

# CITIZENS CONSULTING GROUP, LLC

*Local Control Advisor*

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January 2, 2024

Port Sheldon Township  
16201 Port Sheldon Street  
West Olive, MI 49460

Dear Board:

The enclosed proposal is in response to your request for a proposal related to the planned closure of the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant in May 2025. It is our view that this plant should not be closed in May 2025. We would like to advise the Port Sheldon Township Board and the Ottawa County Board on a path away from closure. As documented in the enclosure, the closure and demolition of this plant would be a major mistake with significant negative ramifications and with few benefits. Zeeland Board of Public Works website acknowledges there is currently a problem with insufficient electrical energy production in the region to meet demand, and this is before the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant has even been shut down:

"Our region is at an elevated risk of "insufficient operating reserves in above-normal conditions" according to a report released by the North American Reliability Corporation (NERC). This projected deficiency is due to contributing factors such as predicted above-average temperatures and aging or recently retired thermal resources. Therefore, in times of extreme electric demand with all other options exhausted, MISO may direct the Zeeland BPW and neighboring utilities to implement load-shedding...Load Shedding: The deliberate shutdown of electric power in parts of a power-distribution system to prevent failure of the entire system."<sup>1</sup>

We are initiating a "Save the Campbell" campaign in Ottawa County to generate public support for our proposal. The key to avoiding the closure in May 2025 is exercising local control provisions in the State Constitution and law.

We have also begun communications with representatives of Ann Arbor for Public Power (<https://annarborpublicpower.org/>) in order to coordinate our efforts for local control over the electric utility. They are pressing towards municipalizing electric utility operations in either the City of Ann Arbor alone or else in all of Washtenaw County. Their plan has been thoroughly vetted as legal. Our proposal would utilize municipalizing provisions but then seek the transfer to a local member-owned electric cooperative, to better ensure funds paid by utility consumers would not be intermixed with government funds.

Our proposal would bring ownership and control to local citizens, so that local citizens through locally elected representatives could be at the table when the future of the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant is being discussed, unlike the settlement worked out with Consumers Energy. Also, hopefully this time more weight can be given to factors such as energy security and risk mitigation, as well as dispelling ideas that natural gas is necessarily a desirable trade-off for coal, as acknowledged even by those who believe global warming is a significant problem.<sup>2</sup>

We look forward to discussing our proposal with you. Thank you for thoughtfully considering it.

Sincerely,



J. Parnell McCarter

Manager

<sup>1</sup> <https://zeelandbpw.com/prepare/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://e360.yale.edu/features/how-climate-activists-failed-to-make-clear-the-problem-with-natural-gas-mckibben>

# CITIZENS CONSULTING GROUP, LLC PROPOSAL TO SAVE THE J.H.CAMPBELL GENERATING PLANT

## Members of Our Consulting Team<sup>1</sup>

Joseph Parnell McCarter – coordinator (finance/accounting/administration)  
Gretchen Cosby (government/healthcare)  
Lynn Janson (sales/marketing/business)  
David Morren (business/government)  
Joel Buck (operations management)  
Harvey Nikkel (science)

Requested utility advisor to the consulting group: Wolverine Power Cooperative, which recognizes the need for a careful approach to transition (if a transition were to occur),<sup>2</sup> and which has objected to the premature closure of the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant, arguing that its planned closure in May 2025 is risky and dangerous.<sup>3</sup>

A legal advisor is also being secured for the group. MECA's legal resources are being considered.<sup>4</sup>

## Our Mission

To advise the Boards of Port Sheldon Township and Ottawa County, as well as other local stakeholders, including Ottawa County citizens in general, on how to prevent the planned closure and demolition of the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant scheduled to begin in May 2025, but instead transfer of the title to a member-owned electric cooperative (likely to be named Citizens Electric Cooperative), which would operate it past May 2025.

## The Proposal

- The Boards of Port Sheldon Township and Ottawa County oversee an open ballot<sup>5</sup> plebiscite in the second half of 2024 of the consumer accounts in Ottawa County of Consumers Energy electrical service, as to whether to remain with Consumers Energy and its plan for future electrical supply, or else to form a member-owned electric cooperative that assumes ownership of the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant and keeps it open past May 2025 so as to allow more time for long term decisions regarding local electrical production and supply. The Boards would begin this process by obtaining certain account information from Consumers Energy immediately (such as customer account number, name, and address), so as to inform the County customers of the plebiscite and to publish to County residents who will be voting.
- If at least 60% of Ottawa County customer accounts of Consumers Energy electric services opt for the electric cooperative route, and keeping the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant open past May 2025, then the Boards of Port Sheldon Township and Ottawa County will pass necessary rules and regulations to forbid forced closure through at least 2032 (the year that the DTE coal plant in Monroe, Michigan is scheduled to close, and that coal plant has more carbon dioxide emissions than the J.H. Campbell

<sup>1</sup> Additional ones planned, especially an electrical engineer.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.wolverinepowercooperative.com/electric-reliability/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.craingsgrandrapids.com/news/energy/breach-of-contract-dispute-surrounds-early-closure-plan-for-ottawa-co-coal-plant/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.meca.coop/>

