



Newaygo County Board of Commissioners

Health, Education & Human Services Committee

MINUTES

August 26, 2026

10:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER	Commissioner James Maike called the meeting to order at 10:52 a.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT	Lori Tubbergen Clark, Brenda Bird, James Maike
AGENDA - MOTION NO.	26-325
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by Brenda Bird, to approve the agenda of August 26, 2026, with the addition of an update from District Health Department #10 under 5a. Ayes – Lori Tubbergen Clark, Brenda Bird, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.	
PUBLIC COMMENT	None
MINUTES – MOTION NO.	26-326
Motion by Brenda Bird, second by Lori Tubbergen Clark, to approve the Health, Education & Human Services Committee regular meeting minutes for June 24, 2026. Ayes – Lori Tubbergen Clark, Brenda Bird, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.	
UPDATE	Kevin Hughes, District Health Department #10
Mr. Hughes provided and discussed with the Board the total permits issued for Newaygo County from April 1st until June 30th.	
MOTION NUMBER	26-327
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by Brenda Bird, to recommend to the Finance Committee to ratify the application of the FY 2027 Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) County Veterans Service Fund grant in an amount not to exceed \$65,799.00 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	26-328
Motion by Brenda Bird, second by Lori Tubbergen Clark, to recommend to the Finance Committee to approve the increase of the headstone, plaque, and marker allotment for Newaygo County veteran burials from \$75.00 to \$250.00 per application. Ayes – Lori Tubbergen Clark, Brenda Bird, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Steven Cain, Veteran Affairs
The following departmental updates were reported: Veterans and Military Expo – Veterans and Military Expo was held at the Wexford Civic Center in Cadillac, MI from 9am – 2pm on August 1st. Medical Transportation – Newaygo County Dept of Veterans Affairs has two volunteer drivers to assist veterans in need of rides to medical appointments. Veteran drivers have provided 121 Rides for Veterans in FY 2026. Veterans Affairs Committee – In FY 2026, the Veterans Affairs Committee has processed 21 Soldiers and Sailors Relief Fund applications, 8 Peace Time Relief Fund Applications, and 3 Michigan Veterans Trust Fund Applications.	

MOTION NUMBER	26-329
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by Brenda Bird, to recommend to the Finance Committee to approve the Michigan Department of Transportation FY 2027 Resolution of Intent authorizing Newaygo County to apply for State operating assistance under Act 51, approving the proposed FY 2027 transit budget and funding plan, and designating Brad Hinken as Transportation Coordinator and official representative for public transportation matters related to Act 51. Ayes – Lori Tubbergen Clark, Brenda Bird, James Maike. Nays – none. Motion carried.	
DEPARTMENT UPDATE	Brad Hinken, COA Director
The following departmental updates were reported: - Working on hiring Assistant Cooks and Kitchen Aides to support the Grant Meal Site. - The Senior Project Fresh program continues to perform well. As of August 12, 2026, 589 seniors have enrolled to receive electronic coupons.	
ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT	Administrator Christopher Wren
Met with Gallagher regarding Health Insurance. More discussion regarding health insurance to follow. Dental plans will be changing as the pool offers better options.	
PUBLIC COMMENT	None
MISCELLANEOUS	None
ADJOURNMENT – MOTION NO.	26-330
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by Brenda Bird, to adjourn the meeting at 11:03 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	September 23, 2026