

**From:** [Neil Ahrens](#)  
**To:** [Suzanne Kanine](#)  
**Cc:** [Rich Ginop](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Conflict of Interest Concern  
**Date:** Friday, April 28, 2023 5:37:39 PM

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Passing along this communication. FYI

In Service,

Neil W. Ahrens  
Emmet County Commissioner  
District 2

Cell: 1 (231) 881 6607

**From:** Kirstyn Horan <horan.kirstyn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 27, 2023 4:54 PM  
**To:** David Boyer <dboyer@emmetcounty.org>  
**Cc:** Brian Gutowski <bgutowski@emmetcounty.org>  
**Subject:** Conflict of Interest Concern

Good Evening,

I wanted to reach out and raise a concern I have about an Emmet County Commissioner's involvement in a website called "Emmet Responsible Government", or ERG. As I'm sure you are aware, the current chair, Rich Ginop, is listed as a founding member of the website. This website has been posting stories that actively work against the mission of the Health Department of Northwest Michigan. My concern is that Commissioner Ginop appointed himself to the Board of Health (BOH), while also being a part of a website that has posted many false claims and perpetuation of divisive topics.

It seems to me that when Commissioner Ginop stated that he felt there needed to be a change on the BOH, his motive was to actively work against the mission and purpose of serving on such a board.

After having spent the last three years observing the actions of commissioners who serve on the Health Department of Northwest Michigan's Board of Health, it concerns me gravely that Commissioner Ginop is not acting with integrity and is putting Emmet County at risk.

Thank You,  
Kirstyn Horan  
Bear Creek Township  
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Kirstyn