<sup>5</sup> In other words, it would seek to be open to public disclosure and not a secret ballot, in order that the plebiscite could be audited to ensure election integrity

plant)<sup>6</sup>, according to the principle that West Michigan should not be disadvantaged relative to other sections of Michigan without due time to carefully plan and prepare. These Boards would also oversee the transfer of title of the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant and other appropriate assets in May 2025 from Consumers Energy to the member-owned electric cooperative that would be formed as a result of the plebiscite. These Boards would utilize Citizens Consulting Group to advise in this process. Members of the electric cooperative would vote for a Board of Directors before May 2025, and prepare for assuming control of the plant in May 2025, along with taking over Consumers Energy electrical service in Ottawa County then. The County electric cooperative (serving parts of Ottawa County currently served by Consumers Energy) would arrange contracting out services and renting infrastructure as necessary and appropriate (likely from Consumers Energy). It would also engage in discussions with Michigan Public Service Commission, along with all stakeholders, into the topic of the remaining life of the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant.

- If more than 40% of Ottawa County customer accounts of Consumers Energy electric services opt for remaining with Consumers Energy and its plan for closure and demolition of the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant in May 2025, then Consumers Energy would proceed with its current plans. Port Sheldon Township would use a consulting group other than Citizens Consulting Group to plan for the closure of the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant and its aftermath.

### **The Significant Role of the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant in the Electrical Energy Picture of Ottawa County and Its Value**

The J.H. Campbell Plant is the largest coal plant Consumers Energy runs in Michigan and provides power to a million customers and hundreds of jobs to others.<sup>7</sup>



<sup>6</sup> <https://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2023/07/12/dte-coal-monroe-power-plant-closing/70404985007/> . DTE is taking time to make sure replacements are in place for southeast Michigan consumers before shutting down coal plants: ““... That'll leave us four to six years to construct what needs to be constructed and make sure that we can reliably shut those units down without sacrificing reliability for our customers.”

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.wzzm13.com/article/news/local/lakeshore/what-will-happen-to-the-jh-campbell-plant/69-522203712>

J H Campbell

Plant id: 1710 | Operator: Consumers Energy Co | Operator code: 4254  
 State: MI | Sector: Electric Utility | [View in dynamic map viewer](#)









? HELP [DOWNLOAD](#)

Generation		Consumption	Water	Annual emissions	Annual	2001 - 2019			
PIN		API				2016	2017	2018	2019
J H Campbell									
Net generation (megawatthours)									
All primemovers (ALL)									
All fuels (ALL)									
Bituminous coal (BIT)									
Distillate fuel oil (DFO)									
Subbituminous coal (SUB)									
Combustion (gas) turbine (including jet engine design) (GT)									
Distillate fuel oil (DFO)									
Steam turbine (ST)									
Bituminous coal (BIT)									
Distillate fuel oil (DFO)									
Subbituminous coal (SUB)									

Here is the electrical energy picture of Ottawa County:

ENERGY CONSUMPTION	
Total Consumption	<b>2,929,853 MWh</b>
Consumption per Capita	<b>9.74 MWh</b>
ENERGY PRODUCTION	
Total Production	<b>10,975,815 MWh</b>
Production from Renewable Energy	<b>4,094 MWh</b>
Production from Non-Renewable Energy	<b>10,971,721 MWh</b>
Production per Capita	<b>36.48 MWh</b>

## Ottawa County, Michigan Electricity Overview

-  Ottawa County uses non-renewable fuels to generate 36.47 megawatt hours per citizen, making them the 265th highest county in the country for non-renewable production per capita.
-  During the previous year, Ottawa County has experienced a 8.34% increase in production of electricity from solar sources, up from 3,779 megawatt hours each year to 4,094 megawatt hours each year.
-  As the 4th highest producer of electricity of all 83 counties in the state, Ottawa County generates 10,975,815.02 megawatt hours of electricity from various fuels.
-  Ottawa County had a 5.32% drop in CO2 emissions per capita during the course of the preceding 12 months.
-  Ottawa County is the 244th most populated county in the United States, with 300,873 citizens living within its borders.
-  Residents of Ottawa County pay about 1.53% less than the \$112.53 state average monthly residential electricity bill.

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In other words, the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant provides the preponderant share of electrical energy production in Ottawa County. If this plant is closed, our whole electrical energy picture changes significantly.

