Agenda
Appointment and Alignment Committee
West Olive Administration Building – Board Room and YouTube
12220 Fillmore Street, West Olive, MI 49460
Tuesday, August 12, 2025, at 11:30 a.m.
(or immediately following the Finance & Administration Committee meeting)

Public Comment

Approval of Agenda

Consent Resolutions:

1. Approval of Minutes from the July 15, 2025, Appointment and Alignment Committee meeting.

Agenda and Action Requests:

1. Housing Commission Appointment
   Suggested Motion:
   To place into nomination and recommend to the Board Chairperson the name of:

Joseph Alfonso	Christopher Bennett	Rebecca Patrick
Andrew Rienstra-Ehlers	Calvin Brinks	Josh Ribbens
Jack VanderMeulen	Sharon Kozak	Nathan Slauer
Kenneth Brune	Christopher Kleinjans	Orlando Estrada

   and to select one (1) to fill one (1) Housing Commission Member vacancy beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2030.

2. Appointments to Boards and Commissions Policy
   To approve and forward policy update recommendations on the Appointments to Boards and Commissions Policy to the Planning & Policy Committee.

Discussion Items:

1. Proposed procedural changes to Appointments to Boards and Commissions Policy section IV.A.

2. Update from Staff

3. 2026 Seat Vacancies and Interview Timeslots

Public Comment

Adjournment at Call of Chairperson

Note: Public comments on the day's business are to be limited to three (3) minutes.

APPOINTMENT & ALIGNMENT COMMITTEE

Proposed Minutes

DATE: July 15, 2025

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Fillmore Street Complex

PRESENT: Douglas Zylstra, Philip Kuyers, Josh Brugger, Allison Miedema (4)

ABSENT: Jordan Jorritsma (1)

SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

AA 25-029 Motion: To approve the agenda of today.
Moved by: Zylstra UNANIMOUS

SUBJECT: CONSENT RESOLUTIONS

AA 25-030 Motion: To approve the minutes from the May 13, 2025, Appointment & Alignment Committee meeting.
Moved by: Kuyers UNANIMOUS

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD

AA 25-031 Motion: To place into nomination and forward to the Board of Commissioners the nomination of Angie Barksdale to the Community Corrections Advisory Board Workforce Investment Board Member seat vacancy beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2026.
Moved by: Miedema UNANIMOUS

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY ADVISORY BOARD

AA 25-032 Motion: To accept and forward to the Board of Commissioners the nomination of Debra Deaters to the Community Action Agency Advisory Board Consumer Sector seat beginning July 22, 2025, and ending July 21, 2028.
Moved by: Kuyers

Commissioner Jorritsma arrived at 3:07 p.m.

Interim Deputy Administrator Ron Frantz explained that the By-laws of the Community Action Agency Advisory Board allow for them to choose their own members.

Commissioner Kuyers withdrew motion AA 25-032.

It was decided to let the Advisory Board choose their own members but to keep the County informed of the members so the County website can be updated.

SUBJECT: HOUSING COMMISSION BYLAWS

AA 25-033 Motion: To approve and forward to the Board of Commissioners the updated Ottawa County Housing Commission bylaws.
Moved by: Miedema

The motion passed.

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Update from staff- Interim Deputy Administrator Ron Frantz gave several updates.

2. Interview dates for Housing Commission vacancy-Regina will set up a doodle poll to establish a date that all the Committee members are available to do interviews.

3. Recurring meetings 2nd Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. (or immediately following the Finance & Administration Committee)

SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

SUBJECT: ADJOURNMENT

The chairperson called for adjournment at 3:36 p.m.

Action Request

Ottawa County

Committee: Appointment & Alignment

Meeting Date: 08/12/2025

Requesting Department: Board of Commissioners

Submitted By: Regina MacMillan

Agenda Item: Housing Commission Appointment

Suggested Motion:

To place into nomination and recommend to the Board Chairperson the names of:
Joseph Alfonso
Christopher Bennett
Rebecca Patrick
Andrew Rienstra-Ehlers
Calvin Brinks
Josh Ribbens
Jack VanderMeulen
Sharon Kozak
Nathan Slauer
Kenneth Brune
Christopher Kleinjans
Orlando Estrada
and to select one (1) to fill one (1) Housing Commission Member vacancy beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2030.

Summary of Request:

Financial Information:

Total Cost:	General Fund Cost:	Included in Budget:	☐ Yes	☐ No	☑ N/A
$0.00	$0.00				

If not included in budget, recommended funding source:

Action is Related to an Activity Which Is: ☐ Mandated ☑ Non-Mandated ☐ New Activity

Action is Related to Strategic Plan:

Goal: Goal 2: To Contribute to the Long-Term Economic, Social and Environmental Health of the County.

Objective: Goal 2, Objective 1: Consider initiatives that contribute to the economic health and sustainability of the County and its' residents.

