

PUBLIC WORKS & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

9:00 A.M.

MINUTES

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Jacob Toomey

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioners Jim Mott and Frank Holmes; Connie Sobie, Claudine Williams, Jared Bogdanov-Hanna, Chris Garrison, Brandy Miller, Ethan Jacobs, Colette Scrimger, Rebekah Condon, and Martha Richard

The September 3, 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 Hansen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Droscha moved to approve the August 6, 2025, minutes. Commissioner Whitacre seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Limited Public Comment. None.

Martha Richard, CEO of Eaton County Health & Rehabilitation Services, provided a semi-annual report. She presented the FY25 to date financial results and details on occupancy. Discussion held.

Colette Scrimger, Health Officer of the Barry Eaton District Health Department, provided a semi-annual report. She stated that there have been no financial changes since the last report. She also spoke about the reduction in personnel and hours they are open to the walk-in public. Discussion was held. Health Officer Scrimger introduced Rebekah Condon, who will be the new Health Officer when she retires at the end of the month.

Chris Garrison, Construction Codes & Planning and Zoning Director, presented the department's monthly report. Zoning Administrator, Brandy Miller, presented DCA-9-25-2, a Map Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. Commissioner Barber moved to recommend approval of DCA-9-25-2 to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Miller also presented DCA-9-25-3, a Text Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. Discussion held. Commissioner Pearl-Wright moved to recommend approval of DCA-9-25-3 to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Whitacre seconded. Motion failed.

Director Garrison provided information on the Intergovernmental Agreement for Planning and Zoning Services to townships. Discussion held. Commissioner Barber moved to recommend approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement for Planning and Zoning Services to the Ways and Means Committee. Commissioner Christensen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Garrison presented a restructuring plan for the Construction Codes/Planning and Zoning Department. Discussion held. Commissioner Whitacre moved to recommend approval of the restructure plan to the Ways and Means Committee. Discussion held. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Jared Bogdanov-Hanna, Director of Resource Recovery, presented the monthly department report. He stated Recycle Palooza successfully met the Department's goals for increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the events. Through community meetings and conversations, the department has identified two primary educational needs in Eaton County Recycling and Composting. As a result the department will be developing materials for these programs for both adult and youth audiences. Director Bogdanov-Hanna also spoke about battery recycling and the need to alter the existing collection program from alkaline to lithium. Discussion held.

Ethan Jacobs, Deputy Parks Director, presented the department's monthly report. He spoke about working with Technology Services to add internet services to Fox Observatory. He also spoke about the TRAFx trail counters that have been placed in Eaton County's most popular parks. This will provide information on park usage, traffic patterns, and daily counts which will help the department make more educated decisions. The stairs at Fitzgerald Park are projected to be completed in mid-October. Mr. Jacobs gave a detailed list of completed and current projects. He also provided information on the various activities that will be held in the future. Connie Sobie, Controller/Administrator, presented information that Ethan Jacobs will be taking on the role of Interim Parks Director.

Claudine Williams, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Development, spoke about a vacancy on the Tri-County Aging Consortium Advisory Council. She also addressed expiring appointments on various boards.

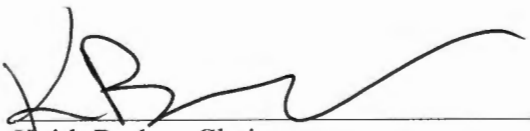
Controller/Administrator Sobie provided an update on Opioid Settlement funds.

Miscellaneous. None.

Limited Public Comment. None.

Chairperson Barber adjourned the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Works and Human Services Committee will be held on October 1, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners Room of the Courthouse located at 1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte MI 48813.


Keith Barber, Chairperson