Office of the Chippewa County Clerk

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CHIPPEWA COUNTY
November 12, 2026 – 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING – Proposed 2027 Budget – Page 1

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY:

Go to the County's website* www.chippewacountymi.gov *for the link.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order – Chairman Jim Martin
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Additions, Deletions, and agenda Approval
5. Approval of County Board Minutes
    a. Regular Meeting – October 15, 2026 – Page 2
6. Correspondence received in the Clerk's Office – Page 15
7. Public Comments
8. Administrator's Report – Page 16
9. Old Business
    a. Board/Committee/Agency/Authority Vacancies Applicants (accept) – Page 23

10.New Business

a. Announce Jury Commission Opening – Page 25

b. Resolution 2026-39 Appreciation and Special Recognition of LT. William B. Church II – a Charlevoix County Computer Forensic Division team member who assisted the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office – Page 26

c. Resolution 2026-40 Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Resolution and General Appropriations Act – Page 28

d. Resolution 2026-41 Opting Out of the Requirements of PA 152 of 2011 (Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act) – Page 34

e. Resolution 2026-42 – Appreciation and Recognition Honoring Sheriff Michael Bitnar Upon his Retirement – Page 36

11.Standing Committee Reports

a. Finance, Claims and Accounts – Commissioner Shackleton – November 10, 2026 – To be handed out

12.Commissioner report on meetings as Board Representative and General Comments

13.Adjournment

Steven Woodgate
County Clerk

NOTICE
OF
PUBLIC HEARING
ON
PROPOSED
2027 BUDGET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on NOVEMBER 12, 2026, AT 4:30 pm at either the CHIPPEWA COUNTY DISTRICT COURTROOM, 325 COURT STREET, OR CHIPPEWA COUNTY CIRCUIT COURTROOM, 319 COURT STREET, SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN 49783, THE CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS will hold a public hearing to consider the COUNTY'S PROPOSED 2027 BUDGET. For ZOOM instructions please go to www.chippewacountymi.gov.

The County Commission may not adopt its proposed budget until after the public hearing. The proposed 2027 Budget will be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE, 1ST FLOOR, CHIPPEWA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 319 COURT ST., SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN, on the following dates: Monday, November 2nd through Thursday, November 12th, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony and discuss the proposed budget. Following the public hearing, the Board of Commissioners may adopt its 2027 budget.

This notice is given by the order of the CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

KELLY J. CHURCH, ADMINISTRATOR
CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COURTHOUSE
319 COURT STREET
SAULT STE MARIE, MI 49783

906 635 6330

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Session
October 15, 2026

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners met at a regular session on Thursday, October 15, 2026 in the 91st District Courtroom.

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. with a quorum present. The meeting was also available via zoom. Commissioner Shackleton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESNET: Administrator Kelly Church, Clerk Steven Woodgate, and 31 members of the public. 14 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 Lieurance, to approve the following minutes as presented:

- Regular Board Meeting – September 17, 2026

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE
It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Traynor, for the acknowledgement of the correspondence and forward as appropriate. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Tracy Rye said the County Board is responsible for the health care concerns in the community and what the hospital did to Dr. Chander and Danielle Russo was wrong.
Kristy Autore and Amanda Oaks were concerned about MyMichigan Hospital and the firing of Dr. Chander and Danielle Russo.
Lori Miller, Dr. Chloe Cannon, and Sara Karasinski discussed the conflict of interest with Commissioner Shackleton and former Commissioner Postula serving and voting on both the County Board War Memorial Hospital Board.
Danielle Russo stated MyMichigan Sault is planning to become a critical access hospital and the impact it would have on the community.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
Administrator Kelly Church provided for informational purposes only – *no action items.*

There was discussion between the commissioners to move the commissioner comments before the Standing Committee Reports so the public does not have to wait until the end of the meeting to hear the

commissioner's comments. Chairman Martin agreed to move the commissioner comments before the Standing Committee Reports.

OLD BUSINESS

Second Notice EUP Advisory Committee Applications for Appointment

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Shackleton, to send the second notice for the EUPTA Advisory Committee Applications. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Board/Committee/Agency/Authority Vacancies Announcement and Public Notice

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve the Board/Committee/Agency/Authority Announcement and Public Notice. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-37

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

CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION 2026 – 37
APPORTIONMENT OF 2026 MILLAGES

At a meeting of the **CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** held on OCTOBER 15, 2026,

WHEREAS, the County Board has reviewed all of the millages requested by the various taxing entities operating within the County, and has considered the allocated and extra voted millages to which each entity is entitled, and determined that the levy of the millage rates listed on the 2026 MILLAGE REPORT presented to the Board by the Equalization Director and made a part of the minutes, will be necessary for the sound management and operation of the taxing jurisdictions, and

WHEREAS, the County Equalization Director has informed the County Board that pursuant to MCL 211.34D, each requested operating millage on said report has been reduced, if necessary, in compliance with Section 31 of Article 9 of the State Constitution of 1963, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. THE 2026 MILLAGE REPORT BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED

2. THE CLERK AND EQUALIZATION DIRECTOR ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED TO COMPLETE AND FILE ANY REPORT REQUIRED BY THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, RELATIVE TO THE MILLAGES AUTHORIZED BY THIS BOARD, INCLUDING THE 2026 APPORTIONMENT REPORT.

3. THE MILLAGES SO APPROVED SHALL BE SPREAD AGAINST THE APPROPRIATE TAXABLE VALUES IN THE VARIOUS TAXING UNITS WITHIN THE COUNTY TO PRODUCE THE 2026 TAX ROLLS AND THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SPREADING AND COLLECTING THOSE TAXES SHALL BE CHARGED WITH THE PROCESSING AND COLLECTING OF THOSE TAXES

ACCORDING TO STATUTE.

A ROLL-CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

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

RESOLUTION 2026-37 DECLARED ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 2026-38
The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Knepper and supported by Commissioner Traynor.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-38

County Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Funds Annually from the Opioid Settlement Fund to the Chippewa County Health Department for the Purpose of Facilitation and Administration Expenses Associated with Leadership of the County's Opioid Settlement Planning Efforts

WHEREAS, Chippewa County Board of Commissioners previously passed Resolution No. 2025-15, allocating $2,500 to the Chippewa County Health Department for purposes of facilitation and administrative support associated with opioid settlement funds; and

WHEREAS, additional staff time and administrative support are necessary to ensure the responsible stewardship, planning, implementation, and oversight of opioid settlement funds; and

WHEREAS, as of July 1, 2026, Chippewa County has received $634,511.95from the settlements of multiple opioid-related lawsuits, and the total funding anticipated to be received by the County will occur over 18 years and is estimated to be $1.6 million; and

WHEREAS, these funds are available to the County for the purpose of remediating the impacts of the opioid crisis on the residents of Chippewa County, including activities related to prevention, overdose response, treatment, recovery, planning, and evaluation, as authorized under Exhibit E of the settlement agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners held a public meeting to gather community voices related to community needs associated with the drug overdose crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Opioid Settlement Steering Committee (Steering Committee) has been created by the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners will receive recommendations from the Steering Committee on an annual basis; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee's responsibilities include stakeholder and community engagement, needs assessment and resource inventory, identification of funding priorities, development and

administration of competitive funding processes, contract development and management, performance monitoring, evaluation, reporting, and quality improvement activities; and

WHEREAS, the use of opioid settlement funds must meet certain requirements as outlined in Settlement Agreement Exhibit E and by the definition of opioid remediation as outlined in the settlement agreements; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Chippewa County Board of Commissioners hereby rescinds and replaces Resolution No. 2025-15 with this resolution, allowing for appropriate funding and staffing levels to support opioid settlement planning, steering committee facilitation, competitive bid processes, contract execution and monitoring, reporting, and quality improvement to be provided to the Chippewa County Health Department at $4,000.00 annually, starting October 1, 2026 using the Health Department's fiscal year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that the Board of Commissioners authorizes all necessary budget amendments and fund transfers required to implement this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that the Chippewa County Health Department shall provide periodic updates to the Board of Commissioners regarding the use of these administrative funds and the progress of opioid settlement-funded activities.

A ROLL-CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

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

RESOLUTION 2026-38 DECLARED ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 2026-39
The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Knepper and supported by Commissioner Lieurance.

Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans
2026-39

WHEREAS, the residents of Chippewa County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of those who served have been essential in preserving the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Chippewa County seeks to honor individuals who have courageously placed themselves in harm's way to protect our nation and ensure liberty for all; and

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civic groups, , and by serving as County Veterans Service Officers in 29 states, collectively helping fellow former service members access more than $52 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; with an anticipated 20 percent increase in transitioning service members projected in the near future; and

WHEREAS, studies show that 44 -72 percent of service members experience significant stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, active military service members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Chippewa County appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, as a designated Green Light for Veterans County, Chippewa County hereby declares November 4th through 11th, 2026, as a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifices of those transitioning from active service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Chippewa County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place of business or residence from November 4th through 11th, 2026.

A ROLL-CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

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

RESOLUTION 2026-39 DECLARED ADOPTED

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Shackleton said the County Board asked him years ago to try to get on the War Memorial Hospital Board, and he served on that board for many years. He said in all his years of public service, he never did anything except what he thought was best for the people he represented. Commissioner Shackleton said he never voted on anything that was a conflict of interest and abstained if there was. Commissioner Shackleton talked about the history of the hospital including being founded in 1924 as a county-owned hospital, becoming an independent 501C3 in 1986, the County owning the older part of the hospital building and leasing it, affiliating with MyMichigan in 2022, MyMichigan pledging to invest $70 million in facility upgrades, and selling the older part of the hospital building to MyMichigan.

Commissioner Shackleton stated he was not involved in the sale of the old part of hospital building because he moved and had to resign from the County Board at that time. Commissioner Shackleton also stated the only money he ever received from hospital board was a stipend and nothing else.
Commissioner Shackleton also said there was a mis-idea that the County sold the hospital to MyMichigan. War Memorial Hospital was an independent corporation since 1986, and since then, the County had no authority, management, or financial interest in the hospital. The only thing the County owned was the old part of the campus they got $100 a year for. Commissioner Shackleton said he is also concerned about what happened to Dr. Chander and Danielle Russo and the future healthcare in the community. Commissioner Shackleton said he did not do anything wrong and has earned a good reputation over his time in public service.
Commissioner Knepper said he had been a commissioner for a year and a half, and his district includes MyMichigan Medical Center. He said he had great experiences with the hospital and has been watching the situation closely. He also said if anybody wanted to meet with him or call, he would be happy to do that. The town he grew up in lost their hospital, and the nearest hospital is now 45 miles away. He wants to know how to encourage the hospital leadership to do the right thing while the hospital stays strong and keeps growing.
Commissioner Lieurance said he received great care at the hospital and was happy for the $2 million transfer of the property and the money being spent wisely. He also said the unfounded inflammatory accusations that get thrown around are very unfortunate. Commissioner Lieurance also said he just got back from a UP Michigan Works Committee, and they have a sizable opioid grant, so maybe the Opioid Committee could look into possibly getting money from the grant.
Commissioner Traynor said when he started out with the commission, the hospital nurses were not being treated the way they should have been. He said the best thing he has done as a commissioner was to make sure the nurses get treated the way they should to keep them here and working.
Chairman Martin said that he had great care with the hospital and the attacks on Commissioner Shackleton are unfounded. Chippewa County is not in business of running a hospital. His constituents in District 2 were adamantly opposed to selling the hospital land because the County would lose control over the hospital. Chairman Martin said he voted no, but looking back, the County controlled just a chunk of land and not the hospital. Chairman Martin also said whatever went on with Dr. Chander is a tragedy, and he wants the best for this town and medical care. He also said there is not much the County can do with MyMichigan. Commissioner Martin said the hospital care has been excellent and he does not want to lose the hospital.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE, CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
October 13, 2026

AGENDA ITEMS

Health Department – Grant Agreement – 2027 MDHHS Local Health Department $1,688,195.00 10/1/26 to 9/30/27

The Committee reviewed the grant agreement from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of $1,688,195.00 for the Local Health Department; this is a joint and cooperative relationship for the delivery of public health services to Chippewa County citizens as described in the

agreement including Essential Local Public Health Services (ELPHS) and programming. The contract covers October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to accept and authorize the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services – Local Health Department Agreement, as presented in the amount of $1,688,195.00 covering October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, for Essential Local Public Health Services and programming. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Health Department – Policies (New)

2.02.005 – Nominal Charge for Personal and Family Health Services – combining 2.02.001 and 15.00.00 to streamline processes

2.02.006 – 340B Pharmaceuticals – combining 5.07.031 and 15.00.031

The Committee reviewed new policies 2.02.005 Nominal Charge for Personal and Family Health Services and 2.02.006 340B Pharmaceutical; these each combine two policies into one new policy to streamline processes.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve and authorize the two new Health Department staff policies to streamline services as presented: Policy 2.02.005 – Nominal Charge for Personal and Family Health Services and Policy 2.02.006 – 340B Pharmaceuticals. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Health Department – Environmental Health Sanitarian – Classification Change to Part-time

The Committee reviewed a request from Health Office Karen Senkus asking to change the current Environment Health Seasonal Sanitarian to a regular part-time position. Environmental Health needs additional assistance throughout the year and this change will not impact the budget, only the number of hours per week the sanitarian will work. The sanitarian will move to a 24-hour per week average schedule with the possibility of 29 hours per week in the summer months.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve and authorize the Environmental Health Sanitarian Seasonal position changing to a regular part-time position, as presented to cover the full year and not just the current 6-month period; there will be no impact on the budget. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Information Systems – Prosecutors Server Project – Second Notice

The Committee reviewed the bid summary for the Prosecuting Attorney's Server Project, which will be paid from grant funds received and set-up as Special Fund 274. Three bids were received and all met bid requirements; Information Systems staff recommend going with the low bid from Precision Data Products in the amount of $49,674.25.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the low bid of $49,674.25 for the Prosecutor's server project from Precision Data Products and to be paid from grant fund from Special Fund 274. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Information Systems – Service Contracts

WAMDT – Chippewa County Website – 5 Year Agreement

Avalon – Backup Service – 1-year Agreement $19,611.90

The Committee reviewed two service contracts one from WAMDT – for contract No. CHIP-2026-WEB-001 to provide fixed hosting and maintenance of the refreshed County website as follows: Year 1 - $2,400.00; Year 2 - $3,000.00; Year 3 - $3,090.00; Year 4 - $3,183.00 and Year 5 - $3,278.00 which covers until the end of October 11, 2031. The second contract from Avalon Technologies to provide the County with Backup Services for SaaS (Software as a Service) Applications for one year in the amount of $19,611.90 was budgeted for in FY2026 but came in at about $3,000.00 more than expected.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to approve and authorize signing the WAMDT – 5-year agreement to provide fixed hosting and maintenance for the County's website as referenced above and to authorize the Avalon Technologies 1 year agreement in the amount of $19,611.90 to provide the County with backup services, both as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Information Systems – Service Agreement with City of Sault Ste. Marie, extension through June 30, 2027

The Committee was updated on the request to extend the Information Systems Departments technology support services with the City of Sault Ste. Marie through June 30, 2027; with the same payment terms, which include the hourly rate and fringe with a 90-day written notice to terminate.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve the extension of the Information Systems Service Agreement between the City of Sault Ste. Marie and Chippewa County, for the County to provide technology support services through June 30, 2027, as presented with no changes to the payment terms and including a 90-day written notice to terminate. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Circuit Court – Purchase – Budget Change – All-in-One print/copy/scan/fax $1,088.00 with $250.00 annual maintenance contract

The Committee reviewed a request from Circuit Court to amend their previously approved shredder to purchase a All-in-One print/copy/scan/fax machine from National Office Products at the cost of $1,190.68 plus an annual maintenance contract of $250.00; this purchase will possibly fix a continued issue with printing equipment in the Circuit Court Office.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve and authorize the purchase of the Konica Minolta Bizhub 4221I in the amount of $1,190.68 from National Office Products plus the annual maintenance agreement of $250.00 and changing the original equipment purchase of the shedder from the FY2026 budget request. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Sheriff's Office –Purchases

Taser Supplies $10,913.59 from Axon Enterprises, Inc.

