

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Session
July 16, 2026

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners met at a regular session on Thursday, July 16, 2026 in the 91st District Courtroom.

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 4:30 P.M. with a quorum present. The meeting was also available via zoom. Commissioner Traynor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Commissioners Justin Knepper, Damon Lieurance, Scott Shackleton, James Traynor and Chairman Jim Martin

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator Kelly Church, Clerk Steven Woodgate, and 9 members of the public. 4 members of the public logged in via zoom.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve the agenda as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve the following minutes as presented:

- Regular Board Meeting – June 11, 2026
- Public Hearing – Truth & Taxation – June 11, 2026

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

It was moved by Commissioner Knepper, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to receive the correspondence and forward to appropriate offices. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tim Moher, Sara Karasinski, Lori Miller, and Mike O'Connor talked about the importance of EUPTA to have an advisory committee and how the County Commission is responsible for EUPTA to have that committee.

Matt Keller encouraged EUPTA to have an advisory board.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Kelly Church provided for informational purposes only – *no action items*.

NEW BUSINESS

Memorandum of Understanding between Chippewa County and the City of Sault Ste. Marie – Opioid Settlement Funds Planning and Coordination and updated Steering Committee membership

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Chippewa County and the City of Sault Ste. Marie – Opioid

Settlement Funds Planning and Coordination and updated Steering Committee membership. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-30

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Lieurance and supported by Commissioner Knepper.

CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION NO # 26-30

**A SPECIAL RECOGNITION HONORING CHARLES STREETER A PURPLE HEART
RECIPIENT, FOR HIS SERVICE AND SACRIFICE TO THE UNITED STATES**

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in present use, originally established as the Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in 1782; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or killed in action against an enemy of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Charles Streeter served honorably in the United States Army during the Vietnam War demonstrating extraordinary courage and dedication to duty; and

WHEREAS, Charles Steeter was wounded in action and was awarded the Purple Heart in recognition of his wounds and valor; and

WHEREAS, Charles Streeter's service and sacrifice exemplify the highest ideals of patriotism, bravery, and commitment to protecting the freedoms enjoyed by the citizens of Chippewa County and the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners desires to publicly recognize and honor Charles Streeter for his contributions and to express the community's deep gratitude;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners that:

1. Charles Streeter is hereby commended and honored for his military service and receipt of the Purple Heart.
2. The citizens of Chippewa County are encouraged to join in expressing appreciation for the sacrifices made by Charles Streeter and all veterans.
3. A copy of this resolution shall be presented to Charles Streeter and preserved in the official records of Chippewa County.

A ROLL-CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: Commissioners Knepper, Lieurance, Shackleton, Traynor, and Chairman Martin
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION 2026-30 DECLARED ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 2026-31

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Shackleton and supported by Commissioner Traynor.

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING LEGISLATION TO DISSOLVE THE UPPER PENINSULA
COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM INTO A SINGLE SPECIALIZED REGIONAL
MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY**

RESOLUTION 2026-31

WHEREAS, the Upper Peninsula Community Mental Health (CMH) and Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) system has historically operated under a decentralized, community-based model intended to preserve local control, responsiveness, and accountability to the residents of each county; and

WHEREAS, Senator McBroom's proposal would require the dissolution and consolidation of all five Upper Peninsula CMHs into a single specialized regional mental health authority, thereby transferring governance and operational authority from local entities to a centralized regional structure; and

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners recognizes and appreciates efforts to improve behavioral health outcomes in the Upper Peninsula, including efforts to expand access to psychiatric inpatient services, the Board finds that the proposed legislation presents substantial governance, policy, and fiscal concerns; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation is inconsistent with the longstanding principles of the Michigan Mental Health Code, which has favored decentralized, community-driven CMH systems over centralized institutional models; and

WHEREAS, a single specialized regional authority serving all fifteen Upper Peninsula counties would reduce local responsiveness and community control by removing decision-making authority from locally based CMH programs that understand the distinct geographic, demographic, and service delivery needs of their communities; and

