

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



MEMBERS

Committee of the Whole
Second Floor, Old Courthouse
301 N, Main St.
Adrian, MI 49221

MEETING LOCATION
Commission Chambers

Minutes: Wednesday, March 11, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: Invocation - Pledge - Cell Phone Reminder:

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm by Chair Van Doren.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: David Aungst, Beth Blanco, Terry Collins, James Daly, Dustin Krasny, Kevon Martis, David Stimpson, James Van Doren

Comm. Ralph Tillotson absent.

Also Present: Administrator Kim Murphy, Corporate Counsel John Gillooly, Deputy Administrator Shannon Elliott, Sheriff Troy Bevier, Emergency Management Coordinator Craig Tanis, Community Development Coordinator Francine Zysk, Brian Vish (WLEN), Accountant Matt Turgeon, Finance Director Dan Zimolzak, IT Director Ben Ricker, Register of Deeds Carolyn Bater, Drain Commissioner Ed Scheffler, Amy Shovels, Natalie Barrett, Janelle Stewart, Administrative Coordinator Carissa Zubke, Marketing & Communications Coordinator Jen Ambrose, Community Engagement Specialist Quinn Wilt and County Clerk Roxann Holloway.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Minutes: February 11, 2026

Comm. Martis moved to approve the minutes of February 11, 2026, Comm. Bolton seconded, Motion CARRIED.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

No amendments.

Comm. Martis moved to approve the agenda, as presented, Comm. Aungst seconded, Motion CARRIED.

PETITIONS and COMMUNICATIONS:

Communications read.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS:

None.

LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT: [on any agenda item – 3 minute limit]

None.

RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

Severe Weather Awareness - *Craig Tanis*

Emergency Management Coordinator Craig Tanis reported on behalf of Severe Weather Awareness.

RES#2026-02

SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, Lenawee County recognizes the impact severe weather can have on communities, infrastructure, and the economy, and understands that preparedness enables individuals to respond effectively when alerts are issued; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan experiences a wide range of severe weather throughout the year, including thunderstorms with lightning, hail, strong winds, and tornadoes, as well as winter storms that can cause power outages and hazardous travel conditions; and

WHEREAS, public awareness, education, and collaboration among government agencies, emergency responders, and community partners are essential to strengthening preparedness and response efforts; and

WHEREAS, residents are encouraged to develop and practice emergency plans, including emergency kits, evacuation routes, and communication strategies;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lenawee County Board of Commissioners expresses its appreciation to local Emergency Management boards for their dedication to public safety; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lenawee County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims March 2026 as **Severe Weather Awareness Month** in Lenawee County and encourages families, schools, and businesses to develop and practice emergency plans to enhance preparedness.

Comm. Krasny moved to adopt Resolution #2026-02, Comm. Aungst seconded, Motion CARRIED by a Unanimous Roll Call Vote.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

Property Protection - *Register of Deeds, Carolyn Bater*

- *House Bills 5152 & 5153*
- *Resolution Supporting House Bills #2026-03*

Register of Deeds, Carolyn Bater shared information in support of House Bills 5152 and 5153, which will protect State of Michigan residents from foreclosure fraud, preserve home equity for families, and reduce the burden on local government resources.

RES#2026-03

Resolution in Support of Michigan House Bills 5152 and 5153

WHEREAS, the Office of the Register of Deeds is charged with maintaining accurate, accessible, and secure land records that form the foundation of real property ownership, economic development, and public trust in local governments; and

WHEREAS, predatory practices have been identified where third-party firms target vulnerable residents who are facing mortgage foreclosure and convince them to sell either their property or their statutory rights to surplus foreclosure proceeds and redemption for a fraction of the true value, often stripping residents of tens of thousands of dollars in home equity; and

WHEREAS, House Bills 5152 and 5153 have been introduced in the Michigan Legislature to amend the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, providing critical protection for homeowners during mortgage foreclosure proceedings; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 5153 would directly stop this predatory model by making a mortgagor's right to surplus money and right of redemption non-assignable and non-transferable after a notice of foreclosure is recorded, except through legitimate testate or intestate succession; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 5152 would further protect homeowners by requiring a mandatory "Notice of Rights" for any conveyance of property after a foreclosure notice is recorded, ensuring the seller fully understands they are waiving their rights to redemption, occupancy, and surplus proceeds; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Association of Registers of Deeds recognizes that one of the roles of the Register of Deeds Office is to protect the property rights of the public and recognizes House Bills 5152 and 5153 are securing said rights.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Michigan Association of Registers of Deeds fully supports House Bills 5152 and 5153, which will protect State of Michigan residents from foreclosure fraud, preserve home equity for families, and reduce the burden on local government resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lenawee County Board of Commissioners are also in support of House Bills 5152 and 5153 which will safeguard Lenawee County's residents during the foreclosure process and lessen the strain on county resources.