Kustom Signals (3) Eagle II radars $9,121.20

The Sheriff's Office requested approval of two purchases; one from Axon Enterprises, Inc. for various taser supplies totaling $10,913.59 with expenses to be split between 101-351 Corrections - $5,538.68 and 101-301 Road - $5,374.91 budgets both from 979.000 equipment. The second purchase request from Kustom Signals Inc. to purchase three (3) Golden Eagle II radars at the quoted price of $9,121.20 and to be paid from Special Fund 238-000-979.000.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to approve the Sheriff's Office's two purchase request as requested, taser supplies in the amount of $10,913.59 from Axon Enterprises, Inc, with the cost split between Department 301- $5,538.68 and 351 - $5,374.91 and three (3) Eagle II radars from Kustom Signals Inc in the amount of $9,121.20 to be paid from Special Fund 238. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Sheriff's Office – Public Safety Training & Consulting Hosting Agreement for Corrections Training at the Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Training Facility April 12th - 16th, and April 19th – 21st, 2027

The Committee reviewed a request from the Sheriff's Office seeking to host two training courses called 'Supervision of the Corrections Training Officer Program' and 'Corrections Training Officer' taught by Dewolf and Associates. The training would be held at the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office Robert Savoie Search and Rescue Training Facility. The training dates are April 12th through April 16th, 2027, and April 19th through April 21st. The Hosting Agreements were provided and reviewed by the Committee.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the Sheriff's Office to sign the Dewolf & Associates Hosting Agreement for training between April 12th to 16th and April 19th – 21st, 2027 at the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office Robert Savoie Search and Rescue and Training Facility, as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Sheriff's Office – Lenslock, Inc. Lessee's Counsel's Opinion Letter

The Committee reviewed Lenslock, Inc. Lessee's Counsel's Opinion letter which is an agreement (3300850) between Lenslock, Inc. and Chippewa County. Even though the County does not lease any equipment, we purchase it; we still need to confirm the County is organized, in good standing and has the power to execute documents related to Lenslock and that we have properly authorized, signed and delivered the agreements. This reduces the lessor's risk and provides a legal 'assurance' that the lessee can meet its obligations.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve and authorize signature on the Lenslock, Inc. Lessee's Counsel's Opinion letter, as presented to confirm the County can legally and validly enter into the agreements with Lenslock. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Sheriff's Office – Convergint – Service Agreement Support Plan 11/1/2026 to 10/31/2029 – 3-year price $39,009.20

The Committee reviewed a request to sign a contract between Chippewa County Sheriff's Office and Convergint, who provides the Correctional Facility maintenance for access control and cameras. This is

for a 3-year contract, which can be paid annually in the amount of $39,009.20, which is a savings of over $3,000.00 compared to the 1-year contract. Convergint provided a detailed service agreement support plan covering Level 1 preventative maintenance and test and inspect various systems.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to approve and authorize signature for the 3-year Convergint Service Agreement Support Plan effective 11-1-2026 to 10-31-2029 at the total cost of $39,009.20, to provide maintenance for access control and cameras in the Correctional Facility. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Central Dispatch – Budget Amendment – Revenue and Expense for travel $6,500.00 from Mackinac County

The Committee reviewed a memo from Director Greg Postma updating the Committee on the new (CAD) Computer-Aided Dispatch System and the required additional travel and increased expenses. Mackinac County, who we provide services for, has sent an additional $6,500.00 to help offset the extra travel expenses associated with the CAD training and implementation project. These monies will ensure that there are enough funds to pay for lodging and travel during the remainder of this year. A revenue and expense budget amendment for Fund 261 was also requested for $6,500.00

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the Special Fund 261 revenue and expense budget amendments for travel and to thank Mackinac County for their additional funding. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Veteran's Affairs – Veteran Service Fund Grant (DMVA) $62,953.00

The Committee reviewed the FY27 County Veteran Service Fund Grant Agreement between Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) and Chippewa County as the grantee, this grant covers from October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, in the amount not to exceed $62,953. and will fund a part-time grant assistant/veterans' counselor to assist veterans, training and education and travel.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve and authorize signature for the FY27 County Veteran Service Fund Grant Agreement between Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) and Chippewa County in the amount of $62,953. to hire a part-time grant assistant, for education and training and for travel. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Veteran's Affairs – Advocacy and Representation Agreement

The Committee reviewed a new document presented by the Veteran's Counselor John Miller and authorized by the Veterans Committee for use in the Chippewa County Veterans Office. The document was also vetted by legal counsel prior to seeking its approval. This document describes the responsibilities of the Chippewa County Department of Veterans Affairs and the Veteran in connection with the County's representation, with acknowledgement by the Veteran of the County's role with their claim and our limits of representation and their ability to terminate the County's representation. This form is an authorization slip so the County can access claim files, submit correspondence and communicate directly with the VA and represent the Veteran in hearings or appeals.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to approve and authorize use of the 'Chippewa County Department of Veterans Affairs Advocacy and Representation Agreement', as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Administration – Snowplowing and Removal Bid Summaries
The Committee reviewed the snowplowing and removal bid summaries with 1-year and 3-year options included as follows:

- Central Dispatch $8,500.00 1-year/$27,000.00 3-year – Frontier Contracting LLC
- Courthouse (32 spot lot) $15,000.00 1-year/$45,000.00 3-year – Bakerworks, Inc
- County Building (8 spot lot) $6,500 1-year/$19,500.00 3 Year – Bakerworks, Inc

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve the snowplowing for Central Dispatch with Frontier Contracting LLC for a 1-year contract at a price not to exceed $8,500.00. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to approve the snowplowing and removal at the Courthouse parking lot (32 spaces) with Bakerworks, Inc. for a 1-year contract, $15,000.00 annually and for the County Building (8 spot lot) with Bakerworks, Inc. for a 1-year contract, $6,500.00 annually. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Administration – Policy 314 OPEB Health Care Retirement and Pension Annual Funding to OPEB or MERS Unfunded Liability – MERS UAL $885,268.90
The Committee reviewed the annual contribution breakdown, this year's 90% of the DTRF being $885,268.90; based on the changes to Policy 314, this year the monies will be sent to MERS to help cover the County's unfunded liabilities of $17,481,210 as of 12/31/2025 including the County, the Health Department and the Chippewa County EDC.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Lieurance, to approve and authorize the payment from the County's DTRF, per policy this year's amount being $885,268.90 to MERS for the County's divisions with unfunded liability, as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Finance - Claims and Accounts – September County
It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to recommend the approval of September bills and payroll: general claims $331,982.93, other fund claims $2,917,719.24, payroll $898,911.92 total claims $4,148,514.19, as presented and to acknowledge the various monthly financial reports. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

It was moved by Commissioner Shackleton, supported by Commissioner Traynor, for Finance, Claims, and Accounts Committee Meeting minutes be approved. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER REPORT ON MEETINGS AS BOARD REPRESENTATIVES AND GENERAL COMMENTS
There was discussion on presenting the public statement of Chippewa County's Historic Relation with War Memorial Hospital for acceptance at this board meeting or present it at the next board meeting. Chairman Martin allowed the following public statement to presented at this board meeting:

PUBLIC STATEMENT

Chippewa County's Historical Relationship with War Memorial Hospital

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chippewa County recognizes the community's concern following the recent termination of one well-known physician and a related resignation from MyMichigan Medical Center Sault. We fully share the community's need to have continued access to high-quality healthcare.

Recent events have renewed questions regarding the County's former ownership of War Memorial Hospital and our role in current decision-making. The following history clarifies the distinction between the County's former oversight and the current, independent operational responsibilities of MyMichigan Health.

Historical Ownership and Governance

- **1924–1986:** War Memorial Hospital was established in 1924 as a county-owned facility dedicated to serving the residents of Chippewa County.
- **1986 Reorganization:** In 1986, War Memorial was spun off into an independent, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. At that time, operational control separated from Chippewa County. The County retained ownership of the original hospital property and leased it to the operating entity for $1 per year. The lease allowed the County to recommend three members to the hospital board; however, to respect the independent 501(c)(3) structure under applicable laws, these were recommendations rather than direct appointments. The hospital operated under this arrangement for over three decades.
- **2022 Affiliation:** In 2022, War Memorial's management and Board of Directors elected to affiliate with Mid-Michigan Health (now MyMichigan Health). The County's role was limited to adjusting the property lease to accommodate the new organizational structure.

