

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
August 20, 2025

The Eaton County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at the County Facilities, in the City of Charlotte, Wednesday, August 20, 2025, including the availability of virtual attendance by the public.

Chairman Mott called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Hansen gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given by all.

Roll call. Commissioners present: Chris Arndt, Jason Peek, Brandon Haskell, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Jane M. Whitacre, Mark Mudry, Kyle Jones, Brian Droscha, Jacob Toomey, Scott Hansen, Nicole Christensen, Jim Mott, Frank Holmes, Keith Barber. Commissioners absent: None.

Chairman Mott moved the addition of item #7c – Labor Negotiations. Seconded by Commissioner Droscha. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Droscha moved the approval of the agenda as amended. Seconded by Commissioner Hansen. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Droscha moved the approval of July 16, 2025 regular meeting minutes and July 25, 2025 special and closed session meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Hansen. Motion carried unanimously.

Communications: Houghton County Resolution Urging Action to Oppose Proposed Cuts to Medicaid by the Federal Government. IAEM Announces National Emergency Management Awareness Month. Delta Township Notice of Intent to Update Master Plan. (On file)

Public Comments: Joseph Chin, Charlotte City councilmember, spoke in opposition to the Fire Training Facility resolution. He also spoke in opposition to the reductions in County funding to Community Mental Health Department.

Commissioner Holmes moved the approval of Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Initial Work Agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Peek. Motion carried unanimously. (On file)

Commissioner Droscha moved the approval of #25-8-87 Resolution to Amend County Clerk Fee Schedule. Seconded by Commissioner Barber. Motion carried unanimously. (On file)

Commissioner Droscha moved the approval of #25-8-88 Resolution to Authorize Application for County Clerk E-Recording Grant. Seconded by Commissioner Haskell. Motion carried unanimously. (On file)

Commissioner Haskell moved to amend the motion to restore the Community Mental Health Contribution to the originally reduced 30% reduction (\$400,877). Seconded by Commissioner Whitacre.

Commissioner Peek moved to amend to restore Community Mental Health to the original proposal (\$572,682) of being fully funded. Second by Commissioner Haskell.

Amendment to restore full funding Community Mental Health of contribution. Roll call vote: Ayes: Commissioners Peek, Haskell, Pearl-Wright, Whitacre, Mudry, Jones, Toomey. Nays: Commissioners Arndt, Droscha, Hansen, Christensen, Holmes, Barber, Mott. Tie vote - Motion failed.

Amendment to restore Community Mental Health Contribution to 30% reduction. Roll call vote: Ayes: Commissioners Peek, Haskell, Pearl-Wright, Whitacre, Mudry, Jones, Toomey. Nays: Commissioners Arndt, Droscha, Hansen, Christensen, Holmes, Barber, Mott. Tie vote - Motion failed.

Original motion to reinstate the Community Mental Health Contribution to \$330,000 (County's minimum required contribution). Roll call vote. Ayes: Commissioners Arndt, Haskell, Pearl-Wright, Whitacre, Mudry, Jones, Droscha, Toomey, Hansen, Christensen, Holmes, Barber and Mott. Nays: Peek. Motion carried.

Deputy Administrator Ben Dawson presented the proposed Sheriff's Office Organizational Structure. Sheriff Reich spoke regarding the Sheriff Organizational Chart.

Commissioner Haskell moved to accept Sheriff's Office Organizational Chart. Seconded by Commissioner Droscha. Motion carried unanimously.

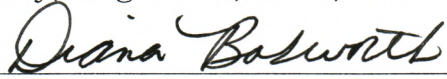
Public Comment: County resident Jim Billig spoke regarding drain assessments on his property.

Commissioner Arndt moved to enter closed session at 12:30 p.m. pursuant to MCL 15.268 Section 8 (c) to discuss labor relations and negotiations. Seconded by Commissioner Droscha. Roll call vote. Commissioner Arndt, Peek, Haskell, Pearl-Wright, Whitacre, Mudry, Jones, Droscha, Toomey, Hansen, Christensen, Holmes, Barber, and Mott. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular session resumed at 1:37 p.m. Chairman Mott noted that the County's labor relations and negotiations team will remain comprised of the Controller's office and the Board Chairperson.

Chairman Mott adjourned the meeting to Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.


Chairman of the Board of Commissioners


Clerk of the Board of Commissioners

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 20, 2025

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE COUNTY CLERK
USER FEE SCHEDULE**

Introduced by the Ways and Means Committee

Commissioner Droscha moved the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Barber.

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Board of Commissioners approved a User Fee Schedule for the Eaton County Clerk at their August 16, 2017 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Ways and Means Committee has reviewed and is recommending the amendment of fees; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eaton County Board of Commissioners approves the attached recommended County Clerk User Fee Schedule effective October 1, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any other User Fee Schedules established by the County Clerk are superseded by the attached schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 20, 2025

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE APPLICATION FOR
COUNTY CLERK E-RECORDING GRANT**

Introduced by the Ways & Means Committee

Commissioner Droscha moved the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Haskell.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget Office of Support Services Electronic Recording Commission have made available electronic recording funding for counties and jurisdictions to improve real property e-recording capabilities; and

WHEREAS, reimbursement funding is available for all eligible costs incurred before September 30, 2025, with no requirement for match funding; and

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Clerk is requesting authorization to apply for two separate grant requests (each for \$12,000) not to exceed \$24,000 in total funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Eaton County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Clerk to request reimbursement from the Electronic Recording Grant on behalf of Eaton County from the Michigan Department of State Technology, Management & Budget Office of Support Services Electronic Recording Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Controller/Administrator be authorized to increase expenditures and increase grant revenue if the grant is awarded; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners, or their designee, be authorized to sign any necessary documents. Motion carried unanimously.

