



MINUTES
St. Clair County Board of Commissioners
Human Services Committee

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

May 7, 2026 at 6:00 PM

1. Roll Call/Opening/Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Beedon called the meeting to order at 07:11 PM.

Present: Lisa Beedon, Joi Torello, Paul Zeller, Dave Rushing, Dave Vandenbossche and Steve Simasko

Absent: Kerry Ange

2. Additions/Deletions/Changes to the Agenda

Moved by Commissioner Zeller, supported by Commissioner Torello, to approve the agenda as presented. Carried - Voice Vote 6-0. Aye: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Zeller Nay: None

3. Citizens to be Heard

- Debi Roberts, Lakeport - re: Medical Director contract
- Carolyn Richards, Avoca - re: Medical Director
- Bill Davis, Port Huron - re: Medical Director
- Rene Smit, Fort Gratiot - re: Medical Director
- Tracy Birgy, Marysville - re: Medical Director
- Sherry Mercurio, Clyde Twp - re: Medical Director
- Diane Hulett, Riley - re: Medical Director
- Dawn Davey, Algonac - re: CSCB
- Kathy Swantek, St. Clair - re: CSCB and Advisory Board of Health
- Vicki Blackburn, Port Huron - re: Transparency and Strengths

Written comments submitted are included at the end of the minutes.

A. Written Comments

4. Updates

A. MSU Extension 2025 County Annual Report Presentation

Karly Creguer, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension discussed their annual report.

B. Health Officer/Medical Director Contracts

Interim Administrator/Controller Hull gave an update on the status of the revised contracts for the Public Health Officer and Medical Director Comments. He indicated they will be placed on June Committee agenda.

5. Conceptual Initiatives

None

6. Old Business

None

7. New Business

A. Community Services Coordinating Body

Moved by Commissioner Simasko, supported by Commissioner Vandenbossche, to forward to the Regular Board meeting the recommendation to approve the payment of \$7,500 for Community Services Coordinating Body dues. Some discussion continued. Commissioner Beedon indicated Commissioner Simasko replaced Commissioner Rushing as an alternate with Commissioner Ange. Carried - Voice Vote 6-1. Aye: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Zeller Nay: Commissioner Rushing

B. Comprehensive Organizational Assessment and Staffing Plan - Rehmann Robson

Moved by Commissioner Vandenbossche, supported by Commissioner Rushing, to forward to the Regular Board meeting the recommendation to approve the agreement with Rehmann Robson in the amount of \$40,000 to conduct a thorough assessment on the St. Clair County Library System. Carried - Voice Vote 6-0. Aye: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Zeller Nay: None

8. Other Human Services Matters

None

9. Information Only

None

10. Receive and File Packets

Moved by Commissioner Vandenbossche, supported by Commissioner Torello, to

receive and file packets and all information presented. Carried - Voice Vote 6-0.
Aye: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner Simasko, Commissioner Torello,
Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Vandenbossche, Commissioner Zeller Nay:
None

11. Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Rushing, supported by Commissioner Torello, to adjourn
at 08:02 PM. Carried - Voice Vote 6-0. Aye: Commissioner Beedon, Commissioner
Simasko, Commissioner Torello, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner
Vandenbossche, Commissioner Zeller Nay: None



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As a nonprofit charity since 2008,
A Beautiful Me creates better communities,
one person at a time. Female participants
in every stage of life will thrive personally
and professionally through confidence
building workshops, innovative programs,
and special events.



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May 6, 2026

Dear Commissioner Steven Simasko,

I am writing as the Founder & Executive Director of A Beautiful Me. Since 2008, we have provided outcome-based confidence-building workshops to girls in 4th and 5th grade throughout Southeast Michigan, with a primary focus on youth in St. Clair County. Our office and social enterprise retail store, *The Closet by A Beautiful Me*, are located in Port Huron.

A Beautiful Me has been a member of the Community Services Coordinating Body (CSCB) since January 2020. Shortly after joining, I became involved in the newly formed Adolescent Services Workgroup and served as the chairperson for nearly five years.

My involvement with the CSCB has provided immeasurable value, not only to our organization, but to the youth and families we serve. The CSCB creates a unique space where nonprofits, schools, agencies, and community leaders can work together rather than in isolation. Through these meetings and presentations, I have developed meaningful partnerships, learned about critical community resources, and strengthened our ability to provide effective services for local youth.

Equally important, the CSCB helps bridge gaps between organizations that may otherwise never connect. I can confidently say there are many members I would not have had the opportunity to meet outside of CSCB involvement. Those relationships have led to referrals, shared resources, and stronger collective support for our community. I have also encouraged other nonprofits to join because I believe the CSCB strengthens not only individual organizations, but the entire network of services available in St. Clair County.

In a time when collaboration and communication are essential to addressing the needs of youth and families, the CSCB serves as a valuable connector for our community. Its impact extends far beyond meetings, it creates partnerships that lead to real solutions and stronger outcomes for those we serve.

I would like to personally invite you to join me as my guest at the next CSCB meeting on Wednesday, May 27, from 2-4 pm, or at the Adolescent Services Workgroup meeting on Wednesday, June 3, from 1-2 pm. Both meetings are held at Community Mental Health, 3111 Military St., Port Huron, Michigan.

Please feel free to call, text, or email me if you are willing to attend. I would be honored to save a seat for you.

Respectfully,

Karen Palka

A Beautiful Me Founder & Executive Director

Cell: 586-604-3037 / eMail: Karen@ABeautifulMe.com

cc. Deb Johnson, CSCB Chairperson