Property Transfer and Recent Investments

Prior to and following the affiliation, MyMichigan Health pledged to invest $70 million in facility improvements over a 10-year period. MyMichigan approached the County to state that if the County-owned portion of the campus was to be included in these major capital upgrades, MyMichigan would need to hold direct property ownership rather than investing substantial capital into leased real estate.

On July 13, 2023, via Resolution 2023-17, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners approved the fair-market sale and property transfer of the titled hospital parcels to MyMichigan Medical Center Sault.

- **Financial Consideration:** A $2 million cash payment to Chippewa County, which was placed into a dedicated fund to support retirement benefits for County Health Department employees.
- **Capital Commitment:** A binding pledge from MyMichigan Health to complete $70 million in campus facility improvements over ten years, along with specific ongoing commitments regarding local health services.

Current Operations and Community Commitment

Chippewa County has not possessed direct ownership or management oversight of the hospital since 1986. MyMichigan Health holds sole responsibility for the administration of MyMichigan Medical Center Sault, including all personnel, employment, and operational decisions, subject to applicable laws and remaining contractual agreements.

Nevertheless, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners remains deeply invested in the health and well-being of our residents. While the County exercises no more administrative oversight of the hospital than it does over any other independent non-profit organization in our region, we strongly urge hospital leadership to take all necessary steps to ensure our community receives the highest quality healthcare—both today and in the years to come.

Chippewa County Board of Commissioners

10/14/2026

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Knepper, to accept the public statement of Chippewa County's Historic Relation with War Memorial Hospital. With a voice vote, the motion granted.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Lieurance, supported by Commissioner Traynor, to adjourn, accordingly. On a voice vote, the motion carried. The Board adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Steven Woodgate, Clerk

James Martin, Chairman

Office of the Chippewa County Clerk

Steven J. Woodgate

319 Court Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-6300 (Office)
(906) 635-6851 (Fax)

Elizabeth Messer
Chief Deputy Clerk

Shaun O'Neill
Deputy Clerk

Laurie Wilson
Deputy Clerk

Correspondence Received in the Clerk's Office
11/12/2026

10/15/2026 **TC Energy** letter regarding right-of-way maintenance for Great Lakes Mainline Line 1100 1100-0400 (NPS 10 1968) Brevort Section, Chippewa County.

10/20/2026 **Department of the Army Public Notice** – File Number LRE-2013-00305-16-S26
Location – East Bass Cove Road, Drummond Island, MI
Authorization to excavate and construct a boat well.

10/21/2026 **EGLE Public Notice** – Site Name 17-25937 E. Nates Rd.-Drummond Twp
Drive replacement sheet piling landward of the existing seawalls of Nate's Marina and install 31 linear feet of new sheet piling 3' waterward of existing riprap.

10/26/2026 **EGLE** Response Letter to Sidock Group requesting floodplain information for the following site:
Floodplain Service No. HQR-M398-76AB8
Site name: 17-13307 South M-129-Bruce Twp

10/27/2026 **EGLE Public Notice** – Site Name 17-Avra dredge-Drummond Twp
Dredge a boat well channel as well as excavating a boat well.

10/29/2026 **EGLE Notice of Authorization** – Permit #WRP050883 v1.0
Site Name: 17-7538 Riverside Dr.-Bruce Twp
Install 180' long driveway to reach upland.

10/29/2026 **EGLE Permit Revision Letter** – Site Name 17-Merit Brimley EUPISD Route-Superior Twp
Permit Revision WRP050564
To reroute a portion of utility line along the north side of W. Lakeshore Drive, as originally permitted, to the new proposed south side of Lakeshore Drive connection to S M-221.

Administrator's Report

November 12, 2026

1. Monthly/Quarterly Reports
    a. Sheriff's Department 17
    b. Veteran Affairs 18
    c. Health Department 20

DATE : September 2026 Sheriff's Office

	Last Year	Last mo. to date	This Month	Total to Date
1 MAN CAR (regular hrs)	8167.25	5572.00	791.50	6363.50
SECONDARY ROAD (416 hrs)	1830	879.00	37.00	916.00
MILEAGE	412915	310,840	38,087	348,927
COMPLAINTS	11295	8713	1146	9859
CIVIL PROCESS	1691	938	165	1103
CITATIONS	543	300	42	342
WARNINGS	714	515	86	601
ARRESTS	139	74	9	83
ACCIDENTS	272	159	28	187
OWI/OUID	18	13	0	13
TETHER	88	583	8	591
ASSAULTS	87	53	7	60
COURT	527	428.50	68.00	496.50
TRAINING	516	347.50	19.50	367.00
REPORT	1796.25	1329.50	204.00	1533.50
LIQUOR INSP:	29	6	0	6
PROPERTY INSP:	1252	1096	116	1212
TRANSPORTS	124	100	135	235
FEDERAL INMATES	742	439	60	499
GUN PUR PER	321	237	38	275
GUN REGISTERED	1125	696	70	766
INMATES LODGED	1244	783	110	893
INMATES RELEASED	339	857	105	962
FOC OFFICER	57.75	33.75	7.00	40.75
FOC MILEAGE	1111.5	616	190	806
FORECLOSURES	36	35	3	38
DRONE HOURS	19	53	0	53

DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 26, 2026

A regular meeting of the Chippewa County Department of Veteran Affairs Committee was held on Monday, October 26, 2026, at the Chippewa Courthouse in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Committee Chairman Dr. Frederick Ludwig called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. The Veterans Board had a quorum and normal business was conducted.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Frederick Ludwig, Brooks Partridge, Robert Savoie, Daman Lieurance

MEMBERS ABSENT: David Pearc

OTHERS PRESENT: John Miller

Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Robert Savoie, supported by Brooks Partridge, to approve the agenda as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Public Comment

No public comment offered.

Monthly Report

The office has been open for twenty-nine (29) days from September 28, 2026 – October 26, 2026. There were approximately seventy-five (75) visits to the office. Our office received and placed approximately four hundred eighteen (418) phone calls during this period. One home visit was conducted this month. On October 20, 2026, John attended a USGC event held at the USGC community center. The event was for current military members who were discharging from active service within the next eighteen (18) months. The event was well attended and several contacts were made. In an update from the UP Veterans Cemetery Committee, House Bills 5843 and 5844 which address the establishment of a state-owned and operated veterans cemetery in the UP have been idle. The committee officers will be meeting in Lansing with Representative Bollin in December. The advertising campaign funded by the CVSF grant is beginning this month. Chippewa County will be participating in Operation Green Light. The county will be illuminating the Historic Chippewa Court House green from November 4th through November 11th. Cloverland Electric will be illuminating the Powerhouse green and Kokosing will be illuminating the cranes working at the Soo Locks green during this time. The office has put out a press release to the local news organizations, and the County Board of Commissioners of Chippewa County have adopted a resolution supporting Operation Green Light at the October 15, 2026, board meeting. Everyone is encouraged to participate by putting a green light bulb in their porch light or in their window. Everything Electric has donated a limited supply of green light bulbs for Veterans wishing to participate. A Veteran needs to come to the office and show their DD214 to receive a green light bulb (Only one per Veteran while supplies last). One (1) Veteran Board position will open April 1, 2027. Applications for the position need to be submitted to the county by November 6, 2026, at noon. Applications are available on the county website. The office has received one (1) application from a Veteran for the MVTF this month. The two (2) applications from last month were awarded to the Veterans. The DAV vehicle continues to be very active this month.

Approval of the Minutes

The committee received and reviewed the August 31, 2026, committee minutes.

It was moved by Brooks Partridge, supported by Robert Savoie, to approve September 28, 2026, minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Burials

No burial funds were used in the month of October.
No action needed

Grave Markers

The office received an invoice for burial markers from Family Life Funeral Home in the amount of $540.
Committee approval for payment.

The committee reviewed the invoice. It was moved by Robert Savoie, supported by Brooks Partridge, to approve payment. On a voice vote, the approval of payment was CARRIED.

Food Assistance

No food vouchers were issued during the month of October.
No action needed.

Date of next committee meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 23, 2026, at noon.