Administration: ☑ Recommended ☐ Not Recommended ☐ Without Recommendation

County Administrator:

Committee/Governing/Advisory Board Approval Date:

Joseph J Alfonso

Committee: Ottawa County Housing Commission

Seat: Member

Education

School

Southern New Hampshire University

Degree

B.A Environmental Essential Studies

School

PMP

Degree

Lean Six Sigma Black Belt

Employment Background

Current Employer

FMS Invester Financing

Position

Investor Lending Consultant

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Investor Lending Consultant | January 2024 ? Present

- Oversee underwriting of big investment loan portfolios with professional recommendations following thorough risk analysis and market data.
- Manage compliance processes, maintaining regulatory adherence while achieving highest client loan outcomes.
- Build and maintain long-term investor relationships founded on trust and business retention through consistent, fact-driven loan strategies.
- Resolving some of the most complex loan structuring deals across forty five (45) states.
- Loan sizes large and small, to assist in the positive impact of community building

Previous Employer

Position

City of Kentwood

Office Specialist - Inspections

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

City of Kentwood
--Inspections Office Specialist | Jan 2018 ? Jul 2020

- Ensured compliance with municipal building codes and ordinances, directly affecting operational accuracy.
- Processed many of the Certificate of Occupancy
- Provided initial permitting submission review, to ensure all required items were submitted prior to reaching inspectors.

Other Information

How many years have you lived in Ottawa County?

5

Are any of your family members currently employed by the County of Ottawa or any other unit of government?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

If yes, please describe: *Max length: 500*

What is your past experience in serving on government boards, or the boards of civic and other similar organizations? *(Max length: 1000)*

As a former public service employee, I developed a strong understanding of governmental processes and public accountability. In my role as an investor lending consultant, I have worked with diverse stakeholders, gaining valuable experience in regulatory compliance and financial oversight. Additionally, my knowledge of the State Plumbing Board?both its standards and operations?has given me a clear perspective on how regulatory boards function, particularly in protecting public safety and upholding professional standards. To include my experience as US Marine veteran, where countless humanitarian aid missions were conducted with my oversight to assist with the reconstruction of tens of thousands of homes and business throughout Southeast Asia. I am confident that this blend of experience positions me to contribute effectively to a board role.

The **Ottawa County Appointment Policy** sets a minimum expectation of 75% attendance for all members of boards and commissions appointed by the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners. If appointed, will you be able to comply with the terms of the Policy with regard to attendance?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If no, please explain. *Max length: 1000.*

Why do you want to be considered for this appointment? *(Max length: 1000. Please be as detailed as possible)*

I want to be considered for this appointment because I see it as a natural extension of my professional journey and personal commitment to public service and regulatory integrity. As a former public service employee, I developed a deep respect for the role that government plays in protecting the public interest and maintaining high standards of service and safety. That experience gave me firsthand insight into how policy decisions impact communities, industries, and everyday lives.

In my current role as an investor lending consultant, I regularly work at the intersection of finance, regulation, and infrastructure. I understand the importance of balanced decision-making, transparency, and stakeholder engagement?all of which are critical qualities for board service. My work requires me to evaluate risk, navigate complex regulatory environments, and promote responsible investment?all relevant to the strategic oversight expected of board members.

Christopher Bennett

Committee: Ottawa County Housing Commission

Seat: Member

Education

School

Grand Valley State University

Degree

Bachelor's of Science (Psychology)

School

N/A

Degree

N/A

Employment Background

Current Employer

Enterprise Community Partners

Position

Real Estate Development Analyst

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

- Maintain strong working relationships with originator staff to understand the needs, preferences, and objectives for each Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) deal.
- Conduct due diligence on each LIHTC deal to identify any potential credit or underwriting issues early in the process. Collaborate with originators and underwriting teams to mitigate concerns & enhance deal viability to attract investors. Ensure completeness and accuracy of information provided.
- Coordinate with originators to post deals for review by the Deal Screening Committee.
- Review incoming Request for Proposals from developers & manage project deadlines.

Previous Employer

Position

Dwelling Place of Grand Rapids Nonprofit Housing C

Director of Housing and Community Development

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

- Engagement with Board and committee members to communicate current production pipeline, project status, and overall development planning.
- Oversight of multiple LIHTC projects, including both new construction & preservation deals. Production of over 500 units of affordable housing financed through the LIHTC
program from 2014 to 2023.
- Supervision & oversight of multiple staff, providing direction & mentorship in various areas of affordable housing financing, project management, and communication.
- Negotiation, coordination & oversight of project closings with investors, syndicators, funders, and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA).

Other Information

How many years have you lived in Ottawa County?

29

Are any of your family members currently employed by the County of Ottawa or any other unit of government?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

If yes, please describe: *Max length: 500*

What is your past experience in serving on government boards, or the boards of civic and other similar organizations? *(Max length: 1000)*

I currently serve on the Board for Community Action House in Holland, MI.

