

FINANCE, CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 10, 2026

A regular meeting of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners' Finance, Claims and Accounts Committee was held on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at the Chippewa County Building in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Finance Vice-Chairman Knepper called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Martin, Justin Knepper, Damon Lieurance, and Jim Traynor

MEMBERS ABSENT: Scott Shackleton

OTHERS PRESENT: Irene Semasky, Christy Meilstrup, Ryan Hering, Justin Fruchey, Karen Senkus, Anthony Zakic, Cady Bauers, and Kelly Church

Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to approve the agenda as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Public Comment

Circuit Court Administrator Irene Semasky speaking on behalf of Judges Lambros and Blubaugh, as well as Christy Meilstrup addressed the Committee regarding the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the City of Sault Ste. Marie for Parking Enforcement and Juror Parking Passes. She asked that the MOU be amended to include metered parking spots around the court buildings, which are not mentioned in the current MOU, she further asked that the MOU be amended to state primary parking to be the metered parking around the Courts as well as lot P4.

Correspondence and Informational Items

The Committee reviewed the Treasurer's Investment report, DTRF/OPEB Quarterly reports, the travel requests and Wayside Opt-out Settlement update which estimates the County payout will be \$1,311,705.24 plus the amounts previously acknowledged by the Committee of \$234,572.43. No action required.

AGENDA ITEMS

Health Department – Pink Ribbon Request #26-01 - \$1,888.50

The Committee received and reviewed Pink Ribbon Request #26-01 in the amount of \$1,888.50 for payment from the Pink Ribbon Fund, all expenses were previously reviewed by Health Officer Karen Senkus.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Martin, to approve and authorize Pink Ribbon Request #26-01 for payment in the amount of \$1,888.50. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Health Department – Smiles on Wheels – Provider Agreement

The Health Department presented a new service agreement for Smiles on Wheels to provide the services necessary for Kindergarten Oral Health Program through the Health Department. Smile on Wheels will do all the reporting, outreach and contacting the schools, and the Health Officer will approve the reports before they are submitted and act as a liaison when needed.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the new provider Smiles on Wheels to provide the required Kindergarten Oral Health Program for the Health Department. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Sheriff's Office – Purchase New Handguns - \$18,507.50 (budgeted)

The Committee reviewed the Sheriff's Office request to purchase twenty-two new handguns and accessories for the road division employees, a total cost of \$18,507.50 which is below the budget requested amount by \$4,727.03. The Committee asked a couple questions regarding the difference in firearms quoted by CMP Distributors, Inc.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the purchase from CMP Distributors, Inc, to purchase new handguns and accessories for the road division employees at the price of \$18,507.50. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Sheriff's Office – Deputy handgun buyback guideline \$200.00

The Committee also reviewed a request to establish a policy handgun buyback guideline, which will offer the Sheriff's Office staff the opportunity to purchase their old service weapons at the cost of \$200.00. This will change the past practice of getting estimates and having the Board of Commissioners approve each handgun buyback.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the Sheriff's Office a \$200.00 handgun buyback program for the Sheriff's Office employees to purchase their service weapons. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Sheriff's Office – Vehicle Purchase update (no action needed)

New 2024 Chevy truck purchase \$45,989.00

2026 Chevy Tahoe \$55,792.00

The Committee was updated that these vehicles were purchased at the State of Michigan pricing per the FY26 Budget request; and were also notified that Sheriff's Office purchased a lesser cost Chevy truck at a saving of approximately \$9,000.00.

