

## **PUBLIC WORKS & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026  
9:00 A.M.**

### **MINUTES**

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Commissioners Jim Mott and Andy Shaver; Ben Dawson, Claudine Williams, Logan Bailey, Chris Garrison, Brandy Miller, Ethan Jacobs, Jared Bogdanov-Hanna, Chad Powers, Marcus Service, and Martha Richard.

The April 8, 2026, 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 Toomey moved to amend and approve the agenda by adding item 9.c. Opioid Update and Extension Request. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Barber moved to create a rule that all supporting items to the agenda be uploaded at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. If not, the agenda item will be removed. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried. Discussion held.

Commissioner Droscha moved to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2026, meeting. Commissioner Toomey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Limited Public Comment. None.

Martha Richard, CEO Eaton County Health and Rehabilitation Services, presented a semi-annual report.

Chad Powers, Facilities Director, stated the final Landfill report will not be available until next month; however, he has been told verbally by Strata Environmental Services that all levels are within the allowable limits.

Chris Garrison, Director of Construction Codes and Planning and Zoning, presented the monthly department report. An update was provided on the purchase of body cameras for the department, along with a new draft policy for Committee review. If approved, the draft policy will be sent for legal review. Soil Erosion and Construction Code Fee Schedule Evaluations were discussed. Commissioner Toomey moved to approve contracting with MuniVate to provide a comprehensive fee study to specifically evaluate the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control program fees and the Construction Codes Department permit fees. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A Change of Conditions Fee Waiver Request for the Parks Department, Crandell Park application was presented. Commissioner Droscha moved to approve waiving the fee for the Parks Department Change of Conditions to a Conditional Use Permit application. Commissioner Hansen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Ben Dawson, Controller/Administrator, provided information regarding the Joint Planning and Zoning Township update. He stated that seven townships are collaborating on a joint planning and zoning team. Discussion held.

Brandy Miller, Community Development & Services Director, provided a monthly department report. She announced a new part-time Veterans Services officer has been hired and is working out well. Claudine Williams, Deputy Administrator, presented information regarding the Michigan Whole Home Performance Pilot Program.

Controller/Administrator Dawson provided an Opioid Update and Extension Request. He noted there will continue to be updates on the funds received and the programs they will be applied to.

Ms. Miller also requested that an Opioid Grant agreement with the Eaton County Drug Courts be extended by one year, to April 15, 2027. The extension, if approved, will allow more time for the grant funds to be fully expended. Commissioner Whitacre moved to recommend the grant extension to the Ways and Means Committee for approval. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Jared Bogdanov-Hanna, Director of Resource Recovery, presented the monthly department report. Information on the success of various recycling events in the County was presented, along with the various benefits of recycling food waste.

Ethan Jacobs, Director of Parks and Recreation, presented the monthly department report. An update on the Community Grant Program was given along with information regarding upcoming programming and projects. A request to apply for a DNR Urban and Community Forest Grant was discussed. Commissioner Christensen moved to recommend approval of the DNR grant application. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Jacobs provided information on the proposals received for the development of the new Parks Five Year Master Plan. Staff has reviewed all the proposals and are recommending Rowe Professional Services Company. Commissioner Toomey moved to approve contracting Rowe Professional Services to complete the Parks Five Year Master Plan as required by the DNR. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A capital equipment purchase of a TracVac was presented. Commissioner Whitacre moved to approve the purchase as recommended by staff. Commissioner Toomey seconded. Discussion held. Ayes: Pearl-Wright, Whitacre, Toomey, Hansen, Christensen, and Barber. Nay: Droscha. Motion carried.

A discussion was held regarding playground equipment inspection training and the benefit of providing a certified employee inspection versus hiring an outside company.

Mr. Dawson presented the Bank Intercounty Drain Grant Agreement Between the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy and the County of Eaton. Discussion held. Commissioner Pearl-Wright moved to recommend acceptance of the grant to the Ways & Means Committee. Commissioner Droscha seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Marcus Service, Deputy Drain Commissioner, presented a request to restructure the Drain Commissioner's Office. Discussion held. Commissioner Droscha moved to postpone the request to the May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting when Drain Commissioner Richard Wagner could personally be in attendance to present the request. Commissioner Christensen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

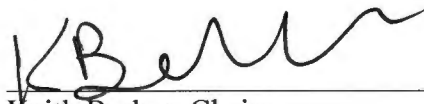
Mr. Dawson presented information regarding legislation and the Drain Code. Mr. Service spoke in reference to the new code legislation and noted the changes still do not address funding costs.

Miscellaneous. None.

Limited Public Comment. Resident Jim Billing spoke about drain assessments.

Chairperson Barber adjourned the meeting at 11:23 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Works and Human Services Committee will be held on May 13, 2026, 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 series of stylized, wavy lines.

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Keith Barber, Chairperson