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- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If no, please explain. *Max length: 1000.*

Why do you want to be considered for this appointment? *(Max length: 1000. Please be as detailed as possible)*

I have been in the affordable housing industry for nearly 20 years, starting as a volunteer at Habitat for Humanity, the City of Grand Rapids Community Development Department, and as the Director Housing at Dwelling Place of Grand Rapids. My current position at Enterprise Community Partners is focused on financing, analysis, and collaboration between numerous parties in the housing sector.

I would like to utilize my unique skillset for this appointment to assist in bringing the greatest community benefit forward, finding effective means to do so & economically viable solutions to help solve the housing issue in Ottawa County.

Rebecca Marie Patrick

Committee: Ottawa County Housing Commission

Seat: Member

Education

School

Wheaton College

Degree

BA

School

NA

Degree

NA

Employment Background

Current Employer

Retired

Position

Retired

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Retired

Previous Employer

Position

Michigan Departments of Natural Resources and Envi

Lake Michigan Regional Director

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

? Represented the Governor and Department Director across the western Lower Peninsula, engaging diverse stakeholders including local, state, federal, and tribal governments, business groups, conservation organizations, and legislators.
? Developed and maintained positive relationships with stakeholders to address housing-relevant issues such as land use and environmental regulations.
? Convened and chaired the Regional Stakeholder Advisory Group to resolve conflicting use and regulatory issues,
? Represented the Department in legislative matters, advocating for policies supporting sustainable resource use and community development.
? Assisted regulatory staff in resolving complex matters, including Michigan?s Brownfield Redevelopment Act
? Retired early to care for family member

Other Information

How many years have you lived in Ottawa County?

7

Are any of your family members currently employed by the County of Ottawa or any other unit of government?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

If yes, please describe: *Max length: 500*

What is your past experience in serving on government boards, or the boards of civic and other similar organizations? *(Max length: 1000)*

I have:
- convened and chaired the Regional Stakeholder Advisory Group for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Quality, for the western half of the Lower Peninsula. This group was charged with addressing contentious issues of competing resource use and environmental regulations.
- convened and chaired a group of senior leaders across three state agencies (DNR, DEQ and Agriculture) to develop and conduct a leadership training program
- was elected to the Lansing Christian School Board
- served on the leadership boards of churches in EastLansing and Big Rapids

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(●) Yes ( ) No

If no, please explain. *Max length: 1000.*

Why do you want to be considered for this appointment? *(Max length: 1000. Please be as detailed as possible)*

Housing is a critical need for the county. The stated mission of the Housing Commission is to ?work[ing] cooperatively with federal, state, and local governments to address the housing needs of residents.? I have significant skills and experience in working cooperatively across government agencies to achieve challenging objectives, and I sincerely care about the well-being of Ottawa County and its residents. Therefore, I believe I could be of service in this role.

Andrew Bennett Rienstra-Ehlers

Committee: Ottawa County Housing Commission

Seat: Member

Education

School

Grand Rapids Christian Highschool

Degree

College Prep

School

Calvin College

Degree

BA-Sociology

Employment Background

Current Employer

World Renew

Position

Major Gifts Officer

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Cultivate and steward long-term relationships with individuals, churches, and community partners to support international development and disaster response work.

Design and implement strategic fundraising campaigns that reflect values of justice, dignity, and equity, with a focus on long-term sustainability.

Coordinate and lead international learning visits, strengthening connections between supporters and on-the-ground community transformation work.

Provide personalized donor care and support through all stages of the giving cycle, including planned and legacy giving.

Previous Employer

Position

World Renew

Global Volunteer Program Coordinator

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Developed and implemented strategic engagement plans to build long-term relationships with community members through volunteer initiatives.

Supervised and mentored interns and volunteers, fostering personal development and professional growth in a collaborative environment.

Coordinated meaningful cross-cultural experiences for diverse groups, emphasizing equity, inclusion, and global citizenship.

Led volunteer recruitment efforts across digital, community, and faith-based channels, ensuring broad and inclusive outreach.

Other Information

How many years have you lived in Ottawa County?

3

Are any of your family members currently employed by the County of Ottawa or any other unit of government?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

If yes, please describe: *Max length: 500*

What is your past experience in serving on government boards, or the boards of civic and other similar organizations? *(Max length: 1000)*

While I haven?t served on a formal government board, I have been active in civic and community roles. I previously served on the City of Walker Parks & Recreation Committee and the Mayor?s Community Engagement Committee, where I helped advise on public spaces and community connection efforts. Currently, I serve on my church?s community outreach team, partnering with Jefferson School and nearby low-income neighborhoods to support children and families through meals, education, and mentorship. Professionally, I lead church and community engagement at World Renew, a Christian nonprofit focused on poverty alleviation and disaster response. I work with over 130 churches and civic partners to build relationships and advance local impact. These experiences have equipped me with a strong foundation in grassroots engagement, faith-based service, and collaborative community leadership.