In addition, the County would be losing a major asset with the demolition of this plant. In the hands of Consumers Energy the plant will be a net liability, because it will require a substantial expenditure to phase it out, demolish it, re-purpose the property on which it is located, and assist Port Sheldon Township to transition to a new use. In contrast, in the hands of Citizens Electric Cooperative it would be one of Ottawa County's premier assets, given its multifaceted beneficial role:

- Reliable and economic source of electric energy for the County
- Generator of funds for the County, making it a net exporter of electric energy
- Providing hundreds of jobs for Port Sheldon Township and Ottawa County
- Providing a significant tax base for Port Sheldon Township and Ottawa County
- Providing necessary infrastructure for homes and businesses in the County, especially manufacturing, food processing, and farming
- Helping sustain property values in the County

### The Rationale for Non-Closure

Since Consumers Energy is a regulated utility, the consumers of the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant in Ottawa County and the other counties it serves have effectively been the ones to pay for this plant, since its commissioning in 1962.<sup>11</sup> Since Consumers Energy has agreed to and plans for its closure, the County users of it should be allowed to decide if they want it to continue operation beyond the planned May 2025 closure date, as well as whether they want to continue with having Consumers Energy as their electric service provider. (This

<sup>10</sup> <https://findenergy.com/mi/ottawa-county-electricity/>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.power-technology.com/data-insights/power-plant-profile-jh-campbell-coal-fired-power-plant-us/?cf-view>

was 15 years before the earlier planned closure date.)<sup>12</sup> A member-owned cooperative should be formed to take over operation of this utility plant if a 60% majority or more of Consumers Energy customers in Ottawa County want it to continue operations past May 2025. Furthermore, Port Sheldon Township and Ottawa County should recognize its closure in May 2025 and subsequent demolition may represent a significant risk and endangerment to its citizens, and thus should help its citizens avoid its May 2025 closure and subsequent demolition, if a 60% or more majority of its County customers indicate such closure and demolition should be stopped at that early date. Consumers Energy has needlessly endangered the energy security of West Michigan consumers in its quest to be “among the first utilities in the nation to go coal-free by 2025.”<sup>13</sup> Furthermore, Consumers Energy’s stopgap measure of demolishing a coal plant and expending money to purchase existing natural gas facilities is misguided from an environmental and economic perspective, as explained in a Yale School of Environment’s article entitled “How Climate Activists Failed to Make Clear the Problem with Natural Gas”.<sup>14</sup>

The best use of the plant property is its current use. Other uses, such as ones outlined below, are lame at best:

“The study says some of the land is best suited for parks, homes and businesses, while other sections could remain industrial. The fly ash landfills could also have another use. On that property, there’s the potential for some battery storage. There may be some small-scale solar, but I get the feeling it wasn’t the highest and best use for that area,” Sabatino said.”<sup>15</sup>

“A Midwest environmental law group is launching a “major new” initiative this year to work with utilities, municipalities and conservation groups to study the potential reuse of Michigan coal plants as public parkland as well as renewable energy production. The Chicago-based **Environmental Law and Policy Center’s** (ELPC) “power plants to parklands” project is in the early stages of examining the reuse of at least four coal plants along each of the Great Lakes that Michigan touches.”<sup>16</sup>

Furthermore, it more appropriately addresses the breach of contract that Cadillac-based Wolverine Power Supply Cooperative Inc. has alleged in this earlier closure, as well as significant concerns regarding energy security and reliability.<sup>17</sup> Wolverine stated the following: “Consumers’ reckless actions in effectuating an early retirement of Campbell 3 in 2025 not only jeopardizes the reliable supply of electricity throughout rural Michigan, but also significantly damages Wolverine for Consumers’ benefit,” according to Wolverine’s suit...The company added that while the premature closure of Campbell “jeopardizes Michigan’s ability to keep the lights on, particularly at a time when our state faces rolling blackouts due to disorderly plant retirements, this case is about Consumers’ actions in breach of the contract and the resulting damage to Wolverine’s 260,000+ members.”

Port Sheldon Township would be adversely impacted by the closure:

“Like most rural communities on the fringe of developing urban areas, Port Sheldon Township is faced with growth pressures due to the demand for residential and commercial opportunities. In addition, the announcement of the early closure of Consumers Energy’s J.H. Campbell Generating plant, scheduled for decommissioning in May of 2025, presents significant challenges for land use and strategic planning. The potential loss of tax revenue from the largest single payer, warrants an Economic Resiliency Response Plan, which will address future economic needs, and strategic planning for resiliency beyond

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.crainsgrandrapids.com/news/energy/breach-of-contract-dispute-surrounds-early-closure-plan-for-ottawa-co-coal-plant/>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.consumersenergy.com/news-releases/news-release-details/2022/06/23/20/43/plan-to-accelerate-end-of-coal-era-provide-reliability-and-protect-environment-earns-approval>

<sup>14</sup> <https://e360.yale.edu/features/how-climate-activists-failed-to-make-clear-the-problem-with-natural-gas-mckibben>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.hollandsentinel.com/story/news/local/2023/06/07/planned-campbell-plant-closure-opens-up-property-for-development/70292298007/>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.crainsgrandrapids.com/news/energy/power-plants-to-parklands-initiative-explores-public-access-clean-energy-at-former-michigan-coal-plants/>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.crainsgrandrapids.com/news/energy/breach-of-contract-dispute-surrounds-early-closure-plan-for-ottawa-co-coal-plant/>

the decommissioning of the coal plant. Additionally, the Master Land Use Plan was written in 1995 and last updated in 2017, and in its current form is less than adequate to meet all the Township's current and future needs, especially in light of the large amount of land which will be involved through the decommissioning."<sup>18</sup>