Comm. Stimpson moved to adopt RES#2026-03, Comm. Collins seconded, Motion CARRIED by a Unanimous Roll Call Vote.

*Annual Drain Commission Report - Drain Commissioner, Ed Scheffler
Drain Commissioner Ed Scheffler presented the Annual Drain Report.*

Comm. Aungst moved to receive the Annual Drain Report and place on file, Comm. Blanco seconded, Motion CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

(Roll Call Vote)

March Consent Agenda

Comm. Collins moved to approve the following Consent Agenda Items, Comm. Martis seconded,

Appointment/Reappointments:

Department on Aging (Lenawee) - 16 members / 3 year term

Cathy Burr, Adrian, Comm. District #4 9/26

Community Mental Health Authority Board - 12 members / 3 year term

Amy Palmer, Adrian Dominican Sisters 3/29

Judy Ackley, Palmyra 3/29

Dave Stimpson, County Commissioner 3/29

Jim Goetz, Riga Twp 3/29

Materials Management Planning Committee - 11 Members / 5 year term

Ron Wimple, City or Village elected office 5/29

2nd Quarterly Allotment of Appropriations

RES#2026-01 SECOND QUARTER: APRIL 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2026, Resolution Enacting Second Quarterly Allotment of Appropriations

WHEREAS, the 2026 General Appropriations Act provided for the allotment of appropriations on a periodic basis when financial circumstances warrant; and WHEREAS, the Lenawee County Board of Commissioners deems that financial circumstances exist whereby the quarterly allotment of appropriations contained in the 2026 General Fund Budget is deemed desirable; and WHEREAS, the financial circumstances dictate that other steps also be taken to contain expenditures during the fiscal year. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lenawee County Board of Commissioners, that the expenditure of the 2026 appropriations as contained in the 2026 General Fund Budget be established for the period beginning January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2026, and that the elected and appointed officials responsible for appropriations be so notified, and; BE IT RESOLVED that said County officials shall not cause obligations to be incurred against, nor shall payment be made from appropriations in excess of the amount provided in the schedule.

Agreement with Community Action Agency for CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Grant

Approval of the Agreement between Lenawee County and Community Action Agency for the CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Grant and authorize Board Chairman to sign.

Village of Deerfield and Macon Twp. Law Enforcement Contracts

Approval of the 2026 Law Enforcement Contracts for the Village of Deerfield and Macon Township.

Hidden Lake Gardens Law Enforcement Contracts

Approval of the 2026 Law Enforcement contract for Hidden Lake Gardens.

Purchase used van for Building & Grounds

Approval of the purchase of a van for the Building & Grounds Department, not to exceed \$40,000.

Pre-Payment for Gittus Tile Drain Maintenance Assessment

Approval of the pre-payment of the Gittus Tile Drain Assessment in the amount of \$18,200 to avoid finance charges and waive the Dual Review Policy #2026-02.

Motion CARRIED by a Unanimous Roll Call Vote.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (Comm. Martis)

Approve Accounts Payable Payments

Comm. Martis reported from the Accounts Payable Committee.

Comm. Martis moved to approve payments in the amount of \$4,975,500.14, with the general fund's portion being \$1,070,095.03, Comm Blanco seconded, Motion CARRIED.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (Comm. Collins)

Criminal Justice 3/5/26 Mins.

Comm. Collins reported from the Criminal Justice Committee.

IT/EQUALIZATION (Comm. Krasny)

IT/Equal. 3/5/26 Mins.

Comm. Krasny reported from the I.T./Equalization Committee.

PERSONNEL / WAYS & MEANS (Comm. Martis)

Personnel/Ways Mean 3/10/26 Mins.