WHEREAS, the proposal would effectively expose counties to expanded and potentially uncapped fiscal liability by eliminating the current statutory framework that defines and limits county financial responsibility, including formula-based protections established under Michigan law; and

WHEREAS, under the proposed structure, counties could become jointly responsible for the financial performance and obligations of a single specialized regional entity without clear statutory limits on deficits, extraordinary costs, capital obligations, or long-term psychiatric inpatient liabilities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would require the single specialized regional entity to assume responsibility for long-term psychiatric inpatient services, including facility ownership or leasing, staffing, and operations, without clearly identified and sustainable funding parameters; and

WHEREAS, psychiatric inpatient services are capital-intensive and historically underfunded, and any expansion of inpatient capacity must account for workforce constraints, regulatory requirements, and the limitations on the use of Medicaid and opioid settlement funds; and

WHEREAS, the County Board believes that durable improvements in behavioral health services in the Upper Peninsula should be developed through consultation with subject matter experts, local providers, county officials, and community stakeholders in a manner that strengthens services without undermining local governance or long-term sustainability; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners hereby opposes legislation that would dissolve the existing Upper Peninsula Community Mental Health system into a single specialized regional mental health authority; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners urges the Michigan Legislature and all relevant policymakers to reject any proposal that removes local control, weakens community responsiveness, or imposes uncertain and potentially unlimited fiscal liability upon counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners supports collaborative, sustainable, and community-driven approaches to strengthening behavioral health services in the Upper Peninsula, including solutions that address access, workforce, funding, and inpatient capacity without compromising local accountability.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to send a copy of this resolution to the Governor of Michigan, the Michigan Senate, the Michigan House of Representatives, Senator Ed McBroom, and other interested parties.

A ROLL-CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: Commissioners Knepper, Lieurance, Shackleton, Traynor, and Chairman Martin
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION 2026-31 DECLARED ADOPTED

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Building Grounds and Jail, Legislative and Natural Resources and Information Technology
Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2026**

Agenda Items

Building and Grounds

Central Dispatch Electrical Room – Preferred Bid Option

The Committee was updated on the Central Dispatch Electrical Room project, which has taken some time due to the complexity and need to have UP Engineers and Architects Electrical Engineer spend many hours developing a plan to upgrade and correct the electrical issues in the room. The Committee reviewed the plans and discussed the request for the job to go out to a limited preferred bidders list.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the Central Dispatch Electrical Room Upgrade to be released to a preferred bidders list-based recommendation of UP Engineers and Architects. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Information Systems – Relocation Room 20 to Jail – Services \$23,000.00 and estimated cost \$300,000.00 to \$350,000.00

The Committee reviewed the architectural engineering services proposal to move Room 20 to a renovated area of the jail, to provide equipment a space with limited and controlled access and to limit outside environmental issues like access and water. The estimated cost is between \$300,000.00 and \$350,000.00. Discussion followed including potentially going back to an older idea of adding a 20' x 30' addition under the existing sally port parking on the south side of the Chippewa County Correctional Facility. The addition would help with public bathroom use for Community Corrections, and open space by relocating Mental Health and Drug Court, which then eliminates weekend access to the buildings; as the addition would have an entrance of its own. Commissioner Knepper noted that he wanted the architecture to match the existing exterior and not to be just a brick wall. Discussion followed.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to have Administration work on an estimate for a comparable with UPEA. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

County Building – Secured gate for roof access ladder - \$1,290.00

The Committee reviewed the proposal to have a 9' gate added to the ladder access on the County Building, to deter access. The gate would have a double lock so that both the Sheriff's Office and County Maintenance staff have access.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, supported by Commissioner Shackleton, to approve and authorize the bid from Soo Welding to fabricate and install a gate on the County Building access ladder at the cost of \$1,290.00. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Snowplowing Changes at Shelter/Training Building, cancel contract and release RFQ to purchase tractor

