

PUBLIC WORKS & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 2025

9:00 A.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Keith Barber, Brian Droscha, Scott Hansen, Nicole Christensen, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, and Jane Whitacre

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Jacob Toomey

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioner Jim Mott; Connie Sobie, Claudine Williams, Jared Bogdanov-Hanna, Brandy Miller, Chad Powers, Rachel Cuschieri-Murray, Natalie Halsey, Val Reisen, and Ethan Jacobs

The July 9, 2025, regular meeting of the Public Works and Human Services Committee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Barber.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all.

Commissioner Droscha moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Droscha moved to approve the June 4, 2025, minutes. Commissioner Christensen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Limited Public Comment. None.

Rachel Cuschieri-Murray, Executive Director of Eaton Conservation District, gave a presentation regarding the Eaton Conservation District and what they do. Natalie Halsey, Agriculture Specialist, spoke about MAEAP Program and how they work with farmers in Eaton County. Val Reisen their Environmental Outreach Coordinator, presented information about programs she oversees and grants awarded to the Eaton County Conservation District. Discussion was held.

Brandy Miller, Planning and Zoning Administrator, presented the monthly department report. An update on providing planning and zoning services to township's for a fee was given.

Jared Bogdanov-Hanna, Director of Resource Recovery, presented the monthly department report. A Resolution to Discontinue the Solid Waste Alternatives Grant (SWAG) Program was presented and discussed. Commissioner Droscha moved to recommend approval of the Resolution to discontinue the program beginning with budget year 2025-2026 to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Whitacre seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Eathan Jacobs, Parks Deputy Director, presented the monthly department report. Chad Powers, Facilities Director, gave an update on storm cleanup and filling open positions in the department. Mr. Powers also updated the Committee on proposals for the new entrance drive off from Flanders Road for Crandell Park and the potential entrance drive expansion at Fitzgerald Park. Discussion was held.

Commissioner Mott commented on the Fitzgerald Park Lease, which the Board of Commissioners moved back to the Public Works and Human Services Committee at its June 18, 2025, meeting. Commissioner Mott stated the Committee previously recommended the lease for approval with a four (4) year term and he is suggesting it be recommended for approval with a seven (7) year term. He noted a seven (7) year term would coincide with the Parks Millage set to end in 2032. Discussion held. Commissioner Whitacre moved to recommend approval of the Fitzgerald Park Lease as presented and with a term of seven (7) years. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Claudine Williams, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Development, provided information about the City of Grand Ledge Community Grant Application for Jaycee Park. City Representatives were present at the June meeting and requested the Committee reconsider awarding Parks Community Grant funding for their Jaycee Park project application. Ms. Williams stated the city now has enough matching funds for the project and would like the County to reconsider awarding funding. Commissioner Whitacre moved to recommend approval of the Jaycee Park Grant Application to the Ways and Means Committee for a \$150,000 budget amendment to fund the project. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous. None.

Limited Public Comment. Grand Ledge Mayor, Keith Mulder, stated that he appreciates the willingness of the Commissioners to revisit the grant application for Jaycee Park.

Chairperson Barber adjourned the meeting at 10:19 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Works and Human Services Committee will be held on August 6, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners Room of the Courthouse located at 1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte MI 48813.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KB', followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line.

Keith Barber, Chairperson