



MINUTES
St. Clair County Board of Commissioners
Special Meeting

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

September 18, 2025 at 4:00 PM

1. Moment of Silence, Prayer or Personal Reflection

2. Call to Order

Chairperson Simasko called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Chairperson Simasko.

4. Roll Call

Present: Kerry Ange, Lisa Beedon, David Rushing, Steve Simasko, Joi Torello,
Dave Vandenbossche

5. Citizens Wishing to Address the Board

Jim Frank

RE: Selection of nominees

Tammie Berger

RE: Letter sent to Commissioners in regard to the District 5 Vacancy

6. New Business

A. Procedure Regarding Vacancy

Chairperson Simasko discussed the process of how the field would be narrowed for the 14 applicants.

Step 1: In alphabetical order, the Chairperson will call the name of a person on the final list of applicants and ask if there is a motion from any commissioner to nominate that person to advance to the interview stage. If there is no motion by

any commissioner to nominate that person for an interview, that person will be excluded from further consideration. If that person is nominated for an interview, that motion will require a second. Without a second, that candidate does not advance. With a motion and a second as to each applicant, each commissioner will be given the opportunity to make a brief comment (a minute or so) one time in support or opposition to that candidate. After the commissioner's discussion has ended on that candidate, a vote will be taken and majority support will be required to advance that candidate to the next step, the interview stage. If that candidate lacks the support of a simple majority, he or she will be excluded for further consideration.

Step 2: The candidates that advanced to the interview stage will be sequestered and brought in one by one based on a random draw and allowed to make introductory remarks for 5 minutes. Thereafter, each candidate will be asked to give a two-minute response to a set of stock questions prepared by the Administration for all candidates. Immediately following the stock questions and answers, each commissioner will be given an opportunity to ask no more than three extemporary questions of their choice limited to a 2-minute reply to each question by a commissioner.

Step 3: The board will immediately proceed to vote unless members desire additional time for consideration. All voting records will be balloted.

B. Narrow Field of Candidates

Chairperson Simasko started down the alphabetical list of candidates to be moved to the interview process, requiring a motion and a second.

Daniel Cass - No motion received

Gary Eisen - No motion received

Anthony Ferriell - Moved by Commissioner Rushing, seconded by Commissioner Torello, to move Anthony Ferriell to the interview stage. Discussion followed. Carried - Roll Call Vote 4-2. Aye: Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Ange Nay: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Vandenbossche

Jamie Haslem - Moved by Commissioner Ange, seconded by Commissioner Vandenbossche, to move Jamie Haslem to the interview stage. Discussion followed. Carried - Roll Call Vote 5-1. Aye: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Vandenbossche Commissioner Ange Nay: Commissioner Torello

Warren Head - Moved by Commissioner Torello, seconded by Commissioner Rushing, to move Warren Head to the interview stage. Failed - Roll Call Vote 3-3. Aye: Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Torello Nay: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Ange

Dave LaDuke - Moved by Commissioner Beedon, seconded by Commissioner Vandenbossche, to move Dave LaDuke to the interview stage. Carried - Roll Call Vote 4-2. Aye: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Ange Nay: Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Torello

Phil Pavlov - No motion received

Jared Shirkey - Moved by Commissioner Beedon, seconded by Commissioner Vandenbossche, to move Jared Shirkey to the interview stage. Carried - Roll Call Vote 4-2. Aye: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Ange Nay: Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Torello

Tray Smith - Moved by Commissioner Rushing, no second

Shawn Treadaway - No motion received

Kelly Tucker - No motion received

Robert Usakowski - Moved by Commissioner Rushing, seconded by Commissioner Torello, to move Robert Usakowski to the interview stage. Carried - Roll Call Vote 4-2. Aye: Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Ange Nay: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Vandenbossche

Dorothy Yope - Moved by Commissioner Beedon, seconded by Commissioner Vandenbossche, to move Dorothy Yope to the interview stage. Failed - Roll Call Vote 2-4. Aye: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Simasko Nay: Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Ange

Paul Zeller - Moved by Commissioner Ange, seconded by Commissioner Rushing, to move Paul Zeller to the interview stage. Carried - Roll Call Vote 4-2. Aye: Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Ange Nay: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Vandenbossche

At 4:24 p.m. there was a brief recess.

The meeting reconvened at 4:41 p.m.

C. Candidate Interviews

In the interview stage, each candidate had 5 minutes to make introductory remarks. Afterward, the stock questions prepared by the Administration were read by the County Clerk, Angie Waters. Each candidate had two minutes to answer each of the questions. Then the Commissioners had the opportunity to ask not more than three extemporary questions of their choice limited to a 2 minute reply.

A random draw was done to see the order in which the candidates would address the board.

1. Paul Zeller
2. Jared Shirkey
3. Robert Usakowski
4. Dave LaDuke
5. Anthony Ferriell
6. Jamie Haslem

D. Candidate Selection and Appointment

Ballots were presented to the Commissioners with the names of the six candidates they interviewed. The majority vote gets the position.

Ballot #1 was handed out. The following were the votes.

Anthony Ferriell - 1 vote - Commissioner Torello
Jared Shirkey - 2 votes - Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Vandenbossche
Paul Zeller — 3 votes — Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Simasko,
Commissioner Ange

No majority vote

Ballot #2 was handed out. The following were the votes.

Jared Shirkey - 2 votes - Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Vandenbossche
Paul Zeller - 4 votes - Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Simasko,
Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Ange

The majority vote goes to Paul Zeller. Paul Zeller is appointed to the County Commissioner District #5. The position will take effect on September 22, 2025.

7. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Rushing, seconded by Commissioner Torello to adjourn at 6:21 p.m. Carried - Voice Vote 6-0. Aye: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Ange Nay: None

Angie Waters
County Clerk\Register