The Committee was updated on the current snow removal agreement that covers the Animal Control Shelter and the Sheriff's Training Center on Mackinac Trail, and the issues from the 2025/2026 season, which was not corrected after communications from the County to the vendor. The Sheriff's Office is proposing to purchase a tractor to handle the snow plowing for both the Animal Shelter and the Training Center, to better meet the needs for the necessary access to equipment at the Training Center specifically and agree to make sure the Shelter staff have access on weekend and days the County is potentially closed due to weather. Discussion followed including RFP review, the cost split between the Animal Shelter and Sheriff's Office, which would utilize funds from Fund 232 Community Corrections. Discussion also included personnel, internalization of jobs and letting the contractor know we will be switching to in-house for the plowing services and that the tractor would save the Sheriff's Office on smaller jobs when equipment and/or evidence needs to be moved.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, Supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to cancel the current snow plowing services agreement at the Animal Shelter/Sheriff's Office Training Building,

for cause and to release an RFP to purchase a tractor. The cost of the tractor will be split between Fund 232 and the general fund, with the Animal Shelter reimbursing Fund 232 annually. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Animal Shelter – Landscape stone for fenced yard - \$5,500.00

The Committee reviewed a request from Shelter Manager Holly Henderson to add landscape stone to fenced area at the shelter that is currently overgrown, and the stones would make cleaning easier. A quote from Best Maintenance was reviewed in the amount of \$5,500.00 to level the area, add landscape fabric and lay the pea stone.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve and authorize the quote from Best Maintenance and Lawn in the amount of \$5,500.00 to complete the landscaping at the Animal Shelter as quoted, including leveling, landscaping fabric and pea stone. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

32-spot Parking Lot – add two additional spots (gravel only) \$3,630.00

The Committee reviewed a quote from A&K Outdoor Services, to clean up and expand the County's 32-spot parking lot off Bingham Avenue at the cost of \$3,630.00 which includes creating three spaces, removing old posts, disposal of debris and spreading and grading the spots as quoted and discussed.

A brief discussion was held on the veteran's memorial area on the Courthouse grounds as a bid for a retaining wall was included in the estimate for the two 32-spot parking lot projects.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, supported by Commissioner Shackleton, to approve the improvements of the County's 32-spot lot, adding spaces and cleaning up the area, at the cost of \$3,630.00 to A&K Outdoor Services. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

New Hedge – 32-spot Parking Lot - \$12,075.00 (3-foot-tall cedars/2 foot apart)

The Committee reviewed a quote from A&K Outdoor Services to replace the cedar hedge at the east side of the 32-spot parking lot at the cost of \$12,075.00. The price includes the cedars, labor to install, remove the overgrowth and prep with new soil, add weed barrier and new mulch. The hedge will be maintained to a suitable height and trimmed timely to maintain a healthy hedge.

The Committee also asked about having the parking lot seal coated and striped, Administration will seek a quote.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve and authorize the replacement hedge for the 32-spot parking lot as quoted by A&K Outdoor Services, as a cost of \$12,075.00. On a voice vote the motion CARRIED.

Courthouse Security – add two cameras for better views of the north and east lawn and monuments, price does not reflect installation

The Committee was updated on the current Courthouse Security system which fails to cover the northeast lawn or the monument area of the Courthouse grounds. A quote from Control Solutions Inc, in the amount of \$1,110.00 was reviewed, this does not include installation. Options for installation were discussed and

will depend on county staff availability, the Committee also asked about utilizing a different vendor, to save money; after speaking with the Information Technology staff; it is a preference to go directly with the vendor of the system; as they would not install without the cameras being purchased from them, if they in fact do need to install.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve the purchase of two cameras from Control Solutions Inc, to be added to the current system to add coverage to the northeast lawn and monument area of the Courthouse lawn, at the price of \$1,110.00. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Sheriff's Office – Jail Convergent – labeling for security system - \$15,970.00

The Committee reviewed a quotation from Convergent to provide labor, supervision, and project coordination to identify and label all existing accessible access control equipment associated with the county jail at the cost of \$15,970.00. Undersheriff Ryan Hering gave a brief update on the maintenance budget for FY2026; and the items that had been taken of including plumbing, access to chases which enables this project to be completed in FY2026 and not need a budget amendment. Convergent will combine this quote for labeling and another for repairs, to the two switches that are currently not functioning.

