



Newaygo County Board of Commissioners

MINUTES

September 8, 2026

9:30 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER, PRAYER, & PLEDGE	Meeting called to order by Chairperson Bryan Kolk, at 9:30 a.m., with Prayer by Newaygo County Clerk, Jason Vanderstelt, and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Commissioner Mike Kruithoff.
COMMISSIONERS PRESENT	Charles Trapp, Lori Tubbergen Clark, Paul Mellema, James Maike, Mike Kruithoff, Bryan Kolk
COMMISSIONERS ABSENT	Brenda Bird (excused)
AGENDA - MOTION NUMBER	26-341
Motion by Charles Trapp, second by Mike Kruithoff, to approve the agenda for September 8, 2026. Ayes – Paul Mellema, Lori Tubbergen Clark, James Maike, Mike Kruithoff, Charles Trapp, Bryan Kolk. Nays – none. Absent – Brenda Bird. Motion carried.	
PUBLIC COMMENT	None
CONSENT AGENDA MOTION NO.	26-342
Motion by James Maike, second by Mike Kruithoff, to approve the Consent Agenda dated September 8, 2026, including: the regular meeting minutes dated August 26, 2026; the Semi-Monthly Detail Analysis and Expenses dated September 9, 2026. Ayes – Paul Mellema, Lori Tubbergen Clark, James Maike, Mike Kruithoff, Charles Trapp, Bryan Kolk. Nays – none. Absent – Brenda Bird. Motion carried.	
PUBLIC HEARING	FY 2026-2027 Budget
• <i>Board Chairperson Bryan Kolk called the public hearing to order at 9:38 a.m.</i> • Administrator Wren presented the 2027 budget to the Board. The 2027 fiscal year budget is the primary policy statement on County programs and priorities from the Board of Commissioners to the citizens of Newaygo County. The budget provides information to the public on the funding priorities and programs that have been established. • There was no comment from the public. The public hearing was closed by Chairperson Bryan Kolk at 9:41 a.m.	
INTERVIEW	Central Dispatch Authority Board – Two (2) 2-Year Terms Expiring September 30, 2028
• The board interviewed Phil Smalligan. Mr. Smalligan retired as 911 Director of Newaygo County as well as 32 years' experience for the Fremont Fire Department. Jon Patterson was unable to attend.	
INTERVIEW	Commission on Aging Advisory Board – Two (2) 3-Year Terms Expiring September 30, 2029
• The board interviewed Steven Witter. Mr. Witter has been on the advisory board since 2018. Becky Beets was unable to attend.	
INTERVIEW	Economic Development Partnership Advisory Board – One (1) 3-Year Term Expiring September 30, 2029
• The board interviewed Jon Schneider. Mr. Schneider currently serves as chair on the advisory board.	

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT	Finance Committee
CHAIRPERSON	Commissioner Lori Tubbergen Clark
Lori Tubbergen Clark, Chairperson, reported the following actions (see below):	
MOTION NUMBER	26-327-1
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by Charles Trapp, 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 – Paul Mellema, Lori Tubbergen Clark, James Maike, Mike Kruithoff, Charles Trapp, Bryan Kolk. Nays – none. Absent – Brenda Bird. Motion carried.	
MOTION NUMBER	26-328-1
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by James Maike, 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 – Paul Mellema, Lori Tubbergen Clark, James Maike, Mike Kruithoff, Charles Trapp, Bryan Kolk. Nays – none. Absent – Brenda Bird. Motion carried.	
MOTION NUMBER	26-329-1
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by Mike Kruithoff, 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 – Paul Mellema, Lori Tubbergen Clark, James Maike, Mike Kruithoff, Charles Trapp, Bryan Kolk. Nays – none. Absent – Brenda Bird. Motion carried.	
MOTION NUMBER	26-333
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by Charles Trapp, to adopt <u>Resolution #09-020-26</u> to approve the Newaygo County General Appropriations Act for the fiscal year 2027 Operating Budget. Ayes – Paul Mellema, Lori Tubbergen Clark, James Maike, Mike Kruithoff, Charles Trapp, Bryan Kolk. Nays – none. Absent – Brenda Bird. Motion carried.	
MOTION NUMBER	26-335
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by James Maike, to approve <u>Resolution #09-021-26</u> for fiscal year 2027 annual wage increases for Elected Officials, appointed Department Heads, Unclassified Employees, and Part-time Employees effective October 1, 2026. Ayes – Paul Mellema, Lori Tubbergen Clark, James Maike, Mike Kruithoff, Charles Trapp, Bryan Kolk. Nays – none. Absent – Brenda Bird. Motion carried.	
MOTION NUMBER	26-336
Motion by Lori Tubbergen Clark, second by Charles Trapp, to approve the expense of \$504,751.00 to Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA) for liability insurance for the period of October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, and authorize the County Administrator to sign any and all necessary documents. Payment will be made in three (3) Installments and paid from Fund 678: Liability Insurance Fund. Ayes – Paul Mellema, Lori Tubbergen Clark, James Maike, Mike Kruithoff, Charles Trapp, Bryan Kolk. Nays – none. Absent – Brenda Bird. Motion carried.	
MISC. COMMITTEE REPORT	Commissioner Charles Trapp
Tire cleanup day will be on September 19th from 8am to noon.	

MISC. COMMITTEE REPORT	Commissioner James Maike
	• Attended the Township Elected Officials meeting at Sherman Township and the Magistrate and Judge Stay spoke.
MISC. COMMITTEE REPORT	Commissioner Lori Tubbergen Clark
	• Attended the Michigan Works Board meeting last week with Commissioner Mellema.
ADMINISTRATORS REPORT	Administrator Christopher Wren
	• The determination on the sale of the Dams is this Thursday. • Spent Saturday afternoon in the City of Newaygo and they continue to do a great job.
PUBLIC COMMENT	None
MISCELLANEOUS MOTION NUMBER	26-343
	Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Paul Mellema, to approve the Child Care Fund budget approved by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) for the 2027 fiscal year and authorize the Chair of the Board of Commissioners, the Presiding Judge, and the County Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to sign any and all necessary documents. Ayes – Paul Mellema, Lori Tubbergen Clark, James Maike, Mike Kruithoff, Charles Trapp, Bryan Kolk. Nays – none. Absent – Brenda Bird. Motion carried.
MOTION – ADJOURNMENT	26-344
	Motion by Mike Kruithoff, second by Paul Mellema, to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 a.m. Ayes – Paul Mellema, Lori Tubbergen Clark, James Maike, Mike Kruithoff, Charles Trapp, Bryan Kolk. Nays – none. Absent – Brenda Bird. Motion carried.
COUNTY CLERK CERTIFICATION	Jason VanderStelt, County Clerk
CHAIRPERSON CERTIFICATION	Bryan Kolk, Board Chair
DATE CERTIFIED	September 23, 2026