



MINUTES
St. Clair County Board of Commissioners

Board of Commissioners' Room
County Administrative Office Building, 2nd Floor
200 Grand River Avenue
Port Huron, MI 48060

July 17, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Moment of Silence, Prayer or Personal Reflection

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Simasko called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Chairperson Simasko.

3. Roll Call

Present: Kerry Ange, Lisa Beedon, Joi Torello, David Rushing, Dave Vandebossche, Robert Fielitz, Steven Simasko

4. Additions/Deletions/Changes to the Agenda

Moved by Commissioner Ange, supported by Commissioner Rushing, to delete Item 16.A. Pending Litigation-Good Time Lawsuit from the Closed Session on the agenda. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandebossche, Commissioner Fielitz. Nay: None

A. DELETE: Item 16.A. Pending Litigation - Good Time Lawsuit

5. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Commissioner Rushing, supported by Commissioner Ange, to approve the agenda with deletion of Item 16.A.-Pending Litigation-Good Time Lawsuit. Carried-Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandebossche, Commissioner Fielitz. Nay: None

6. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Moved by Commissioner Beedon, supported by Commissioner Vandenbossche, to approve and file the minutes of the 06/26/2025 Commission Meeting and the 07/03/2025 Standing Committee Meetings. Carried-Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz. Nay: None

A. 06-26-2025 Commission Meeting

B. 07-03-2025 Standing Committee Meetings

7. Proclamations

Moved by Commissioner Vandenbossche, supported by Commissioner Rushing, to approve the proclamation recognizing Detective Sergeant William Cope's years of service. Carried-Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz. Nay: None

A. Recognizing Detective Sergeant William Cope, Clay Township Police Department - Years of Service

8. Consent Agenda

Moved by Commissioner Fielitz, supported by Commissioner Rushing, to approve items 8A through 8D on the Consent Agenda. Carried-Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz. Nay: None

A. Summary Budget to Actual Report - June 2025

B. American Rescue Plan Spending Report - June 2025

C. BidNet Direct - Contract Renewal

D. 2024 Local Government Retirement System Annual Reports

9. Reports of Standing and Special Committees

Commissioner Fielitz-Community & Economic Development-Oral

Commissioner Beedon-Legislation Briefing CMH-Oral

Commissioner Ange-Judicial & Public Safety Committee-Oral

10. Citizens Wishing to Address the Board

Julian Ruck, Port Huron, MI 48060

RE: Polly's Place

Sandra Richardson, Fort Gratiot, MI 48059

RE: Flouride

Chris Barto, 4607 Metcalf Rd, Clyde, MI 48049

RE: Flouride

Jill Barto, 4607 Metcalf Rd, Clyde, MI 48049

RE: Flouride

Libby Prill, 6177 Tripp, China, MI 48054

RE: Flouride

Leann Clink, 1106 16th St. Port Huron, MI 48060

RE: Flouride

Dawn Fulk, Port Huron, MI 48060

RE: Flouride

Anthony Ferriell, 5800 Neuman Rd. St. Clair, MI 48079

RE: Privatization of CMH

Eileen Tesch, Algonac, MI 48001

RE: FOIA and Flouride

11. Unfinished Business

None

12. New Business

A. Approval of County Disbursements - June 2025

Moved by Commissioner Torello, supported by Commissioner Ange, to approve the June 2025 County Disbursements in the amount of \$14,540,800.81. Carried - Roll Call Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz. Nay: None

B. Advisory Board of Health By-Law Revisions

Moved by Commissioner Beedon, supported by Commissioner Fielitz, to approve the revisions to the Health Department Advisory Board Bylaws. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

C. 2026 County Veterans Service Fund Grant Application

Moved by Commissioner Rushing, supported by Commissioner Ange, to approve the FY 2026 County Veterans Service Fund Grant application in the amount of \$70,130. Carried - Roll Call Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

D. Library Board - Appointment

Moved by Commissioner Torello, supported by Commissioner Ange, to nominate Margaret Smith to the Library Board as District 5 Representative for the remainder of a five-year term expiring 08/26/2025. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

E. Fiscal Year 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program - Operation Stonegarden Grant Agreement

Moved by Commissioner Vandenbossche, supported by Commissioner Beedon, to approve the FY 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program - Operation Stonegarden Grant Agreement in the amount of \$136,500. Carried - Roll Call Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

F. Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) - Update

Moved by Commissioner Fielitz, supported by Commissioner Rushing, to approve the updated Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan as presented. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

G. Inmate Phone, Video Visitation System and Inmate Tablets - Intervention Center - Combined Public Communications

Moved by Commissioner Ange, supported by Commissioner Beedon, to approve the contract with Combined Public Communications for inmate phone, video visitation and tablets for the Intervention Center for a 4-year term. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