It was moved by Commissioner Traynor, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve and authorize the expense of \$15,970.00 to Convergent to provide services to label all existing control equipment at the Chippewa County Correctional Facility, as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Jail Sally Port off Bingham – RFP to change out drop ceiling – information only

The Committee was updated on the ceiling issues of the sally port on the north side of the County Building, not matching the structural or mechanical of the ceiling (ceiling tiles) on the south side sally port. The Committee was asked to authorize an RFQ be released to replace the ceiling on the south side to match the north side to make the accessibility easier and to make sure the pipes and mechanical drops are properly insulated.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve the release of an RFQ to repair and change the south side sally port ceiling to match the north side with tiles, for accessibility. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Carpet Cleaning County Building and Courthouse

Commissioner Shackleton informed the Board the quote from Atlas after the committee meeting. The quote from Atlas is \$9,060.00 to clean the carpet in both the county building and courthouse.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to accept the quote of \$9060.00 from Atlas. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, for the minutes of Building Grounds and Jail, Legislative and Natural Resources and Information Technology Committee Meeting be accepted. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

**COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PERSONNEL, EQUALIZATION AND APPORTIONMENT/TRANSPORTATION/HEALTH
AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

July 14, 2026

Personnel – Health Department – Update on discussion with LMAS partnership

County and Health Department Administration updated the Committee regarding the findings of a potential partnership with LMAS, through discussions with the State of Michigan Department of Community Health information was gathered that does not support a partnership because of the impacts the combination of health departments would cause. The hopes to consolidate services can still be as option to utilize Associated Health Department between Chippewa County and LMAS, there is a current MCL 333.2419 the current code allows for a more formal shared arrangement, basically contractual arrangements for personnel or for consolidation of functions. It would make it possible for more efficient health services to be delivered by intergovernmental contract; the contracts would need to refer to the current Public Health Code rather than to laws that predate it. A final determination of a shared arrangement should be made no later than September 1st to ensure that there is enough time for transition or to seek to fill the Health Officer position without an Association with LMAS.

Personnel – Approve Grade 6 pay level changes

The Committee reviewed the County Grade 6 pay levels as adjusted from a starting point of \$15.13 to \$15.50 and a five-year rate of \$17.87 to \$18.90. This will keep up just ahead of minimum wage which will be \$15.00 per hour starting January 1, 2027, and the Committee also reviewed four positions Health Department employees from the Health Department pay scale to the County pay scale. Including three non-union full-time employees of the Health Department to be changed to the County Non-Union Grade 6 effective July 19, 2026, and one non-union full-time employee of the Health Department to be changed to the County Non-Union Grade 7 effective July 19, 2026, from their current Health Department pay scale 4.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve the changes to the County Grade 6 pay level, as follows start rate \$15.50, 90 days \$15.81, 1-year \$16.28, 2-years \$17.42, 3-years \$17.93, 4-years \$18.43 and 5-years \$18.90, and to approve the three Health Department Grade 3 positions be transferred to the County Non-Union Grade 6, and one Grade 4 Administrative biller position be transferred to the County Non-Union Grade 7, all effective July 19, 2026, as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Personnel – Travel and Business Expense Policy 410 – Update

The Committee reviewed County Policy 410 which is related to travel expenses and reimbursement to County employees. Administration is asking that clarification to be added under 3. Reimbursable Expenses c. – 3. When an employee has an assigned vehicle, their personal vehicle cannot be used without prior authorization and disclosure on the travel request, when possible.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Shackleton, to approve and authorize the change to County Policy No. 410 – Travel and Business Expenses, clarifying use of personal vehicle when assigned a county vehicle. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Personnel – Sick Leave and Sickness and Accident Insurance Benefit – Policy No. 230

