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**Sent:** Monday, March 7, 2022 3:30 PM

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**Subject:** Letter to the Board of Commissioners

Comments for March 8, 2022  
Executive Session

My name is Jay Johnson and I live in Empire Township.

We are now ten months after the County Board of Commissioners, in likely violation of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, passed a partisan resolution to create two new departments without stating any need for those departments. This is, without question, the most fiscally irresponsible action taken by the Board of Commissioners in the nearly seventeen years I have watched your deliberations. The total cost of these new departments approaches a quarter million dollars annually and may well run higher.

What has happened in the last ten months?

(1) The establishment of the finance department resulted in the transfer, and higher pay for the same person who was very capably performing those functions before the new department was established.

(2) There is still no stated basis for adding a new human resources department. But mark my words, the head of that department will find something to do. Bureaucrats love to govern. No doubt the new department will likely order up a bunch of worthwhile programs on equal opportunity, sexual-sensitivity training, along with annual programs to recognize black history, women's history, and native American culture.

And while we're at it, let's give a special shout out to Commissioner Will Bunek, who is facing a well-deserved recount election. Should he vote to establish the new human resources, it will provide new campaign material for his opponent because his time pretending to be a fiscal conservative has come to an end.