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- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If no, please explain. *Max length: 1000.*

Why do you want to be considered for this appointment? *(Max length: 1000. Please be as detailed as possible)*

I am eager to serve on the Housing Commission to help Ottawa County grow in a way that upholds our community values. My experience on the Mayor?s Community Outreach Committee and Parks & Recreation Advisory Board in Walker has shown me the importance of local solutions and responsible planning. Professionally, I collaborate with churches and donors to support development projects that respect property rights and promote self-sufficiency. I also lead a support group for adult adoptees, reflecting my commitment to strong families and community ties. I believe in policies that reduce unnecessary regulations, encourage private investment, and expand housing options for working families. By serving on the Commission, I aim to contribute to practical, fiscally responsible strategies that strengthen our neighborhoods and preserve Walker?s character.

Calvin Brinks

Committee: Ottawa County Housing Commission

Seat: Member

Education

School

Calvin College

Degree

Bachelor of Arts degree in Organizational Leadership,

School

NA

Degree

NA

Employment Background

Current Employer

Retired 01.01.2024

Position

NA

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

NA

Previous Employer

Position

County of Kent, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Purchasing/Fleet Manager

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

> Developed technical systems and business processes that increased efficiency by over 20%. Purchase all technology and administrative related commodities.
> Representing Purchasing Division at public meetings and supplier outreach initiatives.
> Administrator of and County liaison to the Kent County Fire Commission Board.
> Recommend and the execution of procedures and policies.
> Staff supervision for all procurement and fleet activities.
> Individually meet with key staff for most County Departments annually.
> Subject Matter Export (SME) for the County Financial and Imaging software purchasing modules.net proceeds.
> Oversight of County Fleet Services for over 300 vehicles and equipment.

Other Information

How many years have you lived in Ottawa County?

32

Are any of your family members currently employed by the County of Ottawa or any other unit of government?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please describe: *Max length: 500*

Daughter: Sandra Brinks, Ottawa County Fiscal Services Budget Audit Analyst
Daughter: Kathryn Brinks, Kent County Prosecutor's Office, Clerk 2

What is your past experience in serving on government boards, or the boards of civic and other similar organizations? *(Max length: 1000)*

I am very experienced working with government and non-profit boards. This experience includes public presentations and reporting at the Kent County Board of Commissioners, Finance Committee, and Public Works Board meetings. I served as the Kent County liaison and administrator to the Kent County Fire Commission. The Kent County Fire Commission is responsible for engaging with fire departments across the county, working with emergency services, assisting with purchasing new equipment, and fostering community engagement in safety initiatives and programs. I also served on the Michigan Public Purchasing Officers Association and West Michigan Public Purchasing Alliance boards. Currently, I am providing facilitation consulting services to the Lowell Area Fire & Emergency Services Board assisting in developing a long-range fire department strategic plan for the City of Lowell, Lowell Charter Township and Vergennes Township.

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- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If no, please explain. *Max length: 1000.*

Why do you want to be considered for this appointment? *(Max length: 1000. Please be as detailed as possible)*

Serving on the Ottawa County Housing Commission aligns with my experience in public service and my commitment to addressing the housing needs of Ottawa County proactively. I have considerable experience interacting with both residents and public officials and understand Federal and State grants. Additionally, I am familiar with and comfortable working within established policies and procedures. Serving on the Housing Commission allows me to use this experience to contribute to developing strategic solutions for affordable housing for future generations. I also understand the importance of planning and the impact of urban sprawl. I am sensitive to the affordable housing impact on my family. Having recently retired, I am available to serve on this committee effectively.

Josh Ribbens

Committee: Ottawa County Housing Commission

Seat: Member

Education

School

Holland High School

Degree

Graduated 2001

School

GVSU

Degree

Partial Business Bachelors Degree coursework comple

Employment Background

Current Employer

Premier Finishing Inc

Position

Owner

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Own and operate a small metal finishing company with approximately 25 employees. Customer Service, Finance, HR, and Operations, Sales, and Strategic Planning.
Being a small business with a small leadership team I and involved in all parts of running the business.
We open in 1997 and I have been working here full time since the early 2000's.

Previous Employer

Position

N/A

N/A

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

N/A

Other Information

How many years have you lived in Ottawa County?

42

Are any of your family members currently employed by the County of Ottawa or any other unit of government?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

If yes, please describe: *Max length: 500*

What is your past experience in serving on government boards, or the boards of civic and other similar organizations? *(Max length: 1000)*

Currently board Secretary at Community Action House in Holland. On that board I am on the Executive Committee, Governance Committee, and Housing Taskforce.

No other past board experience.