Sheriff's Office – Canteen Services, Inc. Amendment Four Renewal

The Committee reviewed the Sheriff's Office request to approve Amendment Four from Canteen Services, Inc., which will go into effect March 8, 2026, with a revision to the pricing schedule and will remain in force through March 8, 2027. The Committee received and reviewed the breakdown cost increases that covered the past three years, the agreement allows for one (1) additional one-year renewal.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Martin, to approve and authorize Canteen Services, Inc. Amendment Four Renewal, increasing the per meal cost effective March 8, 2026, through March 8, 2027. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Sheriff's Office – Diamond Pharmacy Services – 4% Increase

The Committee reviewed noticed from Diamond Pharmacy Services of a 4% increase effective January 1, 2026; Diamond Pharmacy Services provides inmate medication dispensing and management services for the Chippewa County Correctional Facility. The increase is applicable to the dispensing and return processing fees per the pricing agreement for the remainder of the calendar year.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to acknowledge the 4% increase from Diamond Pharmacy Services, effective January 1, 2026, for twelve months; Diamond Pharmacy Services provides inmate medication dispensing and management services. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Information Systems – 50 MBPS Point to Point Bid Summary – 10-Year - \$48,775.00

The Committee reviewed a request from Information Systems to change from a firewall with internet to point-to-point services to meet new CJIS (Criminal Justice Information Services) requirements of having 140-3 (security requirements for cryptographic modules) Certificate for the Sheriff's Office Training Building, the service billing will be split 25/75 with the Animal Shelter covering 25% and the Sheriff's Office covering the

other 75% and will replace the current Charter line. The Committee reviewed the savings and the 10-year bids provided.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve the low bid of \$48,775.00, a 10-year locked in rate with Peninsula Fiber Network, to provide a 50 MBPS point-to-point connection between the County Building and the Animal Shelter/Sheriff's Office Training Building, as presented (monthly cost of \$400.00, one-time cost of \$775.00 = total cost \$48,775.00). On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Information Systems – Release Request for Proposals

Zulty Desk Phones

Firewall

Website Refresh

The Committee received the Request for Proposals for the Zulty Desk Phones, Firewall and Website Refresh.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the release of the Requests for Proposals, as presented for the Zulty Desk Phones, Firewall and Website Refresh. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Office of Emergency Services – Incident Command System 400 Advanced Training \$2,500.00

The Committee reviewed a request from Director Greg Postma, to provide requested Incident Command System training for ICS-400, to provide an opportunity for local community leaders and employees to attend class at the cost of \$2,500.00 which will occur on March 5th and 6th. Providing Emergency Training to county officials and partners is also a requirement of the EMPG Grant.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Martin, to approve and authorize Incident Command System 400 Advanced Training at the cost of \$2,500.00 per requirement. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

2026 Survey & Remonumentation – BCC 26-17 \$122,687.00

- **Administration - \$17,735.88 – Patricia Weinreis**
- **Monumentation Contracts**
 - **\$48,600.00 – Alpine Engineering – 27 corners**
 - **\$48,600.00 – Sidock Group – 27 corners**
- **Peer Review Professional Surveyors - \$5,000.00 shared**
 - **Jeff Davis, P.S., Sidock Group**
 - **William L. Karr, P.S., retired**
 - **Ginger L. Michalski, P.S., Alpine Engineering**
 - **Larry Rogers, P.S., retired**
 - **Lawrence Weinreis, P.S., retired**

The Committee reviewed the 2026 Survey and Remonumentation Grant from the Office of Land Surveying and Remonumentation of \$107,687.00 and the County contributed \$15,000.00 for a total of \$122,687.00. The Committee reviewed the contracts for administration, monumentation and peer review for the 2026 Remonumentation Program. All documents need to be approved and authorized for signature by the Committee.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, seconded by Commissioner Traynor, to accept and authorize the Program Representative/Administrative contract in the amount \$17,735.88 for Patricia Weinreis, P.S., under the direct supervision of Robert Laitinen, PS, Chippewa County Surveyor; to approve two (2) Monumentation contracts each contract for \$48,600.00 for Alpine Engineering and Sidock Group to monument 27 corners each; to approve five Professional Service Agreements for the Peer Review Surveyors, total not to exceed \$5,000 for the following Surveyors: Jeff Davis, P.S., Sidock Group; William