"While environmental activists are pleased with Consumers' announcement, local officials are adjusting to a timeline which will be a major change for the community. The plant is the largest source of tax revenue for Port Sheldon Township and the Grand Haven Area Public School District... "It took us by quite a surprise," Port Sheldon Township Supervisor Howard Baumann said of Consumers' announcement. "Just three years ago we were meeting with them, and they were looking at closing Units 1 and 2 in 2031 and Unit 3 even later than that. The plant makes up nearly 30 percent of the township's tax base, Baumann said. It also employs 310 workers."<sup>19</sup>

This comes at a time that the Biden Administration has been pursuing a misguided energy policy characterized by eroding natural gas infrastructure,<sup>20</sup> off-lining coal-based energy without adequate offsets,<sup>21</sup> and significant environmental hazards such as associated with solar panel disposal.<sup>22</sup> The planned battery storage of significant quantities of electrical power that accompanies use of solar and wind reliance is subject to significant reliability and environmental concerns.<sup>23</sup> Shortages of electrical energy production to meet demand can lead to voltage instability, frequency fluctuations, load shedding, blackouts, and equipment damage.<sup>24</sup> The risks and harms of closure are significant.

DTE coal plants on the east side of the state are not scheduled to retire until 2032,<sup>25</sup> so why should a coal plant on the west side of the state have to close in 2025 with all of the risks that entails?

Furthermore, "coal is the world's most affordable energy fuel, and as such, the world's biggest commodity market for electricity generation".<sup>26</sup> China and India produce almost 60% of the world's coal, and are expected to increase their production by more than 200 million tons per year, collectively.<sup>27</sup> Why is West Michigan shooting itself in the foot while other parts of the world are expanding use of coal for electrical energy production? Could money be talking?<sup>28</sup> If there is going to be departure from coal, should it not be worldwide?

Much of the economic analysis of Consumers Energy and other parties is predicated on the taxpayer-funded incentives of the Biden Administration's Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).<sup>29</sup> Should those non-market incentives go away, the economics of the closure of the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant, and its replacement by solar and wind, looks much worse. Why should we trust those incentives will remain in place long term? Will Biden even win the 2024 election? How can the nation indefinitely afford the huge incentives of the IRA given the public budget deficits it is engendering?

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.miottawa.org/Departments/Planning/pdf/Port-Sheldon-Economic-Resiliency-RFP-2023.pdf>

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.hollandsentinel.com/story/news/local/2021/07/04/what-does-early-closure-jh-campbell-plant-mean-west-michigan/7839793002/>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.instituteeforenergyresearch.org/the-grid/nerc-warns-of-potential-power-shortages-this-winter-amid-limited-natural-gas-infrastructure/>  
<sup>21</sup> <https://www.wsj.com/articles/s-o-s-for-the-u-s-electric-grid-pjm-interconnection-blackout-supply-renewables-subsidy-report-fossil-fuel-4cbdd56e>

and <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/north-america-faces-power-reliability-challenges-again-this-winter-nerc-2023-11-08/>

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.hazardouswasteexperts.com/are-solar-panels-hazardous-waste-are-solar-panels-recyclable/#:~:text=Solar%20panels%20contain%20toxic%20heavy,recycle%20or%20dispose%20of%20them>

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.publicpower.org/periodical/article/battery-storage-devices-need-more-scrutiny-ensure-reliability-nerc-wecc-report-finds> and <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1364032119300334>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.city-journal.org/article/the-states-power-down> explains the dangerous course we are on with our electric power grid as reliable power sources are rapidly offlined.

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.bridgemi.com/business-watch/settlement-critics-dte-energy-agrees-faster-coal-phase-out>

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/future-of-global-coal-production-2021-2024f/>

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/future-of-global-coal-production-2021-2024f/>

<sup>28</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LX5pOggb3JpTt4\\_dCDG5YYK0C\\_NiYiJ/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LX5pOggb3JpTt4_dCDG5YYK0C_NiYiJ/view)

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.atr.org/irafailure/>

One of the chief objections to the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant is its emissions other than carbon dioxide. However, Consumers Energy invested "\$1 billion to reduce emissions out of their stacks. "We're removing mercury, we're removing nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, so it does not get up in the air," he said.<sup>30</sup>

### **A Member-Owned Energy Cooperative as New Owner and Operator**

The non-profit electric cooperative would be focused on electric utility operations and patterned after Cloverland Electric Cooperative in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.<sup>31</sup> Another model which would be looked to as an example is Grand Haven Board of Power and Light. Such a cooperative would seek close working relations with Wolverine Power Cooperative, in contrast to the bad relations that have characterized Consumers Energy's relations with Wolverine Power Cooperative in recent years. The electric cooperative would consider joining MECA in order to help protect its legal interests.<sup>32</sup> The electric cooperative would also seek good working relations with Consumers Energy, even contracting services with them at a mutually agreeable billing rate, unless Consumers Energy took an adversarial approach to the electric cooperative and its members.

Such a cooperative would have a board of directors elected by members. Michigan law recognizes and protects the rights of such member-owned electric cooperatives.<sup>33</sup>

"Converting to a cooperatives is good for the community within and around the enterprise. Cooperatization can...