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- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If no, please explain. *Max length: 1000.*

Why do you want to be considered for this appointment? *(Max length: 1000. Please be as detailed as possible)*

The lack of affordable housing in Ottawa County is a struggle for many in our community. I have been involved in the housing space in my board work at Community Action House and have been involved with other housing discussions/trainings with a few other local organizations.
I am confident that Ottawa County is in a unique position and has the resources in our area to address this major issues that is facing nearly all areas of our country.
I would like to be a part of the team that is able to guide our county towards solutions to address the difficulties that many of our neighbors face finding a safe and affordable place to call home.

Jack VanderMeulen

Committee: Ottawa County Housing Commission

Seat: Member

Education

School

Holland Christian High School

Degree

Graduate

School

NA

Degree

NA

Employment Background

Current Employer

VanderMeulen Builders

Position

Chairman of the board

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Advise fourth generation owner, consult with clients as needed

Previous Employer

Position

VanderMeulen Builders

President

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Lead customer home building company

Other Information

How many years have you lived in Ottawa County?

70

Are any of your family members currently employed by the County of Ottawa or any other unit of government?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

If yes, please describe: *Max length: 500*

What is your past experience in serving on government boards, or the boards of civic and other similar organizations? *(Max length: 1000)*

Vice chair of Holland Township Planning Commission, member Holland Township Zoning Board of Appeals, member of Board of Directors for Jubilee Ministries, past president of Lakeshore Home Builders Association, past president of Michigan Home Builders Association

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- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If no, please explain. *Max length: 1000.*

Why do you want to be considered for this appointment? *(Max length: 1000. Please be as detailed as possible)*

I am passionately interested in providing housing opportunities for all of Ottawa County residents. Everyone should have a place where they know they can sleep safely at night. Everyone should have a place that allows them to maintain employment and take care of their family. This is a complicated issue, and I want to be part of the solution. As a builder for my entire career, I have always believed that housing is an important part of the American dream.

Sharon Louise Kozak

Committee: Ottawa County Housing Commission

Seat: Member

Education

School

Liberty University

Degree

Masters in Marriage and Family Therapy

School

Liberty University

Degree

Master of Arts in Teaching

Employment Background

Current Employer

Full Range Foundation

Position

Marriage Coach

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Resource Development: Create and maintain toolboxes of resources from the Foundation?s curriculum to assist couples in building and sustaining healthy relationships.

? Workshop Facilitation: Plan, host, and facilitate quarterly virtual couples? workshop sessions aimed at enhancing relationship skills and family resilience.

? Mental Wellness Guide: Develop a comprehensive mental wellness guide to serve military community families, focusing on advocacy, health, and family support.

? Team Collaboration: Participate in bi-weekly team meetings and quarterly staff training sessions to ensure alignment with the Foundation?s mission and goals.

Engage in ongoing professional development to stay updated on best practices in marriage coaching and military family support

Previous Employer

Position

Freelance Writer

Writer

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Writes for military magazines about a variety of topics that affect military families. The most recent article was about the transition from military to civilian life post-retirement and the numerous programs that are offered to help families find jobs, housing, and healthcare

Other Information

How many years have you lived in Ottawa County?

3

Are any of your family members currently employed by the County of Ottawa or any other unit of government?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

If yes, please describe: *Max length: 500*

What is your past experience in serving on government boards, or the boards of civic and other similar organizations? *(Max length: 1000)*

I have served as the Ombudsman for my husband's Naval Command, Navy Talent Acquisition Heartland,d since February of 2024, and as the Assembly chair of the Regional Ombudsman Assembly since October 2024. The roles I have played have been in writing, sending, and presiding over the agenda during meetings, as well as attending twice yearly Ombudsman Assembly Regional Boards with fellow Assembly Chairs and Naval officers to discuss the needs of families and sailors. I currently serve on the Board of Directors of Naval Services FamilyLine as the Deputy Director of the My Navy Life Podcast where I spoke with naval personnel, informed about new government policies and as a collateral position designed the first virtual Chief Selectee Spouse Symposium to prepare families for the changes that come from petty officer 1st class to chief. This year, I advocated with RESOLV, speaking with Michigan representatives about new bills being introduced to improve fertility treatment for servicemembers

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- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If no, please explain. *Max length: 1000.*

Why do you want to be considered for this appointment? *(Max length: 1000. Please be as detailed as possible)*

As a military spouse, housing is one of the most important aspects of moving to any area. Because of this, I believe affordable housing helps all community members and trickles down into allowing families to provide for other needs, such as healthcare, food, clothing, and providing an atmosphere for growth and development. I have a passion for serving my community and advocating to improve the lives of all people.

Nathan Charles Slauer

Committee: Ottawa County Housing Commission

Seat: Member

Education

School

Calvin University

Degree

B.A. Political Science, History, Social Studies, & Secon

School

Grand Valley State University

Degree

Master of Public Administration

Employment Background

Current Employer

ODC Network

Position

Development Manager

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Grant Writing & Management: Researched, wrote, and submitted competitive grant proposals to foundations, corporations, and government agencies; managed post-award reporting and compliance; secured over $100,000 in funding within six months.

