



Newaygo County Board of Commissioners

Public Safety/Judicial Committee

MINUTES

July 8, 2026

10:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER	Meeting called to order by Commissioner Paul Mellema, Chair, at 10:39 a.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT	Bryan Kolk, Mike Kruithoff, Paul Mellema
AGENDA - MOTION NO.	26-262
Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Bryan Kolk, to approve the agenda of July 8, 2026. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.	
PUBLIC COMMENT	None
MINUTES – MOTION NO.	26-263
Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Bryan Kolk, to approve the Public Safety/Judicial Committee meeting minutes of June 10, 2026. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Prosecuting Attorney's Office
Not in attendance	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Karen Moore, Indigent Defense Assigned Counsel Administrator
- Things are going well in Newaygo County. Recent changes include monthly reporting. - MIDC funding has been reduced by \$21 million for this upcoming budget year.	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Adam Chiles, Central Dispatch
The following updates were reported: Staffing Updates – Pleased to announce that three new dispatchers have joined the NCCD team. Training Initiatives – Due to current staffing levels, all non-essential training initiatives remain on hold. Statistics – In June, dispatchers handled 4,276 Calls for Service. The center processed 5,913 total phone interactions, including 1,752 incoming 911 calls.	
MOTION NUMBER	26-264
Motion by Bryan Kolk, second by Mike Kruithoff, to recommend to the Finance Committee to approve the draft Child Care Fund Annual Plans and Budget Summary to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) – Juvenile Division by August 15, 2026, with final approval to be sought following the approval of the proposed budget by the MDHHS and authorize the Presiding Judge and Board Chair to sign any and all necessary documents and the Trial Court Director/FOC and Director of Juvenile Services to submit electronically. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.	

DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Wendy Jarvis, Trial Courts Administrator, FOC
	- Looking forward to the start of the Courthouse renovation project. - Currently working on implementation of CourtFunds to supply debit cards for jurors rather than producing checks. - Continue to work on finding a participant for Drug Court.
MOTION NUMBER	26-265
	Motion by Bryan Kolk, second by Mike Kruithoff, to recommend to the Finance Committee to approve the application of the FY2027 Michigan Department of Natural Resources Off-Road Vehicle Law Enforcement Program grant in the amount of \$36,732.78 and authorize the Sheriff to sign any and all necessary documents. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.
MOTION NUMBER	26-266
	Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Bryan Kolk, to recommend to the Finance Committee to approve the application of the FY2027 Michigan Department of Natural Resource Snowmobile Law Enforcement Program grant in the total amount of \$16,875.00 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 by Undersheriff Palmiter: - During the month of June the Road Patrol handled 1,470 calls for service. There were 156 lodged in the jail. - The 4th of July was busy with a lot of calls. - Attempted escape in the Jail last week.
MOTION NUMBER	26-267
	Motion by Bryan Kolk, second by Mike Kruithoff, to recommend to the Finance Committee to approve the FY 2025 Homeland Security Grant Program Intergovernmental Agreement with the West Michigan Regional Medical Consortium and authorize the Board Chair to sign any and all necessary documentation. Ayes – Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk, Paul Mellema. Nays – none. Motion carried.
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Abby Watkins, Emergency Services Director
	- On July 2nd Governor Whitmer announced President Trump has approved Michigan's request for a major disaster declaration to help communities impacted by severe storms. - As part of the Fiscal Year 2026 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program, the Federal Emergency Management Agency requires all subrecipients submit both a current resume and a short bio.
ADMINISTRATOR REPORT	Administrator Christopher Wren
	Nothing to report
PUBLIC COMMENT	None
MISCELLANEOUS	None

ADJOURNMENT	26-268
Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Bryan Kolk, to adjourn the meeting at 11:33 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	August 12, 2026