- Distribute risk and maximize institutional and community independence
- Satisfy unmet social, economic needs and correct market failures
- Provide true community ownership, buffering communities from impact of outsourcing and market centralization
- Generate, circulate, and retain community wealth"<sup>34</sup>

### **The Legal Background of the Planned Closure**

Consumers Energy entered into a settlement agreement with various parties.<sup>35</sup> Highlights of the agreement as described by its proponents:

- "Closure of three units at the J.H. Campbell coal-fired power plant in Ottawa County's Port Sheldon Township in 2025, resulting in a reduction in environmental pollutants as the company works to retire coal and replace it with cleaner natural gas and renewable energy resources.
- Consumers' purchase of the Covert Generating Station, a natural gas-fired power plant in Van Buren County's Covert Township, in 2023, which will add 1,114 zonal resource credits (ZRCs) to the Midcontinent Independent System Operator's (MISO) Zone 7 from PJM Interconnection, which serves southwest Michigan. MISO is the regional transmission organization that covers the greater part of Michigan, and Zone 7 covers the Lower Peninsula except for the area served by PJM. Addition of the Covert plant to MISO will boost reliability for Consumers and provide additional capacity to Zone 7 for the next MISO planning year and beyond.

<sup>30</sup> <https://www.wzzm13.com/article/news/local/lakeshore/what-will-happen-to-the-jh-campbell-plant/69-522203712>

<sup>31</sup> <https://www.cloverland.com/about-us/your-cooperative/>

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.meca.coop/>

<sup>33</sup> [https://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(anj3livlj2x1bf55uieg1eyy\)\)/documents/mcl/pdf/mcl-Act-167-of-2008.pdf](https://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(anj3livlj2x1bf55uieg1eyy))/documents/mcl/pdf/mcl-Act-167-of-2008.pdf)

<sup>34</sup> <https://www.co-oplaw.org/knowledge-base/legal-guide-cooperative-conversions/>

<sup>35</sup> <https://mi-psc.my.site.com/sfc/servlet.shepherd/version/download/0688y000003KjSDAA0>



- Not accelerating to 2023 the retirement of Consumers' D.E. Karn Generating Complex's units 3 and 4, which run on natural gas and fuel oil. Instead, the two units would continue operating through May 2031.
- Bringing thousands of new megawatts (MW) of solar energy capacity online in the next several years as part of the company's plans to add about 8,000 MW of solar generation by 2040, the year by which Consumers pledges to be carbon-neutral."<sup>36</sup>

This legal agreement failed to include the party at the table most affected by it: residents of West Michigan, especially Ottawa County, many of whom were not even aware of the discussions. They should get to vote on it and so voice their assent or dissent as to its going forward as planned. They effectively paid for the plant in their utility bills and it is in their county, and they will be the main ones to suffer from its closure and demolition.

### **Resources on the Topic of Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide as a Pollutant**

Even if one believes atmospheric carbon dioxide is a pollutant and the J.H. Campbell Generating Plant should thus be closed, there are still reasons to delay its closure until the region is better prepared with the alternatives. But the question of whether atmospheric carbon dioxide is a pollutant should be closely examined, because it is the central rationale for its closure.

Dr. William Happer of Princeton University presents excellent information on why it is not a pollutant.<sup>37</sup> On January 13, 2024 Dr. E. Calvin Beisner and Steve Gorham are holding a symposium on the topic: "Climate Change Fact or Fantasy?"<sup>38</sup> Both have laid out the case that atmospheric carbon dioxide should not be regarded as a pollutant.<sup>39</sup> MIT scientists have evidence of significant negative feedback: "a study by MIT researchers in *Science Advances* confirms that the planet harbors a "stabilizing feedback" mechanism that acts over hundreds of thousands of years to pull the climate back from the brink, keeping global temperatures within a steady, habitable range... A likely mechanism is "silicate weathering" — a geological process by which the slow and steady weathering of silicate rocks involves chemical reactions that ultimately draw carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere and into ocean sediments, trapping the gas in rocks."<sup>40</sup> There is significant evidence that atmospheric carbon dioxide is benign and even beneficial at current or likely future levels.<sup>41</sup>

Money is being poured into atmospheric carbon dioxide alarmism, but a careful analysis of the data raises significant questions about its veracity.

### **Local Group Associations That Can Assist the Citizens Consulting Group**

Citizens Consulting Group members have ties with Ottawa Impact and Gideon 300 to help us in this effort.

### **"SAVE THE CAMPBELL" Campaign**

Citizens Consulting Group, LLC has officially launched the "SAVE THE CAMPBELL" campaign, for the purpose of informing the public of all of the reasons to keep it operational past May 2025.