Donor & Sponsor Engagement: Cultivated relationships with individual donors and corporate sponsors through personalized outreach, stewardship, and recognition; supported prospect research and developed tailored sponsorship packages for local businesses.

Appeals & Fundraising Campaigns: Planned and executed multi-channel fundraising appeals and giving campaigns, including year-end mailings and digital outreach; collaborated with communications staff to create compelling, donor-centered messaging.

Previous Employer

Position

Kuyper College

Manager of the Annual Fund & Alumni Relations

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Annual Fund Strategy & Execution: Directed the college?s annual giving program, developing strategies to increase participation and donor retention; managed direct mail, email, and digital campaigns across fiscal years.

Alumni Engagement & Stewardship: Strengthened alumni relations through regular communication, personalized outreach, and targeted events; built systems to track engagement and promote alumni involvement in giving, mentoring, and volunteering.

Appeals & Campaign Coordination: Crafted compelling appeals for segmented audiences, integrating storytelling and institutional priorities; partnered with communications and advancement staff to ensure consistent messaging and timely delivery.

Donor Relations & Acknowledgment: Oversaw stewardship processes, including gift acknowledgment,

Other Information

How many years have you lived in Ottawa County?

3

Are any of your family members currently employed by the County of Ottawa or any other unit of government?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

If yes, please describe: *Max length: 500*

What is your past experience in serving on government boards, or the boards of civic and other similar organizations? *(Max length: 1000)*

I serve on the City of Holland?s Neighborhood Improvement Committee, helping oversee micro-grant funding and supporting resident-led projects. I also serve on the International Relations Commission, assisting with cultural programming and major events like the International Festival of Holland. In the nonprofit sector, I serve on the board of READ Ottawa, promoting adult literacy, and on committees for Habitat for Humanity and Community Action House, supporting housing and food access. Additionally, I serve in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, advancing public safety and community education. Through these roles, I?ve gained experience in civic engagement, cross-sector collaboration, event planning, and community development.

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- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If no, please explain. *Max length: 1000.*

Why do you want to be considered for this appointment? *(Max length: 1000. Please be as detailed as possible)*

I am seeking appointment to the Ottawa County Housing Commission because I am passionate about ensuring safe, affordable housing for all residents. As a nonprofit professional and active community volunteer, I have seen firsthand how stable housing influences health, education, and economic opportunity.

I bring experience in board leadership, grantwriting, and cross-sector collaboration. Through the City of Holland?s Neighborhood Improvement Committee, I help guide micro-grant funding and support resident-led revitalization efforts. In the nonprofit sector, I connect community needs with private, state, and federal funding sources. I also have a strong background in public-private partnerships and in facilitating consensus around complex community goals.

I believe county government can be a powerful force for positive change, and I would be honored to support efforts that improve housing across Ottawa County.

Kenneth Allen Brune

Committee: Ottawa County Housing Commission

Seat: Member

Education

School

Oakland University

Degree

Business Communication

School

INSEAD

Degree

International Finance (certified)

Employment Background

Current Employer

SCORE

Position

Certified Mentor

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Volunteer Mentor. SCORE, a Small Business Association affiliate
As a volunteer mentor, I support startups and small to mid-sized businesses in the Lakeshore area by providing guidance on business planning, growth strategies, and operational improvement. Over the past two years, I have assisted dozens of local businesses in achieving their goals. In 2024, I was honored as one of the top ten contributors in my chapter in recognition of my impact and dedication.

Previous Employer

Position

Chrysler/ FCA/ DaimlerChrysler & Metalsa

Plant Manager / Senior Manager

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Executive Leadership Manufacturing Operations & Community Engagement
Held full P&L responsibility for multiple manufacturing sites across diverse locations, including component plants, foundries, engine machining, and assembly operations. Most recently, I led all body, paint, and final assembly operations for the RAM 1500 pickup truck. In addition to operational leadership, I managed government relations at the local level and actively contributed to community development. My community service roles have included serving as Director of the Chamber of Commerce, board member for The United Way, and participation in various charitable and nonprofit boards.

Other Information

How many years have you lived in Ottawa County?

5

Are any of your family members currently employed by the County of Ottawa or any other unit of government?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

If yes, please describe: *Max length: 500*

What is your past experience in serving on government boards, or the boards of civic and other similar organizations? *(Max length: 1000)*

Civic and Community Involvement
Currently serve as a Director on the Ottawa County Brownfield Redevelopment Commission and as a member of Ottawa Food. My civic engagement has included board service across a range of both faith-based and secular organizations, reflecting a long-standing commitment to community well-being. Previously, I managed the largest food pantry in the county that I lived in at the time, serving as the primary distribution partner for Feeding America, where I oversaw operations that supported food security efforts.

