



Newaygo County Board of Commissioners

Health, Education & Human Services Committee

MINUTES

May 27, 2026

10:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER	Commissioner James Maike called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT	Lori Tubbergen Clark, Brenda Bird, James Maike
AGENDA - MOTION NO.	26-195
Motion by Brenda Bird, second by Lori Tubbergen Clark, to approve the agenda of May 27, 2026. Ayes – Lori Tubbergen Clark, Brenda Bird, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.	
PUBLIC COMMENT	None
MINUTES – MOTION NO.	26-196
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by Brenda Bird, to approve the Health, Education & Human Services Committee regular meeting minutes for April 22, 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 – Rockford, MI – Lawrence Miller, a former Marine, is making his way through Michigan on a 500 mile walk to raise awareness and funds for veterans struggling with mental health issues. • Medical Transportation – Newaygo County Department of Veterans Affairs has two volunteer drivers to assist veterans in need of rides to medical appointments. Veteran drivers have provided 111 Rides for Veterans in FY 2026. • Veterans Affairs Committee – In FY 2026, the Veterans Affairs Committee has processed 19 Soldiers and Sailors Relief Fund applications, 8 Peace Time Relief Fund applications, and 3 Michigan Veterans Trust Fund applications.	
MOTION NUMBER	26-197
Motion by Brenda Bird, second by Lori Tubbergen Clark, to approve the submission of a letter of intent to the Michigan Department of Transportation to become an eligible governmental agency created by the Revenue Bond Act of 1933 (PA 94) to provide public transportation and to commit Newaygo County funds for the operation of the transit agency and authorize the Board Chair to sign any and all necessary documents. Ayes – Lori Tubbergen Clark, Brenda Bird, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.	
MOTION NUMBER	26-198
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by Brenda Bird, to approve the submission of an Infrastructure Projects Authority Fund grant application to the State of Michigan for funding to establish a transit agency as a department of Newaygo County for an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000.00 and authorize the Commission on Aging Director to submit the digital grant application and the 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 – A request for bids has been posted seeking providers for the in-home respite program. Current contract expires at the end of the fiscal year. • Services – The Newaygo County Transit Study is completed and delivered. The door access project is completed and works very well.	
ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT	Administrator Christopher Wren
• Monitoring BCBS relationship with Michigan Medicine as they are currently in a dispute over rates.	
PUBLIC COMMENT	None
MISCELLANEOUS	None
ADJOURNMENT – MOTION NO.	26-199
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by Brenda Bird, to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 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	June 24, 2026