<sup>36</sup> [https://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/commission/news-releases/2022/06/23/mpsc-approves-consumers-irp\\_takes-steps-improve-capacity](https://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/commission/news-releases/2022/06/23/mpsc-approves-consumers-irp_takes-steps-improve-capacity)

<sup>37</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CA1zUW4uOSw>

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/climate-change-fact-or-fantasy-tickets-765171437367>

<sup>39</sup> <https://heartland.org/opinion/to-protect-the-poor-ten-reasons-to-oppose-harmful-climate-change-policies/> and <https://www.stevegorham.com/climatefacts/>

<sup>40</sup> <https://news.mit.edu/2022/earth-stabilizing-temperature-1116>

<sup>41</sup> <https://co2coalition.org/publications/a-primer-on-carbon-dioxide-and-climate/>

# JOSEPH PARNELL MCCARTER, CPA, MBA

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## EDUCATION

**Rutgers University**, New Brunswick, NJ  
MBA in Professional Accounting (Puder Memorial Fund Award for Highest GPA)

**Princeton University**, Princeton, NJ  
Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy (Honors Graduate, National Merit Scholar)

## CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Public Accountant (Inactive), Passed on 1<sup>st</sup> Attempt

## VOLUNTEER/AVOCATIONS

Ruling elder (now emeritus) and member of a Presbyterian congregation; author of home school curriculum; leader of group to return the USA to its original constitutional model; volunteer with CheckMyVote; author of numerous books and articles on history, political philosophy, theology, science, computer programming and a range of other topics

## WORK EXPERIENCE

1997 to  
Present

**Highlight Industries, Inc**, Grand Rapids, MI  
*CFO/Controller of Packaging Equipment Manufacturer with International Sales*

- Responsibility areas have included: Accounting, Programming/Database Management, HR/Payroll/Benefits Administration, Purchasing, Shipping and Sales Support Departments
- Implemented new and more integrated ERP system significantly programmed internally
- Programmed and implemented costing accounting system
- Initiated innovative tax planning structures and employee benefit programs to minimize expenses
- Led multiple acquisitions of target companies
- Managed corporate insurance risks
- Oversaw annual tax planning
- Managed the development of IofT and other programmed product applications

1995 to  
1997

**A.D. Bos Company**, Holland, MI  
*Controller of Food Distribution Company*

- Increased automation of accounting system, including implementation of hand-held technology
- Enhanced integration of accounting systems, permitting more real-time reporting
- Improved internal control system to monitor flows of inventory and cash

1992 to  
1995

**Summit Training Source**, Grand Rapids, MI  
*Controller for Producer and Distributor of Multimedia Industrial Training Products*

- Implemented new quality control systems in operations
- New computerized method for capturing revenues and expenses for marketing.

1989 to  
1992

**Prangley, Marks & Company**, Grand Rapids, MI  
*Senior Accountant*

- Expanded firm's MAS practice through my specialized skills in business valuation, as well as worked in audit and tax
- Assigned to service many of the firms leading clients, including Highlight Industries and Summit Training Source

1986 to  
1989

**Ernst & Young**, Saddlebrook, NJ  
*Intern and Staff Accountant*

- Audit of companies in wide range of industries, including steel manufacturing, real estate development, and machinery importing

**Gretchen Cosby** holds Associates, Bachelor's and Master's degrees in nursing and nursing management. She has a 30-year career in almost every level of nursing, from the front line to senior leadership positions, and has been responsible for budgets up to \$30M.

Gretchen's specialties in nursing include: emergency room, intensive care, surgical, behavioral health, care management, innovative practice management, nursing education and COVID community response.

She has held senior roles with full scope vision, business, and financial responsibilities. Gretchen has participated in community emergency response planning interacting with all levels of state and local government.

She has led teams up to 200 people, designed and started physician office labs, presented at Mayo Clinic, and served as the Chairman of the Nursing Leadership Committee and board member of Resthaven.

Gretchen has experience as a leadership representative for union negotiations and stood up Holland's COVID-19 clinic which saw 375 patients per day.

She has also assisted in the development of statewide emergency response plans, and looks forward to bringing her passion and expertise to serve the people of Ottawa County. Gretchen cares deeply about government accountability, parental rights, and election integrity.

**Gretchen currently serves on the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners.**

See <https://gretchencosby.com/>.

# LYNN JANSON

Georgetown Township, Michigan | 616-706-0315 | lynnjanson@gmail.com

## SENIOR LEADERSHIP IN MARKETING, SALES, AND SALES MANAGEMENT

Solutions-driven, strategic, and creative sales and marketing leader with a track record of launching companies and products, and catapulting growth in new markets. Aligns business needs with market trends and customer requirements. Develops and leads high performing teams with excellent relationship building to ensure world-class service. Innovates processes and products to achieve results. Rises to challenges in competitive industries.

Sales Strategy & Development	Team Supervision	Product Development
Solution-driven Sales Leadership	Staff Training & Hiring	Market Analysis
Territory Growth & Expansion	Quality & Customer Service	Creative Problem Solving

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **RUSH MARKETING SERVICES** **2016-Current**

*Ad creation and marketing services provider for auto dealerships. Sold the service department to CarData, Inc. in 2021 to refocus on software and high tech marketing platforms for our dealer customers.*

#### **Owner**

Launched and scaled business, growing to \$1M in annual revenue and 15-member team within 3 years. Hired, trained, and supervised employees. Oversaw sales, budget management, HR, and operations.

