask that you approve Highline’s grant application.** We never again want to be unserved as we were during the recent pandemic. Please feel free to contact us for any additional information. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

[Country Administrator, Supervisor, County Commission, Clerk]

¹ View NTIA’s Notice of Funding Opportunity here: <https://bit.ly/NTIANOFABEADS>



4707 McLeod Drive E.,
Saginaw, MI 48604
Phone: (989) 341-5077
Email: miforensics@mifsm.org
mifsm.com

09 February 2023

Dear Beth Edwards:

Please appoint Donald Higgs, MD, PHD, as our Chief Deputy Medical Examiner. He has our recommendation for appointment and satisfies all statutory requirements to serve as a Michigan Medical Examiner.

Medical Examiner statutory authority comes from the Michigan Public Health Code, Act 181 of 1953, MCL 52.201a-MCL 52.216. The responsibility for appointment of the Chief and any Deputy Medical Examiners lies with the County Board of Commissioners with subsequent approval by our Chief Medical Examiner (Dr. Roshan Mahabir, M.D.)

Attached is Dr. Higgs' CV for your reference. He has begun his tenure with the Michigan Institute of Forensic Science & Medicine (MIFSM) and will be a major participant in our future growth and development. He is, as well, another major step in creating the development of several additional programs at MIFSM.

Please add this item to your next Board Agenda for consideration and vote. Please notify me if and when the approval occurs, and, as always, we will continue to move forward in providing exceptional Medical Examiner Services.

Thank you for your attention.

RECEIVED FEB 21 2023

Brian P. Hart
Chief Executive Officer
4707 East McLeod Drive
Saginaw, Michigan 48604
O 989-341-5077
F 989-341-5074
Email brian@mifsm.org



4707 McLeod Drive E.,
Saginaw, MI 48604
Phone: (989) 341-5077
Email: miforensics@mifsm.org
mifsm.com

09 February 2023

Dear Beth Edwards,

It is a pleasure to be reaching out to you. I'm the Chief Executive Officer at the Michigan Institute of Forensic Science & Medicine (MIFSM), and I'm sending you this email to introduce our new Forensic Pathologist, Donald E. Higgs, MD, PhD. I'm pleased to say Dr. Higgs recently joined MIFSM from Allegany, New York, and we're excited to have such a tremendous asset on our team.

Dr. Higgs will work alongside our current Chief Medical Examiner (and fellow Forensic Pathologist), Dr. Roshan Mahabir, MD, PHD, MPH, FCAP, FASCP. Dr. Higgs has over 16 years of experience in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology, and over 14 years of experience in Forensic Pathology. Dr. Higgs is certified by the American Board of Pathology in Forensic, Clinical, and Anatomic Pathology. Among other duties, Dr. Higgs has most recently worked as Forensic Pathologist (and Laboratory Director) of the Cattaraugus County (NY) Coroner's Office. I'm confident Dr. Higgs will bring value to your county and help your county administrator and commissioners get the most out of our service offerings.

So, please welcome Dr. Donald Higgs! We will reach out to you soon for an introductory meeting and opportunity for approval as Deputy Medical Examiner by your Board of Commissioners.

As always, please feel free to reach out to us for any questions or concerns.

Most Sincerely,

Brian P. Hart
Chief Executive Officer



4707 McLeod Drive E.,
Saginaw, MI 48604
Phone: (989) 341-5077
Email: miforensics@mifsm.org
mifsm.com

Donald E. Higgs, MD, PhD

3456 Five Mile Road
Allegany, NY 14706
donald.higgs@yahoo.com

FUTURE APPOINTMENT:

2/1/2023 Forensic Pathologist
Michigan Institute of Forensic Science & Medicine

CURRENT APPOINTMENT:

7/2016-Present Pathologist
Olean General Hospital
9/2018-Present Laboratory Director
Cattaraugus County Health Department
7/2016-Present Forensic Pathologist
Cattaraugus County Coroner's Office
8/2021-Present Laboratory Director
Bradford Regional Medical Center

OFFICE ADDRESS:

Olean General Hospital
515 Main Street
Olean, NY 14760

TELEPHONE:

Office: (716) 375-6240
Cellular: (716) 866-6704
Home: (716) 373-1112

PREVIOUS APPOINTMENT

7/2009-6/2016 Pathologist
Erie County Medical Center
462 Grider Street
Buffalo, NY 14215

MARITAL STATUS:

Married, Three children

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING:

7/2008-6/2009 Fellowship in Forensic Pathology
Montgomery County Coroner's Office
361 West Third Street
Dayton, OH 45402

7/2007-6/2008 Fellowship in Oncologic Surgical Pathology
Roswell Park Cancer Institute
Elm and Carlton Streets
Buffalo, NY 14263

7/2006-6/2007 Chief Resident in Pathology
Kaleida Health
Department of Pathology
Buffalo, NY 14263

1/2003 – 12/2006 Residency in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology
Kaleida Health
Department of Pathology
Buffalo, NY 14263

EDUCATION:

5/1993 – 6/2003 MD-PhD, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY
8/1988 – 5/1993 BS Chemistry, SUNY Fredonia, Fredonia, NY
Summa Cum Laude
8/1982 – 5/1984 AAS Mortuary Science, SUNY Canton, Canton, NY

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES: New York State Medical License
New York State Funeral Director's License
Pennsylvania Medical License
Michigan Medical License

CERTIFICATION:

Specialty: American Board of Pathology
Anatomic and Clinical Pathology
Forensic Pathology

HONORS AND AWARDS:

2003 Pathology Award, University at Buffalo
1993 Phi Lambda Upsilon, Nomination to Membership
1990 Organic Chemistry Award, SUNY Fredonia
1990 Dingley Scholar Award, SUNY Fredonia
1983 St. Lawrence County Funeral Director's Association
Scholarship

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Organic Chemistry Laboratory Teaching Assistant, SUNY Fredonia 1992
Dental Student Pathology Laboratory, University at Buffalo, 2004-2005
Medical Student Pathology Laboratory, University at Buffalo, 2006-2007
Medical Student Pathology Laboratory Alternate, University at Buffalo, 2009-
2016

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

College of American Pathologists
United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology

American Society for Clinical Pathology
American Chemical Society
American Association of Blood Banks

PUBLICATIONS:

1. Swift, BL; Jelski, DA; **Higgs, DE**; Rantala, TT; George, TF *PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS*, 66 (20): 2686-2686 MAY 20 1991
2. **Higgs, DE**; Nelen, MI; Detty, MR *ORGANIC LETTERS*, 3 (3): 349-352 FEB 8 2001
3. Ahsan, K; Drake, MD; **Higgs, DE**; Wojciechowski, AL; Tse, BN; Bateman, MA; You, YJ; Detty, MR *ORGANOMETALLICS*, 22 (14): 2883-2890 JUL 7 2003
4. Mhaweche-Fauceglia, P; Smiraglia, DJ; Bshara, W; Andrews, C; Schwaller, J; South, S; **Higgs, D**; Lele, S; Herrmann, F; Odunsi, K. *CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY BIOMARKERS & PREVENTION*, 17 (3): 571-7 MAR 2008.
5. Sane, M; Selvadurai, A; Reidy, J; **Higgs, D**; Gonzalez-Fernandez, F; Lincoff, N. *EYE (Lond.)*, 11, 1387-90, NOV 28 2014.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS:

D Higgs, D Smiraglia, K Odunsi, F Herrmann, P Mhaweche-Fauceglia. Epigenetic Mechanism is Responsible for Downregulation of Prostate-Specific Membrane Antigen (PSMA) in a Subset of Endometrial Carcinomas. *United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology Annual Meeting, March 2008.*

DE Higgs, PN Bogner, DG Hicks, P Starostik, GE Wilding, TL Mashtare and M Merzianu. Oligo- and polyclonal B cell response to lung carcinoma is common. *United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology Annual Meeting, March 2007.*

D.E. Higgs, W.J. Lennox, D.M. Nuskowski, S.M. Sack, P.L. Kumler. Thermogravimetric Analysis of Polymer Blends. *24th ACS Northeast Regional Meeting, June 1994.*

HOBBIES:

Family activities, personal fitness regimen, trumpet playing

MEETING PRESENTATIONS:

July 15, 2008: Southwest Ohio Forensic Associates and Researchers Meeting
"Occupational Exposure or Inheritance Powder?"

August 26, 2008: Southwest Ohio Forensic Associates and Researchers Meeting
"The Sweet Killer"

October 7, 2008: Southwest Ohio Forensic Associates and Researchers Meeting
"Vampires: Myth or Medical Mystery?"

November 18, 2008: Southwest Ohio Forensic Associates and Researchers Meeting
"Patterns of Injury and Trace Analysis"



4707 McLeod Drive E.,
Saginaw, MI 48604
Phone: (989) 341-5077
Email: miforensics@mifsm.org
mifsm.com

OTHER PRESENTATIONS

Monthly Tumor Board: Olean General Hospital

REFERENCES:

Furnished upon request

The American Board of Pathology

Herewith affirms that

Donald E. Higgs

Has pursued an accepted course of graduate study and clinical work and has demonstrated proficiency to the satisfaction of the Board of Trustees.

Therefore, on this thirteenth day of November, 2012,

The American Board of Pathology

grants this certificate and declares the above physician

to be a Diplomate and certified in

Pathology - Anatomic

Pathology - Clinical



12-614

Diane A. Davey
President

[Signature]
Vice President

Sharon Weiss
Secretary

Margaret M. Skirica
Treasurer

John Collins
[Signature]

[Signature]
[Signature]

Rebecca L. Johnson
[Signature]

Karen Kaul
[Signature]

Certificate Valid Through 12/31/2022

The American Board of Pathology

Herewith affirms that

Donald Edward Higgs

Has pursued an accepted course of graduate study and clinical work and has demonstrated proficiency to the satisfaction of the Board of Trustees.


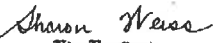
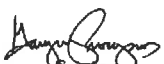
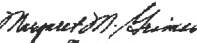

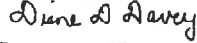
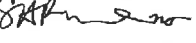

Therefore, on this fourth day of September, 2013,

The American Board of Pathology
grants this certificate and declares the above physician to be a Diplomate and certified in

Pathology - Forensic



S-13-228

 President	 Sharon Weiss Vice President	 Secretary	 Margaret M. Grimes Treasurer
 Karen Kavel	 Diane D. Davy	 James R. Stubbins	 Millip

Certificate Valid Through 12/31/2023

BONNIE GARVIN

98N Lake Drive – Phone 906-341-5757

Email – garvinbonnie@gmail.com

Date 2/7/2023

Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners:

I am submitting this letter of interest for the Economic Development Board seat. I am currently a Board member and feel I would like to remain in this position. I work closely with the less fortunate in our community and feel I offer the board an insight to some of their needs in our community.

Your consideration in re-appointing me will be appreciated.

Bonnie Garvin

Sincerely

Feb 27, 2024

Paul Walker
605 West Elk
Manistique, MI
49854

Dear Chairman Demers,

Please accept my letter to express my interest with the appointment as a representative of municipal government to the Schoolcraft County EDC Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Walker
(906) 450-3021