



Newaygo County Board of Commissioners

Physical & Economic Development Committee

MINUTES

July 1, 2026

10:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER	Meeting called to order by Commissioner Charles Trapp, Chair, at 10:02 a.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT	Paul Mellema, Charles Trapp, Mike Kruithoff
AGENDA - MOTION NUMBER	26-254
Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Paul Mellema, to approve the agenda of July 1, 2026. Ayes – Paul Mellema, Charles Trapp, Mike Kruithoff. Nays – none. Motion carried.	
PUBLIC COMMENT	None
MINUTES – MOTION NUMBER	26-255
Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Paul Mellema, to approve the Physical & Economic Development Committee meeting minutes of June 3, 2026. Ayes – Paul Mellema, Charles Trapp, Mike Kruithoff. Nays – none. Motion carried.	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Derek Wawsczyk, Newaygo County Road Commission
• Currently awaiting funding increases. • Line striping is done for the entire County. • Road view has been mowed for the entire County.	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Dale Twing, Drain Commissioner
• Not in attendance	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Leticia Nelson, Equalization
Equalization updates included: • Equalization staff attended the annual County Treasurer's luncheon on June 26th. • KCI has processed and mailed summer tax bills. • Tabitha continues to process splits and combinations along with processing address requests.	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Asa Vermulen, Parks Director
• The contract with Savin Lake treatments have started at the Ed Henning Park pond. • General beautification of parks is in progress. • Installed individual hole signs on preinstalled posts at the Muskegon River Bluffs.	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Darrick VanBoven, Maintenance Supervisor
Maintenance updates included: • Cleaned air intake filters and coils on RTUs at the Courthouse. • Started painting health department office area at DBH. • Replace light bulbs in lobby and office areas at DHHS.	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	IT Department
• Completed 148 tickets. • Updated websites for multiple departments. • Resolved AS400 printing issues.	

MOTION NUMBER	26-256
Motion by Paul Mellema, second by Mike Kruithoff, to recommend to the Finance Committee to approve the 2027 Newaygo County Economic Development Partnership grant application to the Fremont Area Community Foundation in the amount of \$50,000.00 and authorize the County Administrator and Board Chair to sign any and all necessary documents. Ayes – Paul Mellema, Charles Trapp, Mike Kruithoff. Nays – none. Motion carried	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Mark Kraus, Economic Development Director
Economic Development updates included: • The Right Place Focus is People, Place, and Prosperity. • Attended a conference last month with many good topics including stakeholder engagement and housing initiatives.	
ADMINISTRATOR REPORT	Christopher Wren, Administrator
• None	
PUBLIC COMMENT	None
MISCELLANEOUS	None
ADJOURN – MOTION NUMBER	26-257
Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Paul Mellema, to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 a.m. Ayes – Paul Mellema, Charles Trapp, Mike Kruithoff. Nays – none. Motion carried	
COUNTY CLERK CERTIFICATION	Jason VanderStelt, County Clerk
CHAIRPERSON CERTIFICATION	Charles Trapp, Committee Chair
DATE	August 5, 2026