- Improved customers' online presence by delivering innovative products to the market.
- Achieved high employee retention by creating a positive culture that valued all staff members and an organizational infrastructure that allowed for internal growth and career progression.
- In 2021 Rush Marketing Services added the booming firearms industry to automotive.

### **Centershot Gun Range and Training** **2021-Current**

*Firearms range, training facility, and retail store*

#### **Range Officer**

- NRA, Centershot Gun Range, and South Kent Sportsman's Club Certified Range Safety Officer.
- NRA Instructor.
- Retail sales firearms expert.

### **AUTO UPLINK USA** **2006-2016**

*Leading provider of online marketing services for auto dealerships.*

#### **Regional Sales Manager – Michigan Region**

Launched Michigan region, growing to \$1.3M in annual revenue and 9-member team. Hired, trained, and supervised staff with emphasis on sales and service. Developed and managed budget. Leveraged full understanding of the dealerships' multiple software systems to best meet customer needs.

- Established market presence, growing portfolio to 90+ accounts.
- Recognized as top salesperson achieving largest business growth within the company for 10 consecutive years. Singlehandedly generated 20% of the company's total annual revenue.
- Known as a subject matter expert with deep knowledge of products and software in the industry.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Technology: Salesforce CRM | Auto Dealer Management Systems (Pricing, Payroll, Inventory) | MS Office

Education: Coursework toward Bachelor of Arts in Marketing, Michigan State University

Training: Infantry Training, U.S. Army

Volunteering: Ottawa County Republican Party Executive Committee

# David Lee Morren

born 10/16/1960

married to Sandra L. Morren 1982

2 Children

Daughter, Rachelle, married, son-in-law Glenn Brown

2, Grand Kids

Scoutt Brown,

1, Great Granddaughter, Adiline Brown

Maddison Brown,

1, Great Grandson, Arden

Son, Mathew , Deceased.

started working at age 12, local farmers, haying ,digging up flower bulbs, tying up Indian corn.

1972-75

started job at

VandeBunte Produce Hudsonville, 1976-1977

started tool and die apprenticeship at Model Die & Mold

1977

worked at different tool shops thru 1995.

The last of which was Paragon Die and Engineering.

Lead tool Maker

1995 Started Morren Mold & Machine in Allendale, Mi.

Still operating today.

got involved in farming in 1970 -2023

currently farm, 180 acres in Allendale.

raise Draft Horses,Beef,Swine,Corn,oats,wheat,soybeans.

elementary School, Hudsonville Christian thru 7 th grade

High school , Hudsonville High

G.R.J.C Appentice program for tool and Die.

elected to Allendale Trustee in 2008 -2012

# Joel Buck

## County Commissioner District 6 Applicant

Jenison, MI 49428

[77joel37@gmail.com](mailto:77joel37@gmail.com)

+1(6168189470)

Motivated and dedicated to following the constitution as intended by our Founding Fathers with a heavy anti-federalist bias.

Authorized to work in the US for any employer

## Work Experience

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### Allendale

Skyline Fall Protection - Allendale, MI

October 2018 to Present

- I joined Skyline Fall Protection as a design engineer and project manager. I have worked with several state and federal level government entities to complete projects. I design custom products to fit the customers needs for OSHA compliant fall protection. This often requires using Solidworks design simulations, working with third party engineers, and submitting as built documentation to the end user or customer.
- In 2019 I began scheduling with our field technicians and shop fabrication, ordering materials, maintaining inventory, and new hires for the team. Often I will visit customers for site verification and manage more complex projects in the field.
- In 2020 I moved up to operations manager and assist in company goals, mission objectives, and team leading.

### Operations Director

Rapidtek LLC - Jenison, MI

October 2000 to October 2018

I was hired in the company to perform basic machine building and fabrication of parts. I rapidly moved into designing custom machinery and modification of current products. I took on additional responsibilities and roles as need and/or presented to me without hesitation. I am currently directing the production, inventory, and purchasing of nearly all aspects of the company. My roles include CNC operator and programmer, manual machining with various shop tools such as Bridgeport knee mills and turret lathes. I manage inventory for all product lines produced in our shop and can run ERP software. I design custom machines and tools using Solidworks and AutoCAD LT. I source vendors for outsourced work as well as coordinate logistics of material transfers and quality control. Other skills include basic electric design and troubleshooting of machines operating with circuit boards, motor controls, PLCs, and VF drives. I have knowledge of pneumatic and hydraulic systems, and also Microsoft Office software and Excel. I am highly skilled in improving product quality while making the design easier to manufacture at a lower cost. I also have several years of experience with designing top down concept designs in Solidworks. I am very self motivated and will complete a project from start to finish using my own skills and knowledge or ask the right questions and seek help when needed.

## **Food Service Worker**

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS - Various Locations - Jacksonville, NC  
January 1996 to July 1999

During my enlistment progress, I scored at the time a record high quantitative score on the ASVAB test. I worked as a basic galley cook for 6 months. I was meritoriously promoted in boot camp and again about 1 year later becoming the youngest non commissioned officer in my battalion. I moved into managing the store room and then subsistence inventory management. While deployed, I was the personal chef for the units Commanding Officer. During this time, I personally managed a galley feeding up to 20 individuals per meal, including foreign dignitaries and national celebrities. I also was awarded a letter of commendation for service while deployed. When my enlistment was up, I passed testing to enter the Intelligence/Surveillance field but decided to end my career in the Corps.