The Committee reviewed and updated on the County's Policy 230 regarding sick leave and sickness; the Committee was asked to change C. Use of Sick Leave – 3. I. to clarify holiday pay eligibility, which employees to be eligible for holiday pay cannot call in the day before or the day after a holiday. Discussion followed.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Shackleton, to approve and authorize the change to County Policy 230 - Sick Leave and Sickness and Accident Insurance Benefit, clarifying holiday pay eligibility. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Personnel – Temporary Information Systems Services Agreement between Chippewa County and the City of Sault Ste. Marie

The Committee reviewed the Information Systems Services Agreement between Chippewa County and the City of Sault Ste. Marie, which became effective on June 22, 2026, and will continue through September 8, 2026, this agreement allows for temporary services information systems technology support services to the City, while the City addresses its staffing and operational needs, including recruitment of an IT Director. The City of Sault Ste. Marie will reimburse actual wages and fringe benefits for County personnel assigned to provide services.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to authorize and approve the Temporary Information Systems Services Agreement between Chippewa County and the City of Sault Ste. Marie to provide information systems technology support services from June 22, 2026, through September 8, 2026, as presented with actual wages and fringe benefits to be billed and reimbursed. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Personnel – FOIA/GIS/LARA/Legal Updates – Information Only

The Committee was briefly updated on the volume of FOIA requests and how legal counsel has been brought in to guide the County, and a LARA complaint letter.

Health and Social Services – Opposing House Bills 6116 through 6119 – Information Only

The Committee was updated on the opposition to House Bills 6116 through 6119, as follow up to a prior email sent out to the full Board. On June 30, 2026, we were asked to join the UP Counties and healthcare executives in opposing four house bills that were introduced on June 18, 2026, with a letter that was sent to the UP delegation.

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Shackleton, for the Personnel, Equalization and Apportionment/Transportation/Health and Social Services Committee Meeting Minutes be accepted as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

**FINANCE, CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
July 14, 2026**

AGENDA ITEMS

Health Department – Request to change credit card to Central Savings Bank - \$20,000.00 limit

The Committee reviewed a request from Health Officer Karen Senkus, to switch their current credit card from Comdata to a credit card at Central Savings Bank with a limit of \$20,000.00.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the Health Department request to change credit card providers and to open an account with Central Savings Bank with a limit of \$20,000.00, as presented and requested. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Health Department – Pink Ribbon Request #2 \$3,500.00

The Committee reviewed request #2 for FY2026 in the amount of \$3,500.00, the diagnoses and medical expenses have been verified by the Health Officer.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve and authorize Pink Ribbon payment #2 in the amount of \$3,500.00, as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Health Department – Close Central Savings Bank Health Department Payroll Checking Account and transfer to general checking – Account is no longer required.

The Committee reviewed a request from Health Department Finance Director DJ Welton to close the Health Department's payroll checking account which is no longer required because payroll is not processed independently of the County and to transfer the funds into the County's general checking account.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve and authorize the request to close the Health Department payroll account at Central Savings Bank and to transfer the funds to the County's general checking account. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Office of Emergency Services/E 9-1-1 – MOU between Chippewa County Emergency Management/Central Dispatch 9-1-1 and Eastern Upper Peninsula Amateur Radio Club (EUPAR)

The Committee reviewed a request for Director Greg Postma to authorize a Memorandum of Understanding between Chippewa County Emergency Management/Central Dispatch and the Eastern Upper Peninsula Amateur Radio Club (EUPAR) a Michigan nonprofit corporation operating as Chippewa County ARES/AUXCOMM. The agreement recognizes the value of the cooperation to enhance emergency communication in Chippewa County through the EUPAR operators during critical situations as well as give authorization to install, operate and maintain amateur radio equipment on County-owned or controlled radio tower sites with applicable FCC rules and regulations.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the MOU between Chippewa County Emergency Management/Central Dispatch 9-1-1 and Eastern Upper Peninsula Amateur Radio Club (EUPAR), to officially recognize and authorize EUPAR's role with Emergency Management. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Prosecuting Attorney – Victims' Rights FY27 Funding \$91,695.00