It was moved by Chairman Dr Frederick Ludwig, supported by Brooks Partridge, to have the next meeting take place on Monday, November 23, 2026, at noon. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Committee Comments

No comment

Chairman Comments

No comment

Adjourn
It was moved by Robert Savoie, supported by Brooks Partridge, to adjourn. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

John Miller, Recorder

Dr Fredrick Ludwig, Chairman

Chippewa County Health Department
Health Officer's Report to the Board of Commissioners – November 2026

Personal and Family Health:

Service	Current Month (September)	Year-to-date
Family Planning	49	389
Maternal/Infant Health	33	464
WIC- avg. monthly participation	649	645 average
UP MOMS Caseload	6	6
Breast/cervical cancer/Well Woman	3	11
Immunizations (includes travel vaccine)	261	3,927
TB cases active/managed	0	8
Hearing/Vision screenings	122	2,153
Children's Special Health Care	183	183 average
HIV Tests Administered	26	236
Hep C Tests Administered	26	227
Pink Ribbon Fund Balance	$40,539	$40,539
Car Seats installed/education provided	0	45
Medicaid Applications processed	1	20

SHACC

Service	Current Month (September)	Year-to-date
Nurse Practitioner – gen med	66	862
Mental Health	38	636
Hearing/Vision	13	227
Physicals	6	113
Immunizations	1	148
Substance Abuse counseling/education	1	12
Classroom/General Health education	0	0
Concussion – post injury visits	6	12

Emergency Preparedness (September):

- Review and Updated CCHD EOP & Annexes
- Rural and Ready Conference
- Planning for drive-through vaccine clinic
- Attended interpersonal communications training at CCHD
- Participated in the state-wide MiVol drill.
- Assisted with CHNA presentation
- Meetings attended
    - CCHD Administrative Staff
    - Fall Clinic Initial Planning Meeting
    - CCHD Media Planning
    - R8 EPC call
    - Local Healthcare Partners Call
    - PHEP Partners Meeting
    - UP Communicable Disease Meeting
    - R8 HCC LTC Call

Environmental Health.

Service	Current Month (September)	Year-to-date
Foster Care/Day Care: Inspections	1	5
Methamphetamine Activity:		
Condemnations	0	0
Lift Condemnations	0	0
Campgrounds:		
Inspections	5	24
Enforcements	0	0
Complaints	1	1
Public Swimming Pools/Spas:		
Inspections	2	15
Enforcements	2	2
Complaints	0	0
Fixed Food Establishments:		
Inspections	14	174
Enforcements	0	0
Complaints	2	15
Plans Received	0	6
HAACP Plans Reviewed	0	0
Temporary Food:		
Inspections	4	22
Enforcements	0	0
Complaints	0	0
Mobile Food:		
Inspections	0	3
Enforcements	0	0
Complaints	0	0
Plans Received	0	2
Other Food/TFU:		
Inspections	4	30
Enforcements	0	0
Complaints	0	0
Plans Received	0	3
Private & Commercial Sewage:		
Applications Received	8	98
Site Visits	15	148
Permits Issued	15	122
Enforcements	0	0
Complaints	2	14
Septage Truck & Land Application:		
Inspections	4	5
Enforcements	0	0
Complaints	0	0
Water Supplies:		
Applications Received	10	102
Site Visits	6	81
Permits Issued	8	95
Enforcements	0	0
Complaints	0	0

City Bacti Water Samples Received	67	722
Positive Sample Response	4	50
Beach Activity:		
Beach Samples Taken	0	156
Beach Warnings Issued	0	2
Beach Closures Issued	0	0
Beach Warnings/Closures Lifted	0	2
Tattoo Ordinance:		
Inspections	0	4
Plans Received	0	0
Enforcements	0	0
Complaints	0	0

Substance Abuse Prevention:

Service	Current Month (September)	Year-to-date
Classroom-based prevention classes	3 classes/150 students	3/150
Community-based prevention activities/classes	3 community events/1 classroom	3/1
Court /school admn referred classes: Tobacco/alcohol/marijuana	0	2

Harm Reduction/Syringe Access Services (Oct-Sept)

# Syringes Collected/distributed	# Referrals to/engaged in treatment	# of HIV/Hep C tests	# Narcan kits distributed	OD reversals reported
38,914/55,329	2/36	77/77	449	4

Flu and Covid vaccination clinics were offered throughout the county during the month of October in various townships, schools and through the health department clinic. More than 1,200 flu and covid vaccines have been administered thus far.

Current open positions with CCHD include full and part-time nursing positions, full-time community health worker, and the health officer position.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Senkus, Health Officer

Chippewa County Administrator's Office
319 Court Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Phone: (906) 635-6330
Fax: (906) 635-6325

Kelly J. Church
Administrator
Cady Bauers
Administrative Assistant

MEMO TO: Chippewa County Board of Commissioners
FROM: Kelly J. Church, Administrator
SUBJECT: Board/Committee/Agency/Authority Applicants
DATE: November 6, 2026

According to the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners Policies and Procedures, the following vacancies are occurring in the upcoming regular cycle of openings for various Boards, Committees, Authority's, and/or Agencies. These openings have been announced in the local media and on the County's website and social media, County residents were able to submit Applications of Interest until 12:00 noon, on Friday, November 6, 2026. The applicants and terms of offices are noted below. Applications of Interest meeting the deadline will be presented to the Board at its Regular Thursday, November 12, 2026, meeting, and the applications will lay on the table until the appointments are made at the January 2027 Organizational meeting.

Building Code Board of Appeals
3 appointments needed
Term will expire 12/31/2028

Applicants:

Department of Veterans Affairs
1 appointment needed
Term will expire 3/31/2031

Applicants: Korinne Griffith
Frederick Ludwig II MD
Mark Maida
James Williams

E 9-1-1 Central Dispatch
1 appointment needed
Terms will expire 12/31/2028

Applicants: Thomas McKee

Economic Development Corporation
2 appointments needed
Terms will expire 3/31/33

Applicants: Richard Bernhardt
Don McLean
Richard Timmer

EUP Transportation Authority
1 appointment needed
Term will expire 12/31/29

Applicants: Mark Eitrem
Layton Feroe
Lynda Garlitz
Pamela Jones
Christina Kolo
Timothy Moher

EUP Advisory Committee
3 appointments needed
Term will expire 12/31/29 (2)
Term will expire 12/31/2028 (1)

Applicants: Suzanne Caskey
Layton Feroe
Leon Hank
Pamela Jones
Sara Karasinski
Timothy Moher

Hiawatha Behavioral Health Authority
2 appointments needed
Term will expire 3/31/30

Applicants: Jennifer Hinde
Dr. Zara Masood

Opioid Settlement Steering Committee
7 appointments needed
Term will expire 12/31/2028

Applicants: Justin Knepper
Maggie Merchberger
Sabrina Neveu
Karen Senkus

Road Commission
1 appointment needed
Term will expire 12/31/2032

Applicants: Jeremy Gagnon
Gary Graham

Superior District Library
1 appointment needed
Term will expire 12/31/2029

Applicants: Korinne Griffith
Karen McClenny

U.P. State Fair Authority
1 appointment needed
Term will expire 12/31/2038

Applicants: Jerald Campbell

CHIPPEWA COUNTY VACANCY NOTICES:

The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners seeks to appoint individuals for the following:

- **Jury Commission.** The Jury Commission is responsible for the selection of jury panels for the Circuit, District and Probate Courts. The Jury Board staff is directly responsible to the Chippewa County Clerk. term expiring 4/30/2033.

The appointments will be made at the Board of Commissioners' Regular February 2027 meeting, following the Circuit Court Judge's recommendation. No more than two members may be from the same political party with the term being six (6) years.

