APPROVED
PROCEEDINGS OF THE OTTAWA COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JULY SESSION – FIRST DAY

The Ottawa County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, July 28, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Chairperson.

Chairperson Brugger read a brief statement.

The prayer was pronounced by Commissioner Barry.

Chairperson Brugger led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Present at roll call: James Barry, Jordan Jorritsma, Doug Zylstra, Jacob Bonnema, Joe Moss, Kendra Wenzel, John Teeples, Sylvia Rhodea, Philip Kuyers, Josh Brugger, Allison Miedema. (11)

Correspondence

A. Sheriff's Certificate of Recognition-Sheriff DeBoer presented Hunter Norris, Parks & Recreation Department with this Certificate.

B. Sheriff's Life Saving Award-Sheriff DeBoer presented Deputy Catalina Garza with this award.

C. Customer Service Award-Chairperson Brugger presented a Customer Service Award to Christopher Langholz, Public Defender's Office

D. Legislative Update-Bob DeVries, GCSI, gave an update.

E. Clerk/Register of Deeds 2025 Annual Report-Justin Roebuck, Clerk/Register of Deeds, presented the 2025 Clerk/Register of Deeds Annual Report.

F. Water Resources 2025 Annual Report-Joe Bush, Water Resources Commissioner, presented the 2025 Water Resources Annual Report.

Public Comments

Public comments were made by the following:

1. Connie Merrill-Zeeland Township
2. Bev Horinga-Blendon Township
3. Brad DeWeerd-Zeeland Township
4. Jeff King-Jamestown Township
5. Cadence DeBray-Zeeland
6. Christi Meppelink-Zeeland Township
7. Becky Patrick-Allendale Township

Online Public Comments

1. Michael Kuras-Spring Lake Township
2. Joseph Parnell McCarter-Georgetown Township

B/C 26-109 Jordan Jorritsma moved to approve the agenda.

Motion B/C 26-109 passed.

Consent Resolutions

Joe Moss requested to move Consent Item 7L to become the new Action Item 8A.

B/C 26-110 Phil Kuyers moved to approve the following Consent Resolutions as presented:

A. Approve the minutes of the June 17, 2026, Board of Commissioners work session.

B. Approve the minutes of the June 23, 2026, Board of Commissioners meeting.

C. To approve the general claims in the amount of $16,587,121.53 as presented by the summary report from June 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026.

D. To approve the agreement with Vredeveld-Haefner LLC to extend the current contract for professional audit services for Ottawa County and related entities for one additional year at a total cost of $133,875.

E. To approve the request from the Clerk/Register's Office to raise the Board of Canvassers per diem rates to $150 for a full day and $75 for a half day.

F. To approve the Resolution pledging the full faith and credit of Ottawa County for the Terrace Drain Drainage District Note in an amount not to exceed $556,704.42.

G. To approve a contract with JKB Construction for the Veterans Services renovation project at a not to exceed cost of $134,746.

H. To approve the contract with Fishbeck for architectural and engineering design services related to the Fillmore Administration Building modifications to accommodate the Equalization Department, expand the Facilities Maintenance Department, and create new storage space for the Sheriff's Office at a not to exceed cost of $92,100.

I. To approve the contract with Fishbeck for architectural and engineering design services and construction documentation services for the James Street Community Mental Health facility and Building D renovations in an amount not to exceed $118,300.

J. To approve the request to regrade the Legal Services Director position from a Grade 19 to a Grade 20 on the Countywide Wage Scale at a cost of $13,231.00, or to authorize the County Administrator to negotiate a salary under terms of a contract for subsequent Board approval if necessary.

K. To approve FY2026 budget adjustments per the attached schedule.

L. To approve the Resolution naming positions for the Trustee and Alternate Trustee for the West Michigan Health Insurance Pool.

M. To approve the bid from Georgetown Construction in the amount of $3,548,794.00 for construction of the Eastmanville Bayou Segment of the Idema Explorers Trail; to increase the project budget by $2,182,741.57 by appropriating additional funds from the Ottawa County Parks Foundation and the Parks Capital Projects Fund Balance; and to authorize the Parks Director to take such actions as are necessary to implement the intent of the Board in this matter.

Motion B/C 26-110 passed by the following votes: Yeas: Joe Moss, Philip Kuyers, Jim Barry, Jacob Bonnema, Sylvia Rhodea, Doug Zylstra, Kendra Wenzel, Allison Miedema, Jordan Jorritsma, John Teeples, Josh Brugger. (11)

Agenda and Action Items

B/C 26-111 Jordan Jorritsma moved to approve the updated enabling agreement with the Kent Ottawa Muskegon Foreign Trade Zone Authority.

Motion B/C 26-111 passed.

