

## **Contested government positions on the ballot in Isabella County on Aug. 4, 2020:**

### *Candidates and their views on environmental issues*

#### **U.S. Senate:**

*Gary Peters, Democrat, incumbent:* He supports investment in clean energy job creation and measures to combat climate change. He supports reducing carbon pollution and creating a clean energy economy that provides environmental justice. He has voted to pass legislation to increase funding for the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes and to establish the Great Lakes Center of Expertise for Freshwater Oil Spill Research and Response through the U.S. Coast Guard to prevent and plan for oil spills. He also co-authored the PIPES Act to improve oil pipeline safety and oversight. He also passed a provision to urge the Department of Defense to phase out firefighting foams that contain PFAS and helped to convene the first hearing on PFAS in the Senate.

*John James, Republican:* He supports an all-of-the-above energy policy that focuses on affordable energy. He supports policies to protect environmental quality in the Great Lakes and protect them from invasive species. He has a Bachelor of Science degree.

#### **U.S. House, District 4:**

*Anthony Feig, Democrat:* He is currently an Associate Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies at CMU. He supports expanding the powers of the Environmental Protection Agency to include pollution and hazard protections for marginalized communities. He supports the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. He supports the expansion of renewable energy infrastructure and tax credits for energy-efficient products. He opposes the expansion of oil, gas, and mineral extraction into protected lands. He encourages the integration of climate into plans for energy and economy and believes that we need to adapt to a changing climate and mitigate the impact of climate change. He supports a regional approach to PFAS mitigation. He supports the land conservation provisions in the Farm Bill.

*Jerry Hilliard, Democrat:* He supports the Green New Deal, H. Res 109 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, work with farmers and ranchers to eliminate pollution, and to meet the power needs of the nation with renewable and zero-emission energy sources. He supports doing this through relevant subsidies and tax cuts. He believes that we should block subsidies to any corporation that is not at least a net positive in their impact on the environment.

*John Moolenaar, Republican, incumbent:* He previously worked as a chemist at Dow Chemical Company. He supports the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and protecting the Great Lakes against invasive species. He supports energy-independency and believes that we should utilize abundant domestic resources and pursue renewable energy. He supports an all-of-the-above energy policy. He supported the STEM Education Act.

#### **Michigan House District 99:**

*Randall Doyle, Democrat:* He supports greater enforcement of environmental laws and investment into renewable energy, including electric cars.

*John Zang, Democrat:* He believes that protecting Michigan's environment should be a priority. He believes that PFAS is a great concern and that Michigan should not be a PFAS dumping ground for other states. He supports the restriction of drilling deep wells for hazardous waste disposal.

*Roger Hauck, Republican, incumbent:* He secured money to build a sewer system in Beal City to prevent E. coli from polluting a branch of the Chippewa River. He believes we have a responsibility to take care of our environment and hopes renewable energy can play a larger role in our energy future without seeing an increase on our bills.

#### **County Clerk:**

**Minde B. Lux, Republican, incumbent:** No clear stance on environmental issues.

Chelsea Plevinski, Democrat: No clear stance on environmental issues, but offered to accept cans and bottles in lieu of donations on 4/7/2020.

#### **County Register of Deeds:**

*Karen R Jackson, Republican, incumbent:* No clear stance on environmental issues.

*Matthew Rivard, Democrat:* No clear stance on environmental issues.

#### **County Road Commission:**

David Livermore, Republican: No clear stance on environmental issues.

Jeff Eddington, Democrat: No clear stance on environmental issues.

#### **County Drain Commission:**

*Robert Willoughby, Republican, incumbent:* No clear stance on environmental issues.

*Bob Busch, Democrat:* He owns Buckleys Mountainside Canoes on the Chippewa River and considers water quality to be a priority.

#### **County Commissioner District 2:**

*Frank Engler, Republican, incumbent:* He is a farmer who has served on the Parks and Recreation Commission and in the Isabella Conservation District. He has a degree in Agricultural Technology. He supports the Wind Project.

*Jonnie Taton, Democrat:* No clear stance on environmental issues.

#### **County Commissioner District 3:**

*Jerry Jaloszynski, Republican, incumbent:* He has three degrees in Parks and Recreation Administration and was Isabella County Park Director from 1985-2008. No clear stance on environmental issues.

*Matthew R Clark, Democrat:* No clear stance on environmental issues.

#### **County Commissioner District 4:**

*Jim Horton, Republican, incumbent:* No clear stance on environmental issues.

*Jessica Lapp, Democrat:* Jessica oversees finances regarding Great Lakes Restoration Initiative research at CMU. No clear stance on environmental issues.

#### **County Commissioner District 5:**

*James Moreno, Democrat, incumbent:* He supports wind energy development and is opposed to the Enbridge oil pipeline.

*William O Dailey, Democrat:* He worked as a science teacher in the Peace Corps and worked in the solar energy business. No clear stance on environmental issues.

#### **County Commissioner District 6:**

*Steve Swaney, Democrat, incumbent:* He has been a research scientist with a focus on infectious disease and cancer research for 20 years. He believes that Isabella county should continue or enhance its involvement in the renewable energy market.

Douglas Davis Jr., Republican: No clear stance on environmental issues.

#### **Union Township Treasurer:**

*Ben Gunning, Democrat:* No clear stance on environmental issues.

Kimberly M Rice, Democrat, incumbent: No clear stance on environmental issues.

*Julia A Becker, Republican:* No clear stance on environmental issues. She has previously worked with oil and gas titles.

#### **Union Township Trustees: 4 positions**

*Bill Hauck, Republican, incumbent:* No clear stance on environmental issues.

*Jeff Brown, Democrat:* No clear stance on environmental issues.

*Brian A Smith, Republican:* He believes that the most pressing needs for infrastructure are roads, sidewalks, and bike paths. He also believes that sewer and water systems must be well-funded to ensure the safety of the community.

*Justin Knott, Democrat:* No clear stance on environmental issues.

*James R Thering Jr., Democrat:* He supports the construction of pathways and trails to promote the well-being of citizens in the county.

*Tim Lannen, Democrat, incumbent:* He supports the construction of a well-connected, non-motorized pathway for safe walking, jogging and bicycling.

*Connie Lee Bills, Democrat:* She supports the Mid-Michigan Community Pathway project to make the community more walkable.

The views expressed by the candidates reported in this document come from the Vote411 Voter Guide website and candidate websites. This document was compiled by Sara Prussing for the UUFCM Environmental Justice Team.