



Newaygo County Board of Commissioners

Public Safety/Judicial Committee

MINUTES

April 8, 2026

10:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER	Meeting called to order by Commissioner Paul Mellema, Chair, at 11:32 a.m.
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MEMBERS PRESENT	Bryan Kolk, Mike Kruithoff, Paul Mellema
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AGENDA - MOTION NO.	26-138
Motion by Bryan Kolk, second by Mike Kruithoff, to approve the agenda of April 8, 2026. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.	

PUBLIC COMMENT	None
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MINUTES – MOTION NO.	26-139
Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Bryan Kolk, to approve the Public Safety/Judicial Committee meeting minutes of March 11, 2026. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.	

DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Hannah Sabo, Prosecuting Attorney’s Office
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not in attendance 	

DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Robert Mendham, Sheriff
The following updates were reported:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working off the requests of residents regarding an area where unsafe driving is frequent, 21 citations were given. The new Sheriff’s App is being built and is going well. 	

DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Karen Moore, Indigent Defense Assigned Counsel Administrator
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MIDC moved the reporting month for grants up a month. All reports for Newaygo County have been submitted. 	

DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Wendy Jarvis, Trial Courts Administrator, FOC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thank you to the board for approving the bid for the Court Renovation Project. 	

MOTION NUMBER	26-140
Motion by Bryan Kolk, second by Mike Kruithoff, to recommend to the Finance Committee to approve the contract between the Newaygo County Clerk and Tyler Technologies/CourtFunds for the purchase of payment cards for a term of three years; funds to be paid from the Clerk’s budget; and authorize the County Clerk to sign any and all necessary documents. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.	

MOTION NUMBER	26-141
Motion by Bryan Kolk, second by Mike Kruithoff, to recommend to the Finance Committee to approve the Newaygo County Community Wildfire Protection Plan 2026, Edition, and authorize the Board Chair to sign any and all necessary documents. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.	

DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Abby Watkins, Emergency Services Director
The following updates were reported:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incident Command Vehicle Project – On March 31, 2026, Administrator Wren authorized the release of the title to the Incident Command Trailer to take the vehicle to auction. Maintenance Director VanBoven coordinated delivery of the trailer to JandJ Online Auction in Fremont on April 1, 2026. • Michigan Statewide Tornado Drill– As a part of Michigan Severe Weather Awareness Week, Newaygo County Emergency Services conducted a Nixle and IPAWS WEA Live Test. This was similar to the past 3 years with live tests being conducted in March and August annually as a part of the Statewide Tornado Drill and annual FERC Dam Failure Emergency Notification Drills. 	

MOTION NUMBER	26-142
Motion by Mike Kruihoff, second by Bryan Kolk, to recommend to the Finance Committee to enter into an annual contract with GovWorx for CommsCoach Hire/Train/Simulation programs, and authorize the Dispatch Director to sign any and all necessary documents. Ayes – Mike Kruihoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.	

DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Adam Chiles, Central Dispatch
The following updates were reported:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing Updates – Sydney began Phase II of her training with Joel last week. She continues to demonstrate a positive attitude and a strong willingness to take initiative. • Training Initiatives – Amanda is scheduled to attend Advanced 40-hour training course virtually in June. • Statistics – In March, dispatchers handled 3,886 Calls for Service. The center processed 5,366 phone interactions, including 1,359 incoming 911 calls. 	

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT	Administrator Christopher Wren
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next week is Dispatcher Week. 	

PUBLIC COMMENT	None
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MISCELLANEOUS	None
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ADJOURNMENT	26-143
Motion by Mike Kruihoff, second by Bryan Kolk, to adjourn the meeting at 12:10 p.m. Ayes – Mike Kruihoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.	

COUNTY CLERK CERTIFICATION	Jason VanderStelt, County Clerk
CHAIRPERSON CERTIFICATION	Paul Mellema, Committee Chair
DATE	May 6, 2026