B/C 26-112 Jordan Jorritsma moved to ratify all contracts on the Ratification Report pursuant to the County's Contracting policy.

Motion B/C 26-112 passed by the following votes: Yeas: Sylvia Rhodea, John Teeples, Doug Zylstra, Jacob Bonnema, Kendra Wenzel, Allison Miedema, Joe Moss, Jordan Jorritsma, Phil Kuyers, Jim Barry, Josh Brugger. (11)

B/C 26-113 Allison Miedema moved to approve a Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development grant agreement for the agricultural conservation easement on the Klein property in the amount of $241,200.00.

Motion B/C 26-113 passed by the following votes: Yeas: Jacob Bonnema, Jordan Jorritsma, John Teeples, Allison Miedema, Kendra Wenzel, Jim Barry, Sylvia Rhodea, Joe Moss, Doug Zylstra, Phil Kuyers, Josh Brugger. (11)

B/C 26-114 Allison Miedema moved to approve a Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development grant agreement for the agricultural conservation easement on the Rillema property in the amount of $134,550.00.

Motion B/C 26-114 passed by the following votes: Yeas: Phil Kuyers, Joe Moss, Allison Miedema, Kendra Wenzel, Jim Barry, Doug Zylstra, John Teeples, Jacob Bonnema, Sylvia Rhodea, Jordan Jorritsma, Josh Brugger. (11)

B/C 26-115 Jordan Jorritsma moved to approve the revised Salary and Wage Continuation Policy for a second reading.

Motion B/C 26-115 passed.

B/C 26-116 Jordan Jorritsma moved to approve the newly drafted Personnel Requisition Policy for a second reading.

Motion B/C 26-116 passed.

B/C 26-117 Jordan Jorritsma moved to approve the newly drafted Incident Reporting Policy for a first reading.

Motion B/C 26-117 passed.

B/C 26-118 Allison Miedema moved to approve the revised and retitled Access & Application Service Provider Policy for a first reading.

Motion B/C 26-118 passed.

B/C 26-119 Phil Kuyers moved to approve the Chair's recommendation to change the start time of the September 22, 2026, Board of Commissioners meeting from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Motion B/C 26-119 passed by the following votes: Yeas: John Teeples, Phil Kuyers, Jim Barry, Joe Moss, Jordan Jorritsma, Sylvia Rhodea, Allison Miedema, Jacob Bonnema, Kendra Wenzel, Josh Brugger. (10)

Nays: Doug Zylstra. (1)

B/C 26-120 Jordan Jorritsma moved to accept the nominations of

Joseph Alfonso	Kenneth Cooper	Russell Miller	Brian Zeemering
Robin Bailey	Harry Dyck	Dustin Parlin	
Brandon Barber	Mark Ebels	Eric Rasmussen	
Roger Blaha	Charles Kayser	Andrew Smith	
Leviticus Cain	Mikal MacDonald	Darrel Turner	

and to select one (1) to fill one (1) Veterans Services Committee War Veteran mid-term vacancy beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2028.

Roll Call Vote:

Moss-MacDonald	Kuyers-MacDonald	Barry-MacDonald
Bonnema-MacDonald	Rhodea-MacDonald	Zylstra-MacDonald
Wenzel-MacDonald	Miedema-MacDonald	Jorritsma-MacDonald
Teeples-MacDonald	Brugger-MacDonald	

With 11 votes, **Mikal MacDonald** is appointed to the Veterans Services Committee.

B/C 26-121 Jordan Jorritsma moved to approve the recommendation to change the seat title from War Veteran to Active-Duty Veteran on the Veterans Services Committee per MCL Section 35.621.

Motion B/C 26-121 passed.

B/C 26-122 Jordan Jorritsma moved to accept the nominations of

Charles DeLeeuw Kristi Drooger Callie Melton

and to select one (1) to fill one (1) Community Action Agency Advisory Board Private Sector vacancy beginning immediately and ending July 27, 2029.

Roll Call Vote:

Moss-Drooger	Kuyers- Drooger	Barry- Drooger
Bonnema- Drooger	Rhodea- Drooger	Zylstra- Drooger
Wenzel- Drooger	Miedema- Drooger	Jorritsma- Drooger
Teeples- Drooger	Brugger- Drooger	

With 11 votes, **Kristi Drooger** is appointed to the Community Action Agency Advisory Board.

Committee Reports

Several Commissioners commented on Committee meetings they attended.

Public Comment

1. Christi Meppelink-Zeeland Township

Additional Business

A. Report of the County Administrator –County Administrator Patrick Waterman gave an update.
B. Commissioner Comments – Several Commissioners gave comments.

Adjournment at Call of the Chairperson

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

JUSTIN F. ROEBUCK, Clerk/Register
Of the Board of Commissioners

JOSH BRUGGER, Chairperson
Of the Board of Commissioners