People interested can download the application at www.chippewacountymi.gov or pick up an application form at the County Administrator's Office, 319 Court Street, Sault Ste. Marie or call (906) 635-6330. Application for appointment will be accepted through December 11th, 2026, until 3:00 pm at the Administrator's Office.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 39

RESOLUTION IN APPRECIATION AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT WILLIAM B. CHURCH II

WHEREAS, ***Lieutenant William B. Church II,*** graduated from the Lake Superior State University MCOLES police academy in 2001 and then served at the Charlevoix County Sheriff's Office during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, ***Lieutenant William B. Church II*** has worked exhaustively and conscientiously at upholding and representing the highly professional image of the Charlevoix County Sheriff's Office; ***Lieutenant Willaim B. Church II's*** work ethic, his integrity, and his attention to detail have earned him the utmost regard from his fellow Deputy Sheriff's, peers, and supervisors; and

WHEREAS, ***Lieutenant William B. Church II*** retired from service with the Charlevoix County Sheriff's Office, on September 30th, 2026, after 25 years of service to the Charlevoix County Sheriff's Office. In May of 2014, ***Lieutenant William B. Church II*** obtained training through the International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists (IACIS). ***Lieutenant William B. Church*** also completed a basic computer forensic examiner course for computer forensics and completed the necessary requirements for taking the certification exam. In November 2014, ***Lieutenant William B. Church*** completed the certification and became a Certified Forensic Computer Examiner through IACIS. Since then, Lt. Church has maintained his certification and training through the following courses: Surviving Digital Forensics: Resolving Attached USBs, Legal Concerns for Digital Evidence Responders 201, IEF Computer Essentials & Practical Skills Assessment, and IACIS Certified Forensic Computer Examiner: Re-Certification.

WHEREAS, ***Lieutenant William B. Church II*** operated the Computer Forensic Division of the Charlevoix County Sheriff's Office where he honorably served his community and surrounding jurisdictions with Forensic Cellphone Examinations and Computer Forensic Examinations. As a result of ***Lieutenant William B. Church II's*** expert knowledge in Computer Forensic Examinations, he was instrumental in assisting the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office in solving numerous felony level crimes throughout his prestigious career. As a result of his relentless, dedicated service, numerous offenders in Chippewa County were arrested and convicted for crimes such as human trafficking, possession/production of child sexually abusive material and narcotics trafficking during his career, and he will be greatly missed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

1. That the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners respectfully dedicates this document to honor and thank ***Lieutenant William B. Church II*** for his twenty-five years of public service with the County of Charlevoix and especially for his assistance with cases in Chippewa County and the Eastern Upper Peninsula.

2. That the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners extends their best wishes to ***Lieutenant William B. Church II*** for many years of enjoyment in his retirement.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.
November 12, 2026

Jim Martin, Chairman
Chippewa County Board of Commissioners

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners, held at the Chippewa County Courthouse, 319 Court St., Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, on the 12th day of November, 2026, at 4:30 pm.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Commissioner and supported by Commissioner .

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-40

FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET RESOLUTION
AND GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners ("Board") has examined the fiscal requests for 2027 of the various departments, agencies, courts, offices, and activities ("Activity Centers") that it must legally finance or assist in financing; and

WHEREAS, the Board has taken into consideration the fact that there are required functions of county government or operations which must be budgeted at a serviceable level in order to provide statutory and constitutionally required services and programs; and

WHEREAS, the County Administrator, on behalf of the Board, has interviewed officials responsible for providing such mandated services to determined serviceable levels and the funds to sustain such levels; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined the amount of money to be raised by taxation necessary for expenditures and liabilities for the 2027 fiscal year and has ordered that money to be raised by taxation within statutory and constitutional limitations; and

WHEREAS, the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act (Act 2, P.A. 1968, as amended, being MCL 141.421 through MCL 141.440a) requires that the Board enact a general appropriations act designed to meet county-funded expenditures.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the 2027 Chippewa County Budget for the General Fund which is incorporated by reference herein, is hereby adopted on a basis consistent with the Chippewa County Annual Budget Development Policy, subject to all County policies regarding the expenditure of funds as well as the conditions set forth in this resolution.

2. That the County Treasurer is hereby directed to collect millage for the County's operations as follows:

a. Allocated Operating Millage	6.0270 mills
b. Voted Operating Millage for Roads	0.623 mills
c. Voted Operating Millage for Fire and Ambulance	0.4189 mills
d. Voted Operating Millage for Recycling	0.4900 mills
f. Voted Operating Millage for Senior Program	0.7361 mills
g. Voted Operating Millage for Animal Shelter	0.1717 mills
h. Voted Operating Milldge for CHAC	0.1500 mills

3. That this budget reflects a reasonable allocation of available resources to the various County departments, boards, and agencies, and allows for all mandated services, programs, and activities, including the courts and the constitutional and statutory offices, to be performed at reasonable, necessary, and serviceable levels or at even more than adequate levels of performance.

4. That the amounts indicated in the following "Budgetary Detail" are hereby appropriated from the General Fund and other funds of Chippewa County according to the Activity Centers (Departments) contained in that detail which is incorporated herein by reference, and that such appropriations shall be restricted to the functioning of those Activity Centers (Departments) and by the provisions of this Act.

GENERAL FUND

ACTIVITY CENTER	REVENUE	EXPENDITURE
GENERAL FUND REVENUE	17,565,302	---
101 - COMMISSIONERS	---	76,821
172 - COUNTY CONTROLLER	---	434,926
193 - COST ALLOCATION PLAN	---	5,000
215 - COUNTY CLERK	---	316,846
223 - AUDIT	---	42,000
228 - INFORMATION SYSTEMS	---	654,791
229 - COMPUTER	---	190,000
245 - REMONUMENTATION GRANT	---	120,246
253 - TREASURER	---	324,584
257 - EQUALIZATION	---	354,288
261 - RETIREES HOSPITALIZATION	---	850,000
262 - ELECTIONS	---	61,065
265 - BUILDING AND GROUNDS	---	501,318
266 - LEGAL SERVICES	---	50,000
267 - INSURANCE	---	325,320
277 - JURY BOARD	---	20,613
283 - 50TH CIRCUIT COURT	---	551,663
285 - 50TH CIRCUIT COURT JUVENILE COURT	---	390,830
286 - DISTRICT COURT	---	755,707
289 - FRIEND OF THE COURT	---	504,132
294 - PROBATE COURT	---	488,879
296 - PROSECUTING ATTORNEY	---	811,540
299 - CRIME VICTIM ADVOCATE	---	149,172
301 - SHERIFF DEPARTMENT	---	2,310,813
302 - BAILIFF/SECURITY	---	220,096
309 - O.R.V. ENFORCEMENT GRANT	---	41,000
331 - MARINE	---	13,915
334 - SNOWMOBILE PATROL GRANT	---	18,850
351 - CORRECTIONAL FACILITY	---	3,915,562
353 - RURAL JAIL MENTAL HEALTH	---	0
430 - ANIMAL CONTROL	---	363,707
442 - DRAIN COMMISSIONER	---	1,090
568 - SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT	---	36,000
601 - HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUND	---	204,000
631 - SUBSTANCE ABUSE	---	87,782
648 - MEDICAL EXAMINER	---	115,732
649 - MENTAL HEALTH - CLINIC	---	171,334
682 - VETERAN'S AFFAIRS	---	82,953
710 - MSU EXTENSION	---	165,035
711 - REGISTER OF DEEDS	---	293,827
713 - COUNTY SURVEYOR	---	21,717
714 - PLAT BOOK	---	16,000
715 - GIS MAPPING	---	28,000
716 - REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION	---	117,143
717 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	---	50,000
719 - RURAL BUS PROGRAM	---	30,000
972 - P.I.L.T. FUNDS - TOWNSHIPS	---	30,000
980 - ROAD PATROL	---	0
980.000 - VEHICLES	---	201,000
980.001 - RECORD COPIER	---	10,000
980.002- POSTAGE METER	---	5,000
995.104 - TRANSFER TO TRIDENT TASK FORCE	---	138,818
995.238 - TRANSFER TO SCHOOL RESOURCE		200,000
995.252- DRUG COURT	---	0
995.260 - TRANSFER TO MIDC		224,154
995.264 - TRANSFER TO CORRECTIONS TRAINING		0
995.269 - LAW LIBRARY FUND	---	0
995.287 - SOCIAL SERVICES FUND	---	20,110
995-292 - CHILD CARE - PROBATE	---	441,882
998 - CORRECTION OFFICERS TRAINING (264)		0
TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES	17,565,302	17,555,261
Net Position Prior Year Delinquent Tax Fund	16,551,878	0
Ending Year Delinquent Tax Fund	0	16,551,878
Beginning Year Fund Balance	8,777,661	0
Ending Year Fund Balance	0	8,787,702
TOTAL BUDGET	42,894,841	