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 20, 2025

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN
APPLICATION FOR A FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE
DEVELOPMENTAL RIGHTS AGREEMENT
(PUBLIC ACT 116 OF 1974, AS AMENDED)**

Introduced by the Ways & Means Committee

Commissioner Droscha moved the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Whitacre.

WHEREAS, Four Land MC LLC, filed two (2) parcels of land into the Farmland and Open Space Application for properties located in Bellevue Township and Eaton Rapids Township, with the Eaton County Clerk's Office in July 2025; and

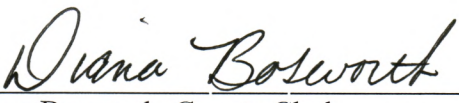
WHEREAS, this application includes Parcel 130-004-300-001-00, and 120-009-100-025-02, these parcels total +/- 159.13 acres, which +/- 146 acres are cultivated; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is requesting a twenty-five (25) year agreement; and

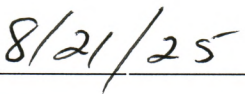
WHEREAS, a copy of this application was sent to all reviewing agencies as required by the act; and

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Ways & Means Committee has reviewed this application and is recommending approval.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eaton County Board of Commissioners at its regularly scheduled meeting on August 20, 2025, does hereby approve the Farmland and Open Space Application filed by Four Land MC LLC property located in Bellevue Township and Eaton Rapids Township. Motion carried unanimously.



Diana Bosworth, County Clerk



Date

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 20, 2025

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE APPLICATION FOR
FIRE TRAINING CENTER STATE GRANT FUNDING**

Introduced by the Ways and Means Committee

Commissioner Droscha moved the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Christensen.

WHEREAS, there is a growing demand across Michigan for well-trained firefighters and their recruitment, retention, and training; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has appropriated funding for the purpose of building a state-of-the-art live fire training facility in Eaton County that allows training in a safe and controlled environment; and

WHEREAS, these grant funds are available for the period of October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2027 with no required cash match; and

WHEREAS, Eaton County will work in coordination with the Eaton County Fire Training Committee (FTC) in establishing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between all impacted parties in the implementation of this project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners authorize the Controller's Office, in cooperation with the FTC, to submit a grant application in an amount not to exceed seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000) as appropriated in Public Act 121 of 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Controller/Administrator is recommending 3% (\$21,000) of the grant award as an administrative fee to be collected to cover the County's legal expenses, and the cost of staff time associated with administering the grant and developing an MOU. Per the Boards Grants, Contracts, and Donation policy, Administration is recommending an exemption be given to this project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Controller/Administrator be authorized to accept the grant award and approve any necessary budget amendments to increase expenditures and increase grant revenue upon receipt of funds from the State of Michigan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Eaton County Board of Commissioners authorize Administration to work with the FTC, the State, and legal counsel to develop a MOU for Board Approval. The MOU shall outline all relevant details and responsibilities each impacted party shall adhere to in the successful completion of the project.

Roll call vote. Ayes: Arndt, Peek, Haskell, Pearl-Wright, Whitacre, Mudry, Jones, Droscha, Toomey, Hansen, Mott, Holmes, Barber. Nays: Christensen. Motion carried.

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AUGUST 20, 2025

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE 2024/2025 BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Introduced by the Ways and Means Committee

Commissioner Droscha moved the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Pearl-Wright.

WHEREAS, the Eaton County 2024/2025 Appropriations Act of September 18, 2024, states that any amendment to increase a salary and/or a Capital Outlay line-item in excess of \$2,500.00 or any amendment to increase the total budget of any fund or department in excess of \$2,500.00 shall be amended by the Board of Commissioners, except that any amendment to decrease the General Fund Contingency shall be approved by the Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, such amendments are needed in order to comply with the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act of 1978, P.A. 621.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following budget amendments be approved and added to the 2024/2025 Eaton County Budget:

GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENTS

COUNTY CLERK - 101.215.00

Increase	Capitalization	\$ 370,000
Increase	Proceeds from Borrowing	\$ 370,000

To increase budget for capitalization of software implementation for records information search.

COUNTY CLERK ELECTIONS - 101.215.07

Increase	Professional Services	\$ 145,000
Increase	Printing	\$ 20,000
Increase	Fund Balance Carryover (Use)	\$ 165,000

To increase budget for actual costs of May 2025 (152,000) and August 2025 (13,000) special elections.

REGISTER OF DEEDS - 101.711

Increase	Health Insurance	\$ 23,000
Increase	Fund Balance Carryover (Use)	\$ 23,000

To increase budget for change in health insurance coverage for employees effective 1/1/2025. Motion carried unanimously.