General Grant \$89,180.00

Victim's Needs \$2,515

The Committee reviewed the estimates for the FY2027 Victim Rights Unit grant totaling \$91,695.00, which is \$1,200.00 less than FY2026 funding.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to authorize and approve acceptance of the FY27 Allocation for the Prosecutor's Victim Rights Unit Grant totaling \$91,695.00 (General grant \$89,180.00 and Victim Needs \$2,515.00), as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Treasurer – Secure Rural Schools Election

The Committee reviewed the FY26 Forest Service payments to States, Public Law 117-58, with an option for the County Treasurer to change our payment election between the Secure Rural School and 1908 Act; the County is currently splitting the payment 80% Title I, 13% Title II and 7% Title III. Based on additional information and research, County Treasurer Jenni Pace decided to go with 80% Title I, 1% Title II and 19% Title III.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to acknowledge the Treasurer's Secure Rural School election to 80% Title I, 1% Title II and 19% Title III for the State payments. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Surveyor – Release 2027 Chippewa County Plat Book RFQ

The Committee reviewed the request for quotations for the preparation, publication and production of the 2027 Chippewa County Plat Book from Surveyor Robert Laitinen. Discussion regarding physical and digital copies of the plat books took place and follow up indicates that all U.P. Counties offer both types of copies at various costs.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the release of the 2027 Chippewa County Plat Book Request for Receiving Quotes, as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Administration – Materials Management Planning – Round 2 Funding Request

The Committee reviewed the Round 2 funding request for the Materials Management Planning grants from EUP Regional Planning CEO, Jeff Hagan, funds not expended in Round 1 will be rolled over to Round 2 and the Round 2 funding request is due by July 31, 2026. The Round 2 funding will go through July 2027, for plan development and final approval, after which time the project will move to the implementation phase of the plan. EUP Regional Planning is seeking approval to move forward with Round 2 Award amount of \$135,360.51 for Chippewa County, including rollover from Round 1.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve and authorize the Round 2 funding request of \$135,360.51 for Chippewa County for the Materials Management Planning Grant through EUP Regional Planning. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Administration – MEDC-CDBG Annual Reporting – Program Income \$56,186.00

The Committee was updated and reviewed the annual Program Income Certification for the MEDC-CDBG Form 8-H; during the period 7/1/2025 to 6/30/2026 – the County received \$56,186.00 in early payoffs from prior Community Home Improvement Loans. If the funds were below \$35,000, they could be transferred back to the GF, since there are over \$35,000 the funds will be returned to the MEDC.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, acknowledged and accepted the Program Income Certification from 7/1/2025 to 6/30/2026; the Single Audit Certification and payment of \$56,186.00 to the State of Michigan for Program Year 2026. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Finance - Claims and Accounts – June County

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to recommend the approval of June bills and payroll: general claims \$463,548.02, other fund claims \$1,202,355.85, payroll \$886,387.88 total claims \$2,552,291.75, to approve mid-year budget amendments and to approve the beginning fund balance from the FYE 12/31/2025 Audit, as presented and to acknowledge the various monthly financial reports. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

