

Introduced by the Finance Committee of the:

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES TO GUIDE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2012
BUDGET AND ACTIVITIES OF COUNTY STAFF**

RESOLUTION #11-135

WHEREAS, Ingham County government is committed to assuring the provision of services most important to its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ingham County services are focused on these long-term objectives:

- *Enhancing access to county records
- *Providing suitable roads and drains
- *Providing recreational opportunities
- *Fostering economic well being
- *Promoting environmental protection and smart growth
- *Preventing and controlling disease
- *Promoting accessible health care
- *Assisting in meeting basic needs
- *Fostering appropriate youth development
- *Supporting public safety
- *Assuring judicial processing
- *Providing appropriate sanctions for adult offenders
- *Providing appropriate treatment and sanctions for at-risk juveniles; and

WHEREAS, these services are to be delivered in a manner which emphasizes:

- * An educated and participating citizenry
- * An ongoing capacity for intergovernmental collaboration
- * A quality workforce
- * Cost-effective delivery of county services
- * Maximum use of technology; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has identified significant revenue shortfalls including falling property tax assessments and state cuts to revenue sharing for 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Controller/Administrator is projecting at least a \$5.3 million budget shortfall for 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has identified priorities to guide the development of the 2012 Budget and activities of county staff.

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ingham County Board of Commissioners adopts the following priority areas to be utilized by the Controller/Administrator's Office and the county offices, departments, agencies, and courts in developing proposed activities and budgets for 2012:

1. Current year expenditures should be supported by current year revenues. The Controller/Administrator will develop a multi-year budget projection and a long-range plan to finance the County's legacy costs. These projections will be used to guide the Board's decision as to the appropriate use of the County's reserves in the development of the 2012 Budget.

2. To the extent necessary and appropriate, mandated services currently provided by county government in support of all its long-term objectives should be continued in 2012, with ongoing evaluation to identify possible overlap and duplication of services and to identify more efficient uses of county funds.

3. The Board of Commissioners will be forced to reduce or eliminate service levels primarily in areas of discretionary services, while recognizing that all mandated services will also be considered for budget reductions to the extent possible and necessary in this unprecedented time.

4. The Board of Commissioners expects all department offices and courts to consider these priorities in the development of their budgets and activities for 2012.

5. Priority consideration should be given to all of the following long-term objectives:

a. Promoting Accessible Health Care

1. Continue to maintain and expand access to health care for the uninsured and under-insured through the Ingham Health Plan, the Federally Qualified Health Clinics, and other county operated programs and clinics. Evaluate the effect of the 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act on the delivery of public health services in Ingham County.

2. Maximize ability to draw down federal funds for health care.

3. Evaluate the Health Department budget to determine the appropriate amount of support that is necessary from the County General Fund in order to continue operations at an acceptable level.

b. Supporting Public Safety

The County and the Building Authority will continue to work in cooperation with the Cities of Lansing and East Lansing to achieve the goal of a consolidated 911 Dispatch Center to be operational by mid – 2012.

c. Fostering Economic Well Being

Explore utilizing the County's authority under Public Act 88 of 1913 to provide for the creation of a fund to be used for economic development in Ingham County.

d. An Ongoing Capacity for Intergovernmental Collaboration/Cost Effective Delivery of County Services

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The Ingham County Board of Commissioners will explore efficiencies through regional cooperation, emphasizing consolidation and service sharing, accountability and transparency, and controlling costs.

e. Providing Appropriate Sanctions for Adult Offenders

Encourage the use of appropriate sanctions for adults in order to foster appropriate behavior, reduce criminal recidivism, and effectively manage corrections resources, including the jail population by supporting strategies recommended by the Jail Utilization Coordinating Committee and Community Corrections Advisory Board, including working with community partners, increasing the use of GPS/tethering equipment, maintaining and

using a data tracking system that focuses on system volume and trends, supporting appropriate use of probation residential services, facilitating treatment of substance abuse disorders, and continuing the enhancement to Pre-Trial Services to facilitate the identification of appropriate populations for bond recommendations, risk/needs assessments, recommended conditions of release, supervision of felony defendants released on conditional bonds, and initiation of court action for violation of bond conditions.

f. Provide Appropriate Treatment and Sanctions for at Risk Juveniles

Continue to maximize use of Juvenile Justice Millage funds to implement the Chinn Study so as to provide the most appropriate community based programming for juvenile offenders.

g. Supporting Recreational Opportunities

Provide recreational opportunities throughout Ingham County to the extent possible, guided by the County Parks Master Plan and the Potter Park Master Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners are in support of placing the renewal of the Juvenile Justice Millage question on the ballot.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners support exploring the possibility of consolidation of the Judicial Districts in Ingham County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ingham County Board of Commissioners supports the efforts to prevent environmental hazards to human health.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that efforts to expand and increase the use of technology countywide will continue.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County will develop and implement long-term strategies to restructure retirement benefits that are financially sustainable and appropriate for all new employees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ingham Board of Commissioners will explore efficiencies regarding the provision of employee and retiree health care benefits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that County staff will continue to explore options for reforms and consolidations leading to savings (short-term or long-term) and present these to Commissioners for consideration.

FINANCE: Yeas: Schor, Tsernoglou, Nolan, Bahar-Cook, McGrain, Dougan

Nays: None **Absent:** None **Approved 4/20/11**