## **Education**

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### **High school or equivalent in Basics of Electricity**

Grand Rapids Community College - Grand Rapids, MI  
October 2000 to January 2001

### **Food Service**

United States Marine Corp - Petersburg, VA  
October 1995 to January 1996

Byron Center High School  
September 1991 to June 1995

### **Solidworks**

Dasi Solutions - Grand Rapids, MI

## **Skills**

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- Microsoft Office (10+ years)
- Solidworks (5 years)
- Autocad (6 years)
- CNC Programmer and Operator (10+ years)
- Welding (9 years)
- Machine Design (10+ years)
- Inventory Management (10+ years)
- Management (10+ years)
- Hydraulics (8 years)
- Pneumatics (10+ years)
- ERP Systems (3 years)

## Military Service

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### **Branch: United States Marine Corps**

Service Country: United States

Rank: Corporal

June 1995 to July 1999

Worked in food service in food preparation, menu planning, stock room inventory management, and personal chef serving upper level officers and foreign dignitaries.

Commendations:

Meritoriously promoted to Private First Class and again to Corporal.

Two Meritorious Mast Certificates

Naval Service Commendation

## Certifications and Licenses

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### **Solidworks-Essentials**

August 2016 to Present

Basic introduction to Dassault Systemes Solidworks 3D modeling Software. 5-day class to cover basic part modeling, creating file ladders, drawings, and assemblies. Class required an end of course evaluation to pass. Presented by licensed Solidworks reseller.

### **Solidworks-Advanced Modeling**

May 2016 to Present

5 day course covering Solidworks advanced modeling techniques, configurations, file management, and introduction into simulations. Class required an end of course evaluation to pass. Presented by licensed Solidworks reseller.

### **Solidworks-Weldments**

April 2017 to Present

2-Day basic introduction in Solidworks weldments. The class covered the basics in importing structural steel profiles, creating sketched frames, converting sketches to welded, bolted, fabricated frames, and creating configurations using different structural steel profiles. Class required an end of course evaluation to pass. Presented by licensed Solidworks reseller.

## Groups

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### **The Gideon 300**

August 2023 to Present

The Gideon 300 group is a social welfare 501(c)(4) organization being created to "inform and promote knowledge for liberty and livelihood." In September I was nominated and elected to be the group's clerk.

### **Precinct Delegate**

August 2022 to Present



- Elected in District 6 Georgetown Township Precinct 9 in the August 2022 primary.
- Attended the 2022 and 2023 state conventions an an alternate delegate.
- Attended the JD Glaser Delegate/Robert's Rules Seminar.
- Joined the OCGOP accountability sub-committee and currently servicing as Vice-Chair.

### **Convention of States**

October 2021 to Present

- Organized a parade float for COS for the Jenison Memorial Day parade in 2022.
- Volunteered to man their info booths at several Michigan gun shows.

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# HARVEY J. NIKKEL

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Jenison, MI 49428 ♦ (616) 813-4969 ♦ nikkharv@comcast.net

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## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D.:** Biochemistry (Chemistry Department), 1971

**Purdue University** - West Lafayette, IN

**Bachelor of Science:** Chemistry, 1966

**Southwestern State College** - Weatherford, OK

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## WORK HISTORY

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**Professor of Chemistry**, 09/1974 - 06/2019

**Grand Valley State University** – Allendale, MI

- Assistant Professor of Chemistry 1974-1978
- Associate Professor of Chemistry 1978-1988
- Professor of Chemistry 1988-2019

**Assistant Professor of Chemistry**, 08/1970 - 08/1974

**Illinois State University** – Normal, IL

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## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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GVSU Outstanding Teacher Award 1987

Chair of Department of Chemistry 1990-2005

- Recruited and hired 18 faculty members and 5 staff in the Chemistry Department.

- Courses Developed

CHM 462, Biochemistry Laboratory

CHM 463, Biochemistry II

CHM 109, Introductory Chemistry

CHM 230, Introductory Organic and Biochemistry

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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Sabbatical Leave at the St. Mary's Hospital Pathology Lab, Winter Semester 1982

Sabbatical Leave at Butterworth Hospital Clinical Nutrition Lab, Fall Semester 1989

Sabbatical Leave at VanAndel Research Lab, Winter Semester 2005

Sabbatical Leave at GVSU Cook DeVos Center, Fall Semester 2016, "Site Directed Mutagenesis and Kinetic Analysis of Mutants of OXA-24 B-Lactamase"

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## PUBLICATIONS

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"A Reversible Sulfhydryl-Catalyzed Structural Alteration of Bovine Mercaptoalbumin" *Biochemistry*, Vol. 10, No 24, 1971

CHM 232 Laboratory Manual (published in house, editor of and co-authored original manual, revised as needed)

CHM 109 Laboratory Manual (published in house, authored original manual, revised as needed)

CHM 230 Laboratory Manual (published in house, authored original manual, revised as needed)