L. Karr, P.S., retired, Ginger L. Michalski-Wallace, P.S., Alpine Engineering; Larry Rogers, P.S., retired and Lawrence Weinreis, P.S., retired. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Administration – Chippewa County Courthouse Complex and the City of SSM for Parking Enforcement Activities and Juror Parking Passes

The Committee reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding between Chippewa County Courthouse Complex and the City of Sault Ste. Marie for Parking Enforcement Activities and Juror Parking Passes, these MOU came about in April of 2024, when the City of SSM looked to terminate the process of providing the free paper parking passes with the jury notices and transition to paid parking as it is with all other users and asked that it be possible to transition as soon as May 1, 2024. Since that point the MOU has been bounced back and forth for many months, including having the courts go directly with City staff to try to come to an agreement; recently an updated draft MOU was drafted and reviewed, with an outstanding question about parking on Court and Bingham Avenue meters. The Committee discussed several topics regarding parking and the conflicts, including the comments from the Courts with Commissioner Knepper indicating that the cost of snowplowing and maintenance of the parking lots brought this forward and the metered parking on Court Street and Bingham Avenue was just an oversight. Discussion followed.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Chippewa County Courthouse Complex and the City of Sault Ste. Marie for Parking Enforcement Activities and Juror Parking Passes, as presented and for discussion.

It was then moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to amend the motion to amend the MOU to indicate that the metered spaces on Court Street, Bingham Avenue and the south side of Maple be the primary parking spots for jurors, Lot P4 the secondary spaces and that the Fire Hall parking be for overflow. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Administration – Flow-based Water Shutoff Valves

The Committee reviewed flow-based water shutoff valves for the Courthouse, Animal Shelter and the Sheriff's Training Building. These flow-based water shutoff valves could have saved much of the damage to the Courthouse's December 14th water line break and were suggested by a Facility Consultant who reached out following the water damage. This type of valve would not work in the Jail Facility.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, supported by Commissioner Martin, to approve and authorize the quote from Albert Heating & Cooling to install water shutoff valves as follows: Courthouse \$3,166.00, Animal Shelter \$2,312.00 and Sheriff's Training Building \$2,468.00; not including electrical. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Administration – Courthouse Water Damage Update

Administrator Church gave a quick update on the status of the Courthouse water damage, everything is fully dried and we have approval to move forward with repairing the damages, MMRMA will only be covering 50% of the stairwell repairs and the water damage did not cause the structural issue it only aggravated the already broken stringers. Repairs should start within the next week.

Finance - Claims and Accounts – January– County

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to recommend the approval of January bills and payroll: general claims \$619,808.01, other fund claims \$948,653.98, payroll \$634,804.33 total claims \$2,203,266.32. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION

Collective Bargaining Negotiations pursuant MCL 15.268 (c)

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to enter closed session to discuss collective bargaining negotiations, pursuant to MCL 15.268 (c).

Roll call vote 4-0. Closed session began at 5:07 p.m.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Martin, to exit closed session wherein we discussed upcoming collective bargaining negotiations, pursuant to MCL 15.268 (c).

Roll call vote 4-0. Return to open session at 5:12 p.m.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approved and authorize the Collective Bargaining Agreements between Chippewa County, Police Officers Association of Michigan (POAM), from 1/1/2026 to 12/31/2028; covering the Sheriff's Office Road Patrol, as re-negotiated and ratified by the Road Patrol Union members, and authorizing the 457 adoption agreement changes for Nationwide as negotiated. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Committee Comments

No additional comments were offered.

Chairman Comments

No additional comments were offered.

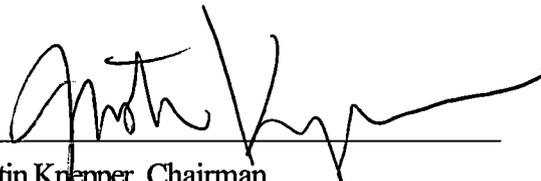
Adjourn

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.



Kelly J. Church, Recorder



Justin Knepper, Chairman.