7/14/2026		Chippewa County				
		Budget Amendments				
General Fund - Revenue			Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change	Description
101-000-676.265	Building & Grounds	2025 Water Line Break/Flood	500.00	175,500.00	175,000.00	2025 Water Line Break/Flood
101-000-507.716	Regional Planning	MMP Grant	0.00	88,392.50	88,392.50	MMP Grant
101-000-676.262	Elections	Reimbursement	5,000.00	25,000.00	20,000.00	Increased Reimbursement
101-000-676.301	Sheriff's Office	Reimbursement	50,000.00	90,000.00	40,000.00	Academy Stipend
Special Funds - Revenue						
238-000-715.000	School Resource Officer	Contribution Rudyard Schools	0.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	Rudyard School SRO Agreement
261-000-676.801	911 Emergency Telephone	Tech Account	30,200.00	40,200.00	10,000.00	Increased Expenses & Revenue
General Fund - Expenditures						
101-228-727.000	Information Systems	Supplies	1,000.00	2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	Increased supplies (proxy cards)
101-228-729.000	Information Systems	Postage	350.00	1,350.00	\$ 1,000.00	Increased postage
101-265-936.001	Building & Grounds	2025 Water Line Break/Flood	0.00	180,000.00	\$ 180,000.00	Line Break December 2025
101-265-937.000	Building & Grounds	Courthouse Maintenance	10,000.00	16,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	Line Break Portion not covered by MMRMA
101-265-979.000	Building & Grounds	Machinery & Equipment	0.00	40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	Kabota Tractor Approved in FY25; delivered in FY26
101-266-801.000	Legal Services	Legal Services	75,000.00	100,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	Wayside Payments started
101-277-729.000	Jury Board	Postage	10,500.00	12,700.00	\$ 2,200.00	Increased Cost of Postage
101-289-706.000	Friend of the Court	Overtime	0.00	2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	Requested during staff changes
101-301-957.000	Sheriff's Office	Education/Training	8,000.00	48,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	Academy Expenses
101-848-802.000	Medical Examiner	Dues & Subscriptions	325.00	450.00	\$ 125.00	Additional Cost & Additional Staff added
101-882-955.682	Veteran's Affairs	Flags	5,700.00	6,700.00	\$ 1,000.00	Increased Cost
101-713-861.000	Surveyor's Office	Conventions/Seminar	800.00	900.00	\$ 100.00	Increased Costs
101-716-801.507	Regional Planning	MMP Grant	0.00	88,392.50	\$ 88,392.50	MMP Grant
Special Funds - Expenditures						
238-000-715.000	School Resource Officers	Fringes	18,334.24	83,334.24	\$ 65,000.00	Increased fringe/staff
280-000-745.00	Animal Shelter Millage	Uniforms	0.00	100.00	\$ 100.00	Not Previously Budgeted
285-000-955.000	Animal Shelter Donations	Paypal Fees	100.00	1,000.00	\$ 900.00	Paypal Fees Increased Donations
254-000-832.001	Opioid Settlement	Opioid Recipient	0.00	29,500.00	\$ 29,500.00	Face Addiction Now (FAN)
254-000-832.002	Opioid Settlement	Opioid Recipient	0.00	18,500.00	\$ 18,500.00	Mental Health Court
254-000-832.004	Opioid Settlement	Opioid Recipient	0.00	45,000.00	\$ 45,000.00	Community Action Agency
254-000-832.005	Opioid Settlement	Opioid Recipient	0.00	45,000.00	\$ 45,000.00	Great Lake Recovery
261-000-801.261	911 Emergency Telephone	Tech Account	30,200.00	40,200.00	\$ 10,000.00	Increased Expenses & Revenue

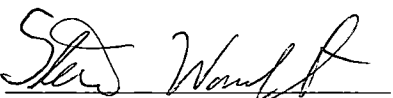
It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, for the minutes of Finance, Claims, and Accounts Committee Meeting of July 14, 2026 be accepted. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER REPORT ON MEETINGS AS BOARD REPRESENTATIVES AND GENERAL COMMENTS

Commissioner Lieurance said his position on Neebish Island was mischaracterized in the public comments. He stated he does not believe the Neebish Island schedule was diminished by personal animosity, but he believed the negotiations have been hampered by personal animosity and anger on both sides. Commissioner Lieurance suggested to harbor people who do not have such anger to work with. Commissioner Shackleton said the County does not run EUPTA, and it is an independent authority. The original agreement is for EUPTA, and not Chippewa County, to form an advisory committee. The County's involvement with EUPTA is to appoint some of its board members. Commissioner Knepper encouraged the EUPTA Board to form an advisory committee. He said the advisory committee would not be just about the islands, but all the operations of EUPTA. Commissioner Traynor said the people of Neebish Island deserve to have access to and from the Island. They are taxpayers, so they are equal to everybody else. They need to be represented and that what he is here for. Commissioner Traynor said he will represent them until the end.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Chairman Martin, to adjourn, accordingly. On a voice vote, the motion carried. The Board adjourned at 5:16 P.M.


Steven Woodgate, Clerk


James Martin, Chairman