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

FUND		ACTIVITY	BEG. YEAR FUND BAL.	END. YEAR FUND BAL.
103 - SHERIFF SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND	REV.	1,000	5,002	
	EXP.	2,000		4,002
104 - TRIDENT TASK FORCE	REV.	138,818	0	
	EXP.	138,818		0
105 - MARINE LIVERY INSPECTION FUND	REV.	25	1,785	
	EXP.	0		1,810
106 - HEALTH INSURANCE	REV.	0	0	
	EXP.	0		0
208 - SHERIFF REVOLVING FUND - PARK PATROL	REV.	3,000	6,808	
	EXP.	3,000		6,808
210 - COUNTY AMBULANCE ACCOUNT	REV.	653,872	0	
	EXP.	653,872		0
211 - OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES	REV.	289,200	266,866	
	EXP.	379,216		176,849
213 - TITLE III FUNDING (OES)	REV.	26,009	9,771	
	EXP.	26,009		9,771
214 - STATE TRAINING FUND DISPATCHERS	REV.	15,000	8,398	
	EXP.	15,000		8,398
215 - F.O.C. RELATED CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTIONS	REV.	19,340	268,742	
	EXP.	79,572		208,510
216 - COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND	REV.	40,000	22,497	
	EXP.	39,561		22,937
217 - OPERATION STONEGARDEN	REV.	143,500	0	
	EXP.	143,500		0
218 - MENTAL HEALTH COURT FUND	REV.	123,450	14,906	
	EXP.	123,450		14,906
221 - HEALTH DEPARTMENT	REV.	4,833,036	294,520	
	EXP.	4,823,229		304,327
230 - CHIPPEWA COUNTY RECYCLING	REV.	767,175	433,711	
	EXP.	857,487		343,398
232 - OFFICE OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS	REV.	281,000	520,528	
	EXP.	358,760		442,768
233 - PROSECUTING ATTORNEY SOM GRANT	REV.	82,229	0	
	EXP.	82,229		0
234 - ELECTIONS	REV.	600	2,600	
	EXP.	0		3,200
235 - COMMUNITY ACTION SENIOR MEALS	REV.	1,157,629	245,025	
	EXP.	1,147,629		255,025
238 - SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS	REV.	314,000	437,001	
	EXP.	622,926		128,075
239 - COMMUNITY HEALTH ACCESS COALITION CHAC	REV.	232,707	0	
	EXP.	232,707		0
245 - SHERIFF DEPT CPE PILOT PROGRAM	REV.	20,000	35,992	
	EXP.	36,532		19,460
249 - CONSTRUCTION CODE REVOLVING ACCOUNT	REV.	150,000	0	
	EXP.	150,000		0
251 - 50TH CIRCUIT COURT PROBATION AND PAROLE	REV.	18,000	130,381	
	EXP.	10,000		138,381
252 - 50TH CIRCUIT COURT DRUG COURT	REV.	98,985	3,643	
	EXP.	97,480		5,148
254 - OPIOID SETTLEMENT	REV.	103,995	526,007	
	EXP.	184,000		446,002
255 - HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION	REV.	1,500	0	
	EXP.	1,500		0
256 - REGISTER OF DEEDS AUTOMATION FUND	REV.	52,000	222,774	
	EXP.	36,700		238,074
257 - DRUG FORFEITURE FUND	REV.	8,000	24,921	
	EXP.	27,267		5,654
259 - CCSD SALVAGE VEHICLE	REV.	500	4,317	
	EXP.	2,500		2,317
260 - MIDC INDIGENT DEFENSE FUND	REV.	818,158	0	
	EXP.	818,158		0
261 - ENHANCED 911 EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM	REV.	1,475,620	76,389	
	EXP.	1,438,007		114,002
263 - CPL - CLERKS OFFICE	REV.	23,000	173,081	
	EXP.	9,000	0	187,081
264 - LOCAL CORRECTIONS OFFICER'S TRAINING	REV.	22,200	7,721	
	EXP.	22,200		7,721

269 - LAW LIBRARY	REV.	4,500	0	
	EXP.	2,500		2,000
272 - ROAD PATROL CONTRACT	REV.	104,898	0	
	EXP.	94,189		10,709
273 - ROAD PATROL OVERTIME FUNDING	REV.	80,000	36,775	
	EXP.	51,000		65,775
274 - SHERIFF LAW ENFORCEMENT FUND	REV.	8,000	12,148	
	EXP.	19,555		593
275 - SHERIFF- SEARCH & RESCUE	REV.	1,000	2,850	
	EXP.	0		3,850
276 - SHERIFF SPECIAL MENTAL HEALTH	REV.	0	2,373	
	EXP.	2,300		73
277 - HIGHWAY SAFETY FUND	REV.	10,000	0	
	EXP.	10,000		0
280 - ANIMAL CONTROL MILLAGE	REV.	268,371	107,362	
	EXP.	208,174		167,559
285 - ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS	REV.	75,000	60,287	
	EXP.	16,000		119,287
286 - SHERIFF DEPT K-9	REV.	0	50	
	EXP.	0		0
287 - FIA APPROPRIATION	REV.	20,110	941	
	EXP.	20,110		941
292 - CHILD CARE FUND - PROBATE	REV.	549,382	0	
	EXP.	549,382		0
294 - VETERANS TRUST	REV.	59,568	0	
	EXP.	59,568		0
296 - HUD MSC 02-731-HO GRANT	REV.	60,000	34,446	
	EXP.	60,000		34,446
298 - FAMILY COUNSELING SERVICES	REV.	3,500	135	
	EXP.	3,500		135

DEBT SERVICE FUNDS

5

	REVENUE	EXPENDITURE	BEGINNING	ENDING
377 - CITY OF SSM 2013 REFUNDING	630,200	630,200	0	0
484 - ROSS-HOKOLA DRAINAGE DISTRICT	0	0	7,503	7,503

That the County Clerk is authorized to certify the following claims within such budgeted allocations and to process a warrant for payment and upon receipt of such warrant the County Treasurer is is authorized to pay the claims within such budgeted allocations:

6

ALLOCATION	FREQUENCY	DATE
General Payroll	Bi-weekly	
Employee Fringe Benefits	As due	
Insurances and Bonds	As due	
Loan/Bond Payments	As due	
Utilities	As due	
District Health	Monthly	1st of Month
Jail Medical Retainer	Monthly	15th of Month
Medical Examiner	Monthly	1st of Month
Copier Leases	Monthly	1st of Month
Community Mental Health	Quarterly	June, July, August, September
Child Care	Quarterly	January, April, July, October
Law Library	Quarterly	January, April, July, October
Cigarette Tax	Annually	Following Receipt
Social Services	Annually	October
Soil Conservation	Annually	April

7 That funds be allocated as may be appropriated by budget action of the Board of Commissioners for the Public Improvements and Capital Fund for capital equipment and projects, and to include the amounts due for the payment of purchase agreements and bond payments as scheduled.

8 That funds be allocated as may be appropriated by budget action of the Board of Commissioners. The funds may be transferred by the County Treasurer and/or the County Administrator's Office in accordance with such budgets.

