

# PHYSICAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

**Kimberly L. Murphy**  
County Administrator

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## MEMBERS

Dustin Krasny, Ralph Tillotson, Beth Blanco  
301 N. Main St, Adrian, MI 49221

## MEETING LOCATION

Chambers

**Minutes:** Thursday, February 5, 2026

### I. Call to Order

**Present:** Commissioners: Dustin Krasny, Ralph Tillotson, Terry Collins, James Van Doren, Beth Blanco

**Also Present:** Drain Commissioner Ed Scheffler, Administrator Kim Murphy, Deputy Administrator Shannon Elliott, Marketing & Communications Coordinator Jennifer Ambrose, Administrative Coordinator Carissa Zubke, Accountant Matt Turgeon, Community Engagement Quinn Wilt, Dallas Barringer (WLEN)

*The meeting was called to order 10:00am at by Comm. Krasny.*

### II. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes: December 4, 2025

**Motion by Blanco, to approve the minutes of December 4, 2025, seconded by Tillotson. Motion carried.**

### III. Finance Reports

A. Finance Report

*Deputy Administrator Shannon Elliott reviewed the Building & Site and MSC division of the capital fund reports; no further discussion.*

### IV. Building and Grounds / Maintenance

A. Building and Grounds / Maintenance

*Superintendent Rob VanNieuwehnze shared highlights from the monthly report. Annual fire alarm testing was completed in the Jail, along with elevator and sprinkler inspections. Staff in the department have been very busy this winter with snow and ice removal; discussion continued regarding statewide issues obtaining salt for de-icing. Renovations at the Human Service building are close to being completed and things are being finalized for the meeting room renovations.*

*The rooftop unit at the MSC girls open unit went down and was repaired by the department. Last year, the Board of Commissioners approved the Richard L Germond name to be added to the Sheriff's office; VanNieuwehnze reported the signs have arrived and are awaiting the dedication in late spring.*

*Discussion continued regarding the difficulty finding salt. VanNieuwehnze reported the average price for salt is about \$60–70 per ton; currently it is approximately \$300/ton, if you can get it. The Countys storage allows for 100 tons of salt, which we started with at the beginning of the season, and the stock is getting very low.*

**B. Request:** Maple Drain Furnace Replacement

*Deputy Administrator Elliott reviewed the request to replace the HVAC equipment at the Maple Drain Building. This request was included in the approved 2026 Capital Improvement Plan. Building and Grounds has received a quote from Adrian Mechanical Services in the amount of \$13,485 and a \$1,400 contingency. It was requested for the physical resources committee to approve and accept the quote from AMS for \$14,885.*

***Motion by Tilloston, seconded by Blanco to accept the Adrian Mechanical Services quote to replace the HVAC at Maple Drain building as part of the 2026 capital improvement, not to exceed \$15,000. Motion carried.***

**V. Drain Commission**

**A. Monthly Report**

*Drain Comm. Ed Scheffler provided details from the monthly report.*

*The Commission attended three sanitary sewer board meetings and continues to attend other local meetings. Next week, Comm. Scheffler will be presenting at the MAC Drain Commissioners conference in Traverse City.*

*The Deputy/Drain Superintendent recently retired at the end of 2025.*

*Drain maintenance crews have been very busy this season with the winter weather. The flow meter at the Central Lenawee Plant was recently changed, which monitors the drains from the prison.*

*Scheffler provided a recap of the 2026 capital improvement plans, which include replacing two vehicles and replacing the large excavator. Discussion opened up regarding the expense of a new excavator. Scheffler stated it depends on various factors but estimates anywhere between \$150K - \$300k.*

*Additionally, Scheffler hopes to replace the Vactor, which dates back to 1992, and is showing major signs of aging.*

*An employee at the Drain Commission created a database to assist with vehicle expense tracking. This software will help to track maintenance, mileage, purchasing and other related expenses to allow them to appropriately charge for equipment use.*

**B. Request:** Approval of the 2026 Lenawee County Drain Commissioner Equipment Use Charge Rates

*Commissioner Scheffler reviewed the request to approve the revised equipment use charge rates. Last year Physical Resources reviewed and approved the charge rates. However, the last increase was back in 2022. Scheffler stated that due to the increasing cost to maintain their vehicles, he is proposing to increase the pickup truck mileage to \$1.00/mile. This would be a recommendation to the Personnel/Ways & Means committee.*

***Motion by Tillotson, to recommend accepting the revised Drain Commission Equipment Use Charge rates to Personnel/Ways & Means, seconded by Blanco. Motion carried.***

## **VI. Updates & Other Business**

### **A. MSC Renovations**

*Deputy Administrator Elliott shared that work on the old detention unit is ongoing, and we are expected to take occupancy toward the beginning of April. The crews have experienced some delays in equipment delivery. However, they are still on schedule.*

### **B. Request: Dodge Durango for Sheriff's Office**

*There was a request to purchase a 2026 Dodge Durango for the Sheriff's office, which was included in the 2026 Capital Improvement Plan. Deputy Elliott explained that the original intention was to purchase a Jeep Cherokee. However, the Undersheriff found the Durango at a lower price, and it is ready for delivery.*

***Motion by Blanco, seconded by Tillotson to approve the purchase of a 2026 Dodge Durango for \$35,567 as part of the 2026 Capital Improvement Plan. Motion carried.***

## **VII. Public Comment**

*No comment.*

## **VIII. Adjournment**

***Motion by Tillotson to adjourn the meeting at 11:17am, seconded by Blanco. Motion carried.***