WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2026

9:00 A.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Brian Droscha, Andy Shaver, Brandon Haskell, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Mark Mudry, Frank Holmes, and Keith Barber.

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioners Jim Mott and Scott Hansen; Ben Dawson, Claudine Williams, Melissa Ballard, Logan Bailey, Susan Knieling, Judge Pollard, Doug Lloyd, Matt Newburg, Steve Milks, Chris Garrison, Dairus Reynnet, Eric Daley, Chad Powers, and Marcus Service.

The July 10, 2026, meeting of the Ways and Means Committee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Droscha.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all.

Commissioner Pearl-Wright moved to approve the amended agenda as presented. Commissioner Haskell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Haskell moved to approve the June 12, 2026, regular and closed session meeting minutes and the June 26, 2026 budget meeting minutes. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Limited Public Comment: Probate Court Judge Amanda Pollard thanked the Board and Administration for attending local community meetings for discussions on County operations and ballot initiatives.

The Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund Administrative Recommendation was presented. Treasurer Dairus Reynnet and Administration recommend transferring $500,000 in two equal payments on October 1st and April 1st. Controller Dawson indicated the Treasurer would be available later in the meeting to discuss this recommendation further, should the committee have questions.

A resolution to purchase the Axon Justice Premier Plus Plan was presented by Prosecutor Doug Lloyd. Commissioner Barber moved to recommend the approval of the resolution to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Haskell seconded. Discussion held. Matt Newburg, Chief Public Defender, and Stephen Milks, Senior Assistant Public Defender, also provided information regarding the Axon Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

A resolution to approve the Construction Code Fee Schedule Adoption was presented by Chris Garrison, Director of Construction Codes. Commissioner Shaver made a motion to make the fee changes retroactive to June 1, 2026. Commissioner Barber seconded. Discussion held. Roll call vote: Shaver – yes, Haskell – no, Pearl-Wright – no, Mudry – no, Holmes – no, Barber – yes, Droscha – no. Motion failed.

Commissioner Haskell moved to table the discussion of the fee schedule until the August 14, 2026 Ways & Means meeting for a full picture of the changes. Commissioner Mudry seconded. Discussion held. Roll call vote: Shaver – no, Haskell – yes, Pearl-Wright – yes, Mudry – yes, Holmes – yes, Barber – no, Droscha – yes. Motion carried.

Director Garrison presented a request to restructure the Mechanical/Plumbing Inspector position in his office from two part-time positions to one full-time position. Commissioner Pearl-Wright moved to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that the Mechanical/Plumbing Inspector position be restructured to full-time, as presented. Commissioner Haskell seconded. Discussion held. Roll call vote: Shaver – no, Haskell – yes, Pearl-Wright – yes, Mudry – yes, Holmes – yes, Barber – no, Droscha – yes. Motion carried.

Treasurer Reynnet presented information regarding the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund Annual Recommendation. Commissioner Barber moved to change the annual recommended Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund transfer of $500,000 from the General Fund (101) and move it to the Unfunded Pension Liability for FY2026/27. Commissioner Shaver seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously. Treasurer Reynnet also updated the committee on the status of the Pung v. Isabella County case.

Facilities Director Chad Powers presented a Memorandum of Understanding/Lease Agreement between the County and the Eaton Area Joint Planning Commission for space in the 551 Building. Commissioner Shaver moved to recommend approval of the agreement to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Haskell seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

Technology Services Director Eric Daley presented the report for his department. Director Daley provided information on power and internet disruptions caused by the recent storm. Director Daley also stated that the GIS department is working on mapping out all the AED and tourniquet locations at the County Complex. Discussion held.

Director Daley presented a resolution for Authorization for Grant Reimbursement Opportunity for Policy Updates through MMRMA. Commissioner Haskell moved to recommend the approval of the grant application to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Powers presented the Public Improvement report for the Facilities Department and discussed the power outages from recent storms.

A resolution to approve the MDHHS lease renewal was presented. Commissioner Shaver moved to recommend approval of the renewal to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Haskell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Shaver moved to transfer $5,472, representing the residual amount from the building modifications required to house the Sheriff's Mobile Command Unit, from the Public Improvement Fund (Fund 225) to the General Fund (Fund 101). Commissioner Barber seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Droscha called for a brief recess at 10:48 a.m.

Chairperson Droscha reconvened the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Human Resources Administrator Susan Knieling presented an update on open positions. Public Defender Newburg provided information on a transition plan for the Public Defender's Office. Ms. Knieling requested authorization to fill the open positions.

Controller Dawson presented a resolution to appoint Kelley Flynn as the Interim Emergency Management Coordinator due to vacancies in the Emergency Management Division. Commissioner Shaver moved to recommend the resolution to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Haskell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Haskell moved to approve the open positions as recommended, including the Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant and the Chief Public Defender positions that occurred but were not included in the initial reports due to timing. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Controller Dawson presented the Technology Services Departmental Restructure Request. Commissioner Barber moved to recommend to the Board of Commissioners the approval of the departments restructure. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Drain Commissioner Marcus Service presented a Departmental Restructure Request for the Drain Commissioner's Office. Commissioner Barber moved to recommend approval of the request to the Board of Commissioners. Discussion held. Commissioner Haskell seconded. Discussion held. Nays - Commissioner Shaver. Motion carried.

Controller Dawson presented the Retirees' Health (OPEB) Updated Assumptions for 2025 and requested action to move forward with the presented assumptions for meeting the actuarial obligation. Commissioner Haskell moved to recommend the acceptance of the assumptions to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

Controller Dawson presented the MERS Annual Valuation 2025. Discussion held.

Controller Dawson presented a Resolution to Amend Administrative Offices Hours of Operation. This resolution would open the administrative offices to the public on Fridays beginning on August 1, 2026. Commissioner Barber moved to recommend approval of the resolution to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Haskell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public and Governmental Affairs Director Logan Bailey provided a departmental update. Director Bailey presented updates on the County's website traffic and government appropriations. Discussion held.

Finance Director Melissa Ballard presented the Monthly Financial Report, which is consistent with expectations. Discussion held.

Ms. Ballard presented the Health Insurance Report. Costs are increasing compared to prior years, which will continue to be monitored by Administration. Discussion held.

Ms. Ballard stated that the County has received three responses to the RFP for the annual audit and is waiting for one more to make a final recommendation.

A resolution to approve FY 2025/26 budget amendments was presented. Commissioner Haskell moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution, as presented. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Fund Balance Policy was presented. Commissioner Barber moved to recommend approval of the policy to the Board of Commissioners, as presented. Commissioner Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A resolution to adopt Fiscal Year 2026/27 Fund Balance Allocation Above 15% Targets was presented. Commissioner Pearl-Wright moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution, as presented. Commissioner Haskell seconded. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous. None.

Commissioner Haskell moved to recommend approval of the payment of claims against the County in the amount of $279,621.06, immediate claims in the amount of $3,612,369.71, electronic claims in the amount of $9,640,086.02, and employee payroll in the amount of $2,040,721.78 to the Board of Commissioners as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Mudry. Motion carried unanimously.

The updated Multi-Year General Fund Projections for Fiscal Year 2026/27 was presented. Discussion held.

Limited Public Comment. None.

Chairperson Droscha adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

A special budget meeting of the Ways and Means Committee will be held on Friday July 24, 2026. At 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room of the Courthouse located at 1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte, MI 48813.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Ways and Means Committee will be held on August 14, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room of the Courthouse located at 1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte, MI 48813.

Brian Droscha, Chairperson