

## Elect Dirk Chilcote for Muskegon County Commissioner District 6

Hello,

I'm requesting your support to allow me to serve our community as your next County Commissioner.

We all have busy lives, we shouldn't have to worry about the people elected, appointed, or hired to run our government in the best interest of our community.

Our government was formed for the primary purpose to pool community resources for the benefit of all community members equally. Our government was NOT formed to rule or dictate. It seems a lot of our current politicians have lost sight of their purpose within our government.

Why I decided to seek public office.

- It is our responsibility to ensure we provide a free society for future generations.
- Other communities with less resources prosper while Muskegon struggles.
- A passion to build a better future for all members in our county.
- Desire to provide focus with vision to improve quality of life for everyone equally.
- Provide a voice for all members of our community.
- Use skills that made me successful in multiple career positions to serve our community.
- Address current & future issues facing our community, use of specific generated revenue.
- Local government requires a more proactive than reactive approach to root issues.


I returned to my hometown to enjoy my community, friends, and family. While reuniting with my childhood community, a very nagging question appeared.

*Why is Muskegon struggling while other communities I've lived in with less resources prospered?*

The more I learned about our local government the answer became clear.

Why me (Dirk Chilcote) over the other candidates. I have 31 yrs as a federal servant, working within the system is excellent teacher. Promoted to the top 7% of a 350k extremely diverse workforce, retired from the United States Air Force. The motto was "Do More With Less" through total quality management. I learned several disciplines that will serve us well as your commissioner. Structural Airframe, Leadership, Quality Assurance, Contracting, Logistics, Hazardous Materials, Federal Acquisition Regulations. Served in the Department of Interior NPS Grand Canyon and Department of Treasury US Mint San Francisco in the computer science information technology field. I've lived around our nation and world; I know what works and doesn't work to have a prosperous community.

After you learn more about the type of commissioner I will be. Please write in my name during the 2 August 2022 primary election as your Republican candidate.

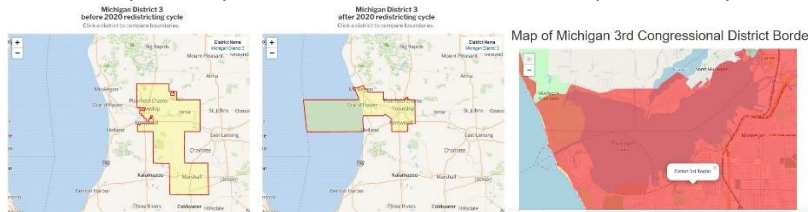
You can find more information about me by reviewing my website  [ElectDirk.com](https://ElectDirk.com), share your concerns [ElectDirk@gmail.com](mailto:ElectDirk@gmail.com), (231) 744-8362. I live in our community and enjoying hearing thoughts on what we can be doing better, if you see me let us have a conversation. Whether you vote for me or not I am interested in hearing your thoughts on how we can improve our community.

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Our commissioners spend \$256,099,007 annually, \$701,641 daily which costs every member within our community approximately \$7.44 each day for ages 18 to 65 based on the 2020 census report to run the Muskegon County government. The information is available on the county website [BudgetReport 10 11 2021 FINAL ADOPTED.xlsx \(muskegon.mi.us\)](#). If you look at how much it costs to run our local government (~ \$2717 annually, \$226 monthly for those 18 to 65) you should ask “What government services are you receiving to improve your quality of life?”

My grandfather was a foreman at Shaw Walker’s in 1980 when I graduated from Reeths-Puffer. At that time most members of our community had good paying jobs and wanted to keep our hidden gem hidden. Over the last 40 years our local government has done a lot to clean up our environment which is great; however, they neglected replacing those quality jobs with more environment friendly jobs. It seems the thought is we need to change to a tourist economic based community. The major flaw is that tourism industries does NOT create high quality jobs. Tourist communities generate more revenue for the government and does very little to improve quality of life for its members. The most valuable resource we have is within our ancestry, those that know how to create and make useful items. Our local government leaders have failed to capitalize on this critical resource to improve our quality of life. Michigan has a lot of sand that contains 94% of quartz which is used to manufacture computer and electronic components. My vision is to entice high technical companies to see Muskegon as the best place to create the future Silicon Valley. Along with this I would like to see higher education become a staple within our community. Placing focus on these avenues in addition other factors will go a long way in reducing our growing poverty rate and provide a higher quality of life for our children within our community.

Not sure if you noticed our new congressional districts; however, it gives me concern on what others are planning for our beautiful community. [Map of Michigan 3rd Congressional District Border - July 2022 \(zipdatamaps.com\)](#) The new borders surround Muskegon Lake which leads me to believe there are those that would like to see Muskegon become a bedroom/playground community of Grand Rapids. In the past our government officials fought those from Chicago that wanted make us their playground; however, it appears our current government officials are only concerned about generating more government revenue sources and could care less about improving the quality of life for our residents. If you agree that we should become a bedroom/playground community for Grand Rapids we can make this happen; however, with focus on improving our quality of life. Personally, I feel this isn’t the best course of action for our beautiful community. We have the resources to become an environment friendly with a higher quality of life community then most places within our area and within the nation. Our current government leadership has a very localized view of what we have the ability to become. I have the vision and the ability to keep our small-town charm and improve every one’s quality of life.



Muskegon County new Commissioner District maps can be found at [Apportionment Commission | Muskegon County, MI](#). District 6 is south Fruitland township, Laketon township, City of North Muskegon, and north City of Muskegon.

*Dirk V Chilcote*