



Newaygo County Board of Commissioners

Public Safety/Judicial Committee

MINUTES

February 11, 2026

10:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER	Meeting called to order by Commissioner Paul Mellema, Chair, at 10:55 a.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT	Bryan Kolk, Mike Kruithoff, Paul Mellema
AGENDA - MOTION NO.	26-057
Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Bryan Kolk, to approve the agenda of February 11, 2026. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.	
PUBLIC COMMENT	None
MINUTES – MOTION NO.	26-058
Motion by Bryan Kolk, second by Mike Kruithoff, to approve the Public Safety/Judicial Committee meeting minutes of January 14, 2026. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.	
LIFE EMS UPDATE	Jeff Stockhill, Life EMS Ambulance Report
• Supplied the Board with the Life EMS of Newaygo County Ambulance Response Summary from October 1st through December 31, 2025. The Newaygo County operation is fully staffed for both EMTs and paramedics. • The latest protocol update was approved for implementation in December. Unfortunately, there is a delay with the updates in the electronic repository for the staff to reference. • In the 4th quarter there were 630 Priority 1 requests for service and 93% were reached in 20 minutes or less.	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Adam Chiles, Central Dispatch
The following updates were reported: • Staffing Updates – Sydney will be joining the team next week as the newest dispatcher. • Training Initiatives – Joel and Jake are currently attending Communications Training Officer training in Kalamazoo this week. • Statistics – Due to the ongoing phone system upgrade, detailed phone statistics are not available at this time. However, Dispatch logged a total of 3,623 Calls for Service (CFS) during the month of January.	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Abby Watkins, Emergency Services Director
The following updates were given by written report: • Incident Command Vehicle – Newaygo County has taken ownership of the new Incident Command Vehicle. The project team has finalized the layout and detailed modifications needed to make the vehicle operational. • ICS 300 and 400 training – On January 23-25, 2026, Newaygo County hosted an ICS 300 course in the EOC with 22 students participating. The ICS 400 course will be held February 28-March 1, 2026.	

DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Hannah Sabo, Prosecuting Attorney's Office
	Not in attendance
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Karen Moore, Indigent Defense Assigned Counsel Administrator
	Not in attendance
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Wendy Jarvis, Trial Courts Administrator, FOC
	- Reviewing bids on Friday for the Court Renovation project. The Courthouse Security Project has begun and is going well. Currently working on the Drug Court Treatment team and staff organization. - Met with Lori Tubbergen-Clark last week and the juvenile division and plans to share information on programs the Courts offer.
MOTION NUMBER	26-059
	Motion by Bryan Kolk, second by Mike Kruithoff, to recommend to the Finance Committee to approve the application for the 2026 DNR Marine Safety Grant in the amount of \$63,130.00; and authorize the Sheriff's Office to sign any and all documents electronically. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.
MOTION NUMBER	26-060
	Motion by Bryan Kolk, second by Mike Kruithoff, to recommend to the Finance Committee to authorize the purchase and implementation of <i>The Sheriff's App</i> for a contract term of five years at a total cost of \$49,144.50, and authorize the Sheriff to sign any and all necessary documents. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Robert Mendham, Sheriff
	The following updates were reported: - January was slow due to the weather but there were a lot of people in the ditch that needed assistance. - Responded to recent FOIA request of the Sheriff's Department regarding the number of people who have resigned since 2017.
ADMINISTRATOR REPORT	Administrator Christopher Wren
	Nothing to report
PUBLIC COMMENT	None
MISCELLANEOUS	None
ADJOURNMENT	26-061
	Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Bryan Kolk, to adjourn the meeting at 11:41 a.m. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.
COUNTY CLERK CERTIFICATION	Jason VanderStelt, County Clerk
CHAIRPERSON CERTIFICATION	Paul Mellema, Committee Chair
DATE	March 11, 2026