Comm. Martis reported from the Personnel/Ways & Means Committee.

PHYSICAL RESOURCES (Comm. Krasny)

Physical Resc. 3/5/26 Mins.

Comm. Krasny reported from the Physical Resources Committee.

BOARD APPOINTMENT (VOTING MEMBER) REPORTS

AIRPORT COMMISSION (Comm. Blanco)

Airport 3/2/26 Mins.

Comm. Blanco reported from the Airport Commission.

BRIDGING THE GAP SUBCOMMITTEE (Comm. Martis)

Bridging the Gap 2/18/26 Mins

Comm. Martis reported from the Bridging the Gap Subcommittee.

COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY (Comm. Stimpson)

Comm. Stimpson reported from the Community Action Agency.

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (Comm. Stimpson)

No report.

COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION (Comm. Blanco)

Planning Commission Minutes 2/19/26

Comm. Blanco reported from the County Planning Commission.

DEPARTMENT ON AGING (LDA) (Comm. Collins)

LDA 2/26/26 Mins

Comm. Collins reported from the Department on Aging (LDA).

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES | MEDICAL CARE FACILITY (Comm. Tillotson)

No report.

HEALTH BOARD (Comm. Collins)

Health Board 2/18/26 Mins.

Comm. Collins reported from the Health Board.

LAND BANK AUTHORITY (Comm. Collins)

Landbank 2/24/26 Mins

Comm. Collins reported from the LandBank Authority.

LENAWEE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (Comm. Tillotson)

No report.

MAC - Finance & General Government (Admin. Murphy)

Admn. Murphy reported from the MAC - Finance & General Government.

MAC- Judiciary & Public Safety (Deputy Elliott)

No report.

MAURICE SPEAR CAMPUS (Comm. Aungst)

Comm. Aungst reported from the Maurice Spear Campus.

MICHIGAN WORKS (Comm. Collins)

No report.

REGION 2 PLANNING COMMISSION (Comm. Tillotson)

No report.

SOLID WASTE/MATERIALS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES (Comm. Stimpson)

Materials Management 3/4/26 Mins.

Comm. Van Doren reported from Materials Management.

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER OVERSIGHT POLICY BOARD[CMHPSM] (Comm. Tillotson)

No report.

LIAISON (NON-VOTING) REPORTS

LENAWEE NOW (Comm. Martis)

No report.

MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION [LENAWEE] (Comm. Blanco)

Comm. Blanco reported from the Michigan Township Association.

ROAD COMMISSION (Comm. Martis)

Comm. Martis reported from the Road Commission.

WELL WISE SERVICES (Comm. Van Doren)

No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business.

Comm. Van Doren shared that the Human Services Committee will be reinstituted in the future.

PUBLIC COMMENT: [on any topic- 3 minute limit]

Janell Stewart- Irish Hill Area Resident. She works for the MSU Extension and oversees the 4-H Development Program, in Lenawee County. She shared information about a new campaign for the Beyond Ready Program. The program prepares youth, that are involved in the 4-H Development Program, to be beyond ready for work, college or military, when they age out of the 4-H Development Program and become adults.

Janelle introduced Natalie Barrett. Natalie shared that she has been a 4-H Member for over 11 years and that her experience has been very positive. She now serves on one of the boards and is a mentor for younger members. As a 4-H Captain, she has the privilege of visiting Lansing next week. She will meet the state legislature members and participate in a mock bill writing exercise.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT:

Comm. Martis shared information, regarding the purpose of reconstituting the Human Service Committee.

Comm. Krasny thanked Admn. Murphy for organizing the Strategic Planning. He stated that it was a positive meeting and thanked all those that attended.

Comm. Van Doren also thanked Admn. Murphy and shared that the facilitator did a great job.

Admn. Murphy also thanked everyone that attended and commended Mr. Al Vanderberg, Kent County Administrator/Controller for the great job he did. She also stated that those commissioners that were not able to attend will get the opportunity to vote on the final priority list.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Comm. Van Doren reminded everyone of the evening Board of Commissioners' Meeting on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 6:00 pm.

ADJOURN/RECESS:

Comm. Martis moved to adjourn at 2:28 pm, Comm. Blanco seconded. Motion carried.

James Van Doren, Board Chairman

Roxann Holloway, County Clerk