That the following regulations shall apply to these appropriations and Activity Centers (Departments). All Departments, budget administrators, and other agencies and organizations receiving County funds shall be deemed to have agreed to these restrictions and obligations by accepting funds pursuant to this Act or otherwise incurring expenditures in expectation of County funding.

a. All terms in the Act shall have the meaning assigned to them in the Uniform Budget and Accounting Act. The term "Activity Center" includes all courts receiving funds through this Act.

b. All Activity Centers (Departments) receiving funds herein shall abide by the Uniform Budget and Accounting Act, and that any modification, addition or deletion of such amounts hereby adopted shall be done in accordance with the policies and procedures established by the Board of Commissioners. Each administrative officer in charge of an Activity Center shall promptly provide the County Administrator with all information which the Administrator considers necessary and essential to the preparation of a County budget for the ensuing fiscal period.

c. All purchases and travel shall be in accordance with the Chippewa County Purchasing, Contracts and Sales Policy (Policy No. 320) and Travel and Business Expenses Policy (Policy No. 410).

d. The amounts appropriated herein shall be paid from the County Treasury at the time and in the manner provided by law and other applicable policies or resolutions of the Board, whether enacted to date or subsequently adopted.

e. Expenditures and revenues shall be recorded and reported in the manner provided by law. Fees and other money received by Activity Centers (Departments) shall be forwarded promptly to the County Treasurer and credited to the appropriate County fund, except as otherwise provided by this Act or by any other act of the Board.

f. Except as otherwise provided by law, each Activity Center (Department) shall limit expenditures within the appropriations authorized herein and shall not attempt to expend funds at a rate which will eventually result in a deficit in any Activity Center without the approval of the Board. Further, all expenditures of County funds and other funds under the control of any Activity Center, except as otherwise provided by law, shall be expended only for purposes attached to the line-items and within the various policies of the Board of Commissioners, including, but not limited to purchasing policy, applicable collective bargaining agreements and applicable personnel policies. The County of Chippewa shall only be responsible for the payment of purchases made as provided by law and/or policy.

g. In the event that State of Michigan fails to provide certain revenue transfer payments as required by state law and/or contractual agreements between the State and Chippewa County, the specific programs funded by such state revenue transfer payment shall bear the full impact of such revenue reduction. In the event the State defaults or otherwise fails to provide general, unrestricted revenue transfer payments, the Board, upon the recommendation of the Finance, Claims and Accounts Committee, shall allocate said revenue reduction in its legislative judgment.

THE CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CANNOT, AND WILL NOT, ABSORB THE PROGRAM COSTS CREATED BY REVENUE TRANSFER PAYMENT DEFAULTS BY THE STATE OF MICHIGAN.

h. If an Activity Center (Department) desires an additional appropriation, it shall forward a detailed request to the County Administrator's Office describing the proposed budgetary amendment or transfer and the reasons for the action. The matter will then be presented to the Board of Commissioners through its Finance, Claims and Accounts Committee. No funds may be transferred between Activity Centers (Departments) without prior Board approval.

i. Except as otherwise provided by law, the number of positions noted for certain Activity Centers (Departments) in the approved Employee Roster included with the budget shall be the maximum staffing level authorized to be drawn from such line-item. No Activity Center shall maintain more employees on the payroll than the maximum specified for the appropriate account. In addition, the job position titles, pay classifications, and full-time equated designations for each position are deemed to be the correct classifications, and any modification of employment classifications shall be done in conformance with established Board policy. Further, if an Activity Center employs at any time, fewer employees than the maximum specified for the appropriate line item in this Act, unexpended appropriation in the amount identified with the unfilled position(s) by payroll records shall immediately and automatically revert to the General Fund Contingency Activity Center (Department No. 890).

j. It is understood that revenues and expenditures may vary from those that are currently contemplated and may be changed from time to time by the Board of Commissioners during the 2027 fiscal year, as deemed necessary. Consequently, there may be a need to increase or decrease various portions of the budget and/or impose a hiring freeze and/or impose layoffs due to unforeseen financial changes; therefore, the Board of Commissioners reserves the right to change the approved Employee Roster and/or impose a hiring freeze at any time. The County Elected Officials and County Department Heads shall abide by whatever changes are made by the Board of Commissioners, if any, relative to the approved positions and the number of employees stated in the Employee Roster.

k. Positions on the Employee Roster that are supported by a grant, cost sharing, reimbursement, or other source of outside funding, are only approved contingent upon the County receiving the budgeted revenes. Upon notification that budgeted funding of a position will not be received, the Elected Official or Department Head shall immediately notify the County Controller and Finance, Claims and Accounts Committee, and that position shall be immediately removed from the Employee Roster if funding is exhausted.

l. The County Administrator's Office and\or County Treasurer shall be authorized to make year-end transfers of up to $100,000 between Departments or Funds or with such amounts that may be available in the General Fund, as may be necessary to insure that departments do not end the 2027 fiscal year in a deficit condition.

m. This Act shall become effective January 1, 2027, and may be amended by the Board at any time. Any appropriations made hereunder may be increased or decreased in the discretion of the Board.

n. This Act and attachments as incorporated by reference herein and all amendments hereto shall constitute the 2027 General Appropriations Act for Chippewa County for all purposes under the law; and approved at the highest level possible.

A VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS

AYES:

NAYS: _____

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

_____

Jim Martin, Chairman, County Board of Commissioners

_____

Steven Woodgate, County Clerk

STATE OF MI( ) ss
COUNTY OF CHIPPEWA)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution adopted by the County Board of Commissioners of Chippewa County at a regular meeting held on the date first stated above, and I further certify that public notice of such meeting was given as provided by law.

_____

Steven Woodgate, County Clerk

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners, held at the Chippewa County Courthouse, 319 Court St., Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan on the 12th day of November 2026 at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Commissioner and seconded by Commissioner .

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-41
Resolution Opting Out of the Requirements of PA 152 of 2011

Whereas, bargaining is strictly the responsibility of the county commission on behalf of the good citizens it serves; and

Whereas, PA 152 of 2011 erodes the responsibilities of duly elected local county commissioners and the trust held between those commissioners and their constituents; and

Whereas, PA 152 of 2011 constitutes an attempt by the legislature to dictate the terms on which counties bargain with their employees; and

Whereas, PA 152 of 2011 is a new foray by the state into dictating the terms of healthcare at the local level; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to the provisions of PA 152 of 2011, Section 8(1), Chippewa County exercises its right to opt out of the requirements of the Act for the plan year beginning January 1, 2027 by two-thirds majority vote of this Board in support of this resolution.

A VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS

AYES:

NAYS:

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED
November 12, 2026

RESOLUTION 2026-41 – Opting Out of the Requirements of PA152 of 2011

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss.
COUNTY OF CHIPPEWA)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution adopted by the County Board of Commissioners of Chippewa County at a regular meeting held on the date first stated above, and I further certify that public notice of such meeting was given as provided by law.

_____

Steve Woodgate, County Clerk

Resolution of Appreciation and Recognition

Honoring Sheriff Michael Bitnar Upon His Retirement

2026-42

WHEREAS, Michael Bitnar began his service to Chippewa County in April 1991 as an intern with the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office, beginning what would become more than 35 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Chippewa County; and

WHEREAS, following his internship, Michael Bitnar continued his career with the Sheriff's Office in a full-time capacity, serving in several important roles throughout his tenure, including Corrections Officer, Drug Team Member, Detective Sergeant, and Undersheriff; and

WHEREAS, through his years of service, Michael Bitnar demonstrated a commitment to law enforcement, public safety, and the protection of the residents and communities of Chippewa County; and

WHEREAS, his experience, knowledge, leadership, and dedication led to his appointment as Sheriff of Chippewa County on October 28, 2016, a position in which he continued his commitment to serving the County and its residents; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his professional responsibilities, Sheriff Bitnar has demonstrated a strong commitment to community service and giving back to the residents of Chippewa County through his volunteer efforts and involvement in community initiatives; and

WHEREAS, among his many volunteer contributions, Sheriff Bitnar has been instrumental in supporting and participating in a food drive spanning more than two decades, starting the Chippewa County Victim Services Unit and the Law Enforcement Autism Awareness Program; and

WHEREAS, his willingness to give his time and effort to charitable causes reflects a dedication to public service that extends beyond his career in law enforcement and has positively impacted the lives of many Chippewa County residents; and

WHEREAS, after more than three decades of service to Chippewa County, Sheriff Michael Bitnar will retire effective January 2, 2027, concluding a distinguished career dedicated to public service, law enforcement, and the betterment of his community; and

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners recognizes the significant contributions Sheriff Bitnar has made throughout his career and wishes to express its sincere appreciation for his years of service, leadership, commitment, and dedication to the citizens of Chippewa County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners hereby extends its sincere appreciation and gratitude to Sheriff Michael Bitnar for his more than 35 years of service to Chippewa County and recognizes his many contributions to the Sheriff's Office and the safety and well-being of its residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners recognizes and commends Sheriff Bitnar for his long-standing volunteer service and commitment to helping those in need throughout the community.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners wishes Sheriff Michael Bitnar continued happiness, good health, and success as he begins his retirement, and that a copy of this resolution be presented to him as a lasting expression of the County's gratitude and appreciation for his dedicated service.

ADOPTED this 12th day of November 2026, by the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners.

_____

Jim Martin
Chairperson, Chippewa County Board of Commissioners