



Newaygo County Board of Commissioners

Health, Education & Human Services Committee

MINUTES

March 25, 2026

10:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER James Maike called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT Lori Tubbergen Clark, Brenda Bird, James Maike

AGENDA - MOTION NO. 26-115
Motion by Brenda Bird, second by Lori Tubbergen Clark, to approve the agenda of March 25, 2026. Ayes – Lori Tubbergen Clark, Brenda Bird, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT None

MINUTES – MOTION NO. 26-116
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by Brenda Bird, to approve the Health, Education & Human Services Committee regular meeting minutes for February 25, 2026. Ayes – Lori Tubbergen Clark, Brenda Bird, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE Steven Cain, Veteran Affairs
The following departmental updates were reported:

- **Michigan Veteran News** – The Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has announced the Michigan Member Benefits Program, a comprehensive initiative expanding financial, educational and family support for members of the Michigan National Guard.
- **Medical Transportation** – Newaygo County Department of Veterans Affairs has two volunteer drivers to assist veterans in need of rides to medical appointments.
- **Veterans Affairs Committee** – In FY 2026, the Veterans Affairs Committee has processed 12 Soldiers and Sailors Relief Fund applications, 8 Peace Time Relief Fund applications, and 3 Michigan Veterans Trust Fund applications.

MOTION NUMBER 26-117
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by Brenda Bird, to recommend to the Finance Committee to approve the Commission on Aging’s funding proposal to the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan that will provide funding for services during the contract term of FY 2027 through FY 2029; and authorize the Commission on Aging Director and Board Chair to sign any and all necessary documents. Ayes – Lori Tubbergen Clark, Brenda Bird, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE Brad Hinken, COA Director
The following departmental updates were reported:

- **Administration** – Reliance Community Care Partners will complete a monitoring review of the Older Adults Respite Program and MI Choice contracted home delivered meals on March 31.
- **Services** – The Grant Community Center congregate meal site opening is pending approval from the District Health Department (DHD). The architect failed to submit plans to the DHD for pre-approval.
- **Staffing** – Holly Fisher, Transportation Coordinator, attended a three-day Roadworthy Communication deescalation and conflict management course.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT	Administrator Christopher Wren
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing to report.
PUBLIC COMMENT	None
MISCELLANEOUS	None
ADJOURNMENT – MOTION NO.	26-118
	Motion by Brenda Bird, second by Lori Tubbergen Clark, to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 a.m. Ayes – Lori Tubbergen Clark, Brenda Bird, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.
COUNTY CLERK CERTIFICATION	Jason Vanderstelt, County Clerk
CHAIRPERSON CERTIFICATION	James Maike, Committee Chair
DATE	April 22, 2026