The **Ottawa County Appointment Policy** sets a minimum expectation of 75% attendance for all members of boards and commissions appointed by the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners. If appointed, will you be able to comply with the terms of the Policy with regard to attendance?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If no, please explain. *Max length: 1000.*

Why do you want to be considered for this appointment? *(Max length: 1000. Please be as detailed as possible)*

Perspective on Housing and Economic Development in Ottawa County

Affordable housing is critical to the long-term success and economic vitality of Ottawa County. Throughout my career in manufacturing, I?ve overseen the development of numerous greenfield facilities, and workforce availability has consistently been a primary consideration in site selection.

Ottawa County faces a significant challenge: many individuals employed in local manufacturing, retail, and service industries are unable to live in the communities where they work. As a result, they earn their wages here but spend and pay taxes elsewhere?a trend that is economically unsustainable.

This housing gap also affects younger residents just starting out, as well as seniors looking to downsize, both of whom are increasingly priced out of the area. Without addressing this imbalance, we risk losing employers to regions where housing supply aligns more realistically with workforce needs.

Christian Kleinjans

Committee: Ottawa County Housing Commission

Seat: Member

Education

School

Grand Valley State University

Degree

Bachelor of Arts in History, Minors in Sociology and E

School

Grand Valley State University

Degree

Master's of Public Administration

Employment Background

Current Employer

Allegan County Community Foundation

Position

Community Impact Officer-Housing

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Promoting effective collaboration and coordination among non-profit, for profit, and government entities to positively impact Allegan County. The Community Impact Officer is responsible for developing and managing strategic initiatives relating to housing stock.

Previous Employer

Position

Michigan State University Extension

Community Nutrition Instructor

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

As part of the MSU Extension Health and Nutrition Institute (HNI), with support from the HNI Supervising & Staff Development Educator, District Director and Institute leadership, the Extension Community Nutrition Instructor is responsible for the delivery of nutrition and physical activity education programs.

Other Information

How many years have you lived in Ottawa County?

53

Are any of your family members currently employed by the County of Ottawa or any other unit of government?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

If yes, please describe: *Max length: 500*

What is your past experience in serving on government boards, or the boards of civic and other similar organizations? *(Max length: 1000)*

County Commissioner-District 2 6/24-12/24
Member-Board of Directors CMHOC 9/22-4/25
Member-Ottawa Food Advisory Board 8/21-11/23
Member-Allegan County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority 4/25-present

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- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If no, please explain. *Max length: 1000.*

Why do you want to be considered for this appointment? *(Max length: 1000. Please be as detailed as possible)*

Housing within Ottawa county has been a concern of mine for over a decade. The revised housing assessment released three weeks ago makes it very clear that despite the successes of the past 2 years, more is needed. As I already work in the housing space professionally in another county, I'd like to bring what I use to develop housing stock in Allegan County to the place I live. I have a developed a network of people and organizations within the housing space that operate throughout the region and state and have taken training from MSUE, CEDAM, EGLE, MEDC and MSDHA and have developed and presented programming around on issues surrounding housing and housing development locally. As a current member of the Allegan County BRA, I'm comfortable with the language and parameters of TIF. I understand the complexities of working with local units of government as the county strives to create equitable and safe housing for everyone who seeks to call Ottawa home.

Orlando Estrada

Committee: Ottawa County Housing Commission

Seat: Member

Education

School

Davenport University

Degree

N/A (Study Business Law)

School

Grand Valley State University

Degree

N/A (Study Entrepreneurship)

Employment Background

Current Employer

PixelGR

Position

Road Tech

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Website sales and support on SEO / AEO.

Previous Employer

Position

PERRS Foundation

Road Manager

Responsibilities: *(Max length: 1000)*

Education thru Trivia and Distracted, driving simulators across America.

Other Information

How many years have you lived in Ottawa County?

40

Are any of your family members currently employed by the County of Ottawa or any other unit of government?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

If yes, please describe: *Max length: 500*

What is your past experience in serving on government boards, or the boards of civic and other similar organizations? *(Max length: 1000)*

I have been on student college boards at GVSU when I was a student such as treasurer of the Latino student union. And been on non profit boards that are faith based or political. Would like to take my experience in a official civic capacity here.

The **Ottawa County Appointment Policy** sets a minimum expectation of 75% attendance for all members of boards and commissions appointed by the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners. If appointed, will you be able to comply with the terms of the Policy with regard to attendance?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If no, please explain. *Max length: 1000.*

Why do you want to be considered for this appointment? *(Max length: 1000. Please be as detailed as possible)*

I have learn stories of my family about the struggles of living situation (like migrate farm housing) and getting to the point of home ownership. I been studying land development and having meetings with builders/policy leaders alike. I been ask by many about how to help solve the unhoused and Homeless during my time running for different office or other campgain. I like to take my experience and knowledge to the next level and work with like minded people that want the same thing for our community.

Ottawa County

Appointments to Boards and Commissions

I. Policy

Subject to state statues, ~~T~~the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners will review all applications for positions on boards and commissions, the membership of which is appointed by the Board. If possible, the membership of all boards and commissions ~~shall~~ should be determined prior to the expiration of the term.