H. 2025 Marine Safety Program Grant Agreement

Moved by Commissioner Rushing, supported by Commissioner Fielitz, to approve the FY2025 Marine Safety Program Grant agreement in the amount of \$97,050. Carried - Roll Call Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

I. Asphalt Sealcoating and Striping - Landfill - Titan Pavement

Moved by Commissioner Beedon, supported by Commissioner Vandenbossche, to approve the agreement with Titan Pavement for the sealcoating of asphalt-paved surfaces at the Landfill in the amount of \$29,034. Carried - Roll Call Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

J. Aeronautics Advisory Board - Appointment

Moved by Commissioner Vandenbossche, supported by Commissioner Ange, to appoint David Garijo as Member-at-Large Representative on the Aeronautics

Advisory Board for the remainder of a three-year term expiring 09/30/2027.
Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

K. Landfill Operations

Moved by Commissioner Ange, supported by Commissioner Fielitz, to internalize Landfill Operations and approve the requisite equipment purchases and manning table additions. Discussion followed. Carried - Voice Vote 6-1. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: Commissioner Vandenbossche

L. Contract Agreement - Sheriff's Office Chiller Replacement - Miller Boldt

Moved by Commissioner Torello, supported by Commissioner Vandenbossche, to approve the agreement with Miller Boldt to replace the two (2) chillers located at the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$1,025,328. Carried - Roll Call Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

M. Land Bank Authority - Appointment

Moved by Commissioner Rushing, supported by Commissioner Fielitz, to nominate Lynn Grover, Pauline Repp and Deanna Westphal for Member-at-Large Representative on the Land Bank Authority Board for the remainder of a three-year term expiring 12/31/2026 and forward the applications to the Regular Board Meeting for appointment. Ballots cast. Majority requirement not met. Discussion followed. No vote taken on the motion.

Moved by Commissioner Beedon, supported by Commissioner Fielitz, to move the nomination and casting of ballots for Member-at-Large Representative on the Land Bank Authority Board for final action at the Committee Meeting in August. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

N. TEI Condo Association / Blue Water Convention Center - Parking Lot Repairs

Moved by Commissioner Ange, supported by Commissioner Vandenbossche, to approve the funding allocation from the Blue Water Convention Center to TEI Condo Association for parking lot renovations in the amount of \$17,000. Carried - Roll Call Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

O. Landfill - Manning Table Revision

Moved by Commissioner Fielitz, supported by Commissioner Beedon, to add 2 full-time Operation Coordinators and 1 full-time Landfill Attendant I and to eliminate 1 part-time Landfill Attendant I to the Landfill's manning table. Discussion followed. Carried - Voice Vote 6 - 1 Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: Commissioner Vandenbossche

13. Administrator's Report

The July 2025 Administrator's Report is included in the Board of Commissioners Packet.

Administrator Hepting touched on a few key points from the July 2025 Administrator's Report.

- Economic Development Consultant RFP due August 18, 2025.
- Courthouse Facility Assessment bids have been received and selection committee formed. You will receive a recommendation from the Committee after the bids are reviewed.
- Chairlift Enhancement at the Courthouse-design meetings with architect in progress.
- The Annual Audit Presentation will take place on August 7, 2025 Committee Meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Fielitz, supported by Commissioner Rushing, to accept and file the Administrator's Report. Carried - Voice Vote, Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Ange, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche. Nay: None

A. July 2025

14. Miscellaneous Business

Commissioner Fielitz discussed whether Health Department or EGLE has the authority to regulate fluoride and the steps the Health Department plans to present to the community regarding the pros /cons of fluoride.

Commissioner Fielitz discussed briefly his reluctance to throw money into the Landfill, however the County can't walk away from it's responsibility.

Commissioner Rushing discussed the Zoning and Enabling Act that allows local municipalities to control their own destiny.

15. Receive and File Packets and all Information Present

Moved by Commissioner Beedon, supported by Commissioner Fielitz, to receive and file packets that were sent to Commissioners, packets at their places and any other information presented. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Ayes: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

16. Closed Session

Moved by Commissioner Ange, supported by Commissioner Torello, to move into Closed Session to discuss Collective Bargaining Negotiation Strategy and to adjourn immediately thereafter. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None

- A. Pending Litigation - Good Time Lawsuit
- B. Collective Bargaining Negotiation Strategy Discussion

17. Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Fielitz, supported by Commissioner Beedon, to adjourn at 7:22 p.m. Carried - Voice Vote 7-0. Aye: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandebossche, Commissioner Fielitz, Commissioner Ange. Nay: None