II. Statutory References

The Board of Commissioners has constitutional and statutory responsibility for making appointments to a variety of boards and commissions. The Board of Commissioners may establish such rules and regulations regarding the business concerns of the County as the Board considers necessary and proper. See MCL 46.11(m); Act 156 of the Public Acts of 1851, as amended.

III. County Legislative or Historical References

The original Board policy on this subject matter was adopted on:

Board of Commissioners Resolution Number and Policy Adoption Date: June 8, 1999, January 10, 2006 (BC 06-010) and November 14, 2006, (BC 06-296)

Board of Commissioner Review Date and Resolution Number: October 11, 2005 (BC 05-276) and November 14, 2006 (BC 06-296)

Date of Last Committee Review: Planning & Policy Committee; October 11, 2018

Last Review by Internal Policy Review Team: April 19, 2022

Ottawa County

IV. Procedure

A. Notice of Open Positions: A list of all open positions shall be maintained by the County Clerk and listed on the County website. The list of open positions will expand to include all appointments that expire four months prior to the expiration of the term (i.e., September 1 for terms expiring January 1). A notice will be posted and advertised in September annually, stating that open positions and applications can be found on the website or picked up at the County Clerk's Office. The website shall also provide general information (if known) regarding the normal meeting times of the board or commission in order that prospective appointees may assess their ability to serve.

B. Application Process: All applications will be maintained by the County Clerk. An application can be used to apply for more than one board or commission. The application is available online at www.miottawa.org.

C. Committee Review and Board Action: The Board of Commissioners assigns the task of reviewing the applications to the ~~Talent and Recruitment~~ Appointment & Alignment Committee, which has established a subcommittee to review and interview applicants and make recommendations on appointments. The names of all applicants and Committee recommendations, if any, ~~shall~~ should be submitted to the Board of Commissioners, which shall make appointments prior to the expiration of the term.

D. Term Limits: Citizen appointees on boards and commissions shall be limited to twelve consecutive years. Reappointment of a citizen to a board or commission is permissible after spending a minimum of two years off the applicable board or commission. The Board of Commissioners may, by a 2/3 majority vote, override this term limit provision.

E. Residency: It is the general expectation of the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners that, unless otherwise provided for by law, all appointees will be legal residents and full-time residents-in-fact of the County of Ottawa. On an annual basis, appointees are expected to be physically present as residents-in-fact within Ottawa County not less than nine and a half (9 1/2) months per year.

F. Attendance: Subsequent to selection, all appointees are expected to maintain at least a seventy-five (75%) attendance record at meetings, and to not miss more than three (3) consecutive meetings without acceptable reasons. An appointee may be removed by the Board of Commissioners for failure to meet this expectation.

G. Variances in Application Policy: The timeliness and procedural requirements set forth in this policy may be varied by the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners to fill unexpected vacancies, to fill new positions created by law or by the Board of Commissioners, or to assure that appointments are made on a timely basis.

Ottawa County

H. Implementation Authority: Upon adoption of this Policy, the Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator to establish any procedures that may be necessary for implementation.

I. Review Period

The Internal Policy Review Team will review this Policy at least once every ~~two~~ four years and will make recommendations for changes to the Planning & Policy Committee.

Board	Seat	Term Length	Term
Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon Foreign Trade Zone Authority	Member	3 years	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Agricultural Preservation Board	Agricultural	3 years	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Agricultural Preservation Board	Real Estate/Land Development	3 years	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Agricultural Preservation Board	Township Government	3 years	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Community Action Agency Advisory Board	Private Sector	3 years	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Community Action Agency Advisory Board	Public Sector	3 years	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Community Corrections Advisory Board	Chief of Police	2 years	01/01/2024 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Community Corrections Advisory Board	MDOC	2 years	01/01/2024 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee	Private Sector	1 years	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Department of Health & Human Services Board	County Resident	3 years	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Economic Development Corporation/Brownfield Redevelopment Authority	Director	6 years	01/01/2020 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Economic Development Corporation/Brownfield Redevelopment Authority	Director	6 years	01/01/2020 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Groundwater Board	Agricultural Sector	3 years	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Groundwater Board	Utilities/Engineering	3 years	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Housing Commission	Member	5 years	01/01/2021 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Land Bank Authority	Citizen Ottawa County	1 years	01/07/2025 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Officers' Compensation Commission	Member	4 years	01/01/2022 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Officers' Compensation Commission	Member	4 years	01/01/2022 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Officers' Compensation Commission	Member	4 years	01/01/2022 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission	Public	3 years	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission	Public	3 years	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Veterans Services Committee	War Veteran	3 years	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2025
Ottawa County Veterans Services Committee	War Veteran	3 years	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2025
West Michigan Regional Planning Commission	Ottawa County Private Sector	1 years	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025