

## ALLEGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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JUNE 26, 2025 SESSION

JOURNAL 73  
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**JUNE 26, 2025 SESSION – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL**

1/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Allegan, State of Michigan, met in the Board Room of the County Services Building in the Township of Allegan on June 26, 2025 at 9:00 A.M. in accordance with the motion for adjournment of June 12, 2025, and rules of this board; Chair Dugan presiding.

The invocation was offered by District #2 Commissioner DeYoung.

The Deputy Clerk led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Upon roll call the following members answered as Commissioners for the respective Districts:

DIST #1	CRAIG VAN BEEK
DIST #2	MARK DEYOUNG
DIST #3	BRAD LUBBERS
DIST #4	SCOTT BELTMAN
DIST #5	GALE DUGAN

**COMMUNICATIONS**

2/ Deputy Clerk Taylor noted to the board that they received the following communications:

1. Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution opposing the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' plan to implement a competitive procurement process for prepaid inpatient health plans.
2. Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution urging action to oppose proposed cuts to Medicaid by the Federal Government.

**JUNE 12, 2025 SESSION MINUTES – ADOPTED AS PRESENTED**

3/ Moved by Commissioner Beltman, seconded by Commissioner Lubbers to approve the minutes for the June 12, 2025 session as distributed. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – NO COMMENTS**

4/ Chair Dugan opened the meeting to public participation and as there were no comments from the public, he closed the meeting to public participation.

**AGENDA – ADOPTED AS PRESENTED**

5/ Moved by Commissioner Lubbers, seconded by Commissioner Van Beek to adopt the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

**INFORMATIONAL SESSION:**

6/ Judge Jolene Clearwater – Probate Court presented her annual report.

**ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE**

7/ Administrator Sarro noted his written report was submitted to Commissioners. Highlights included: open positions within the County, outreach programs, the latest household hazardous waste event, Wish Bone celebrating volunteers, and the Senior Services program contracting with The Day Center of Evergreen Commons.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE – CLAIMS & INTERFUND TRANSFERS**

8/ **WHEREAS**, Administration has compiled the following claims for 6/20/25 and 6/27/25; and **WHEREAS**, the following claims, which are chargeable against the County, were audited in accordance with Section 46.61 to 46.63, inclusive, M.C.L. 1970 as amended and resolutions of the Board; and **WHEREAS**, said claims are listed in the 2025 Claims folder of the Commissioners' Record of Claims.

June 20, 2025

	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED
General Fund – 101	74,441.08	74,441.08	
Parks/Recreation Fund – 208	2,116.33	2,116.33	
MCOLES CPE Fund – 217	822.54	822.54	
Health Department Fund – 221	3,217.77	3,217.77	
Solid Waste/Recycling – 226	12,476.36	12,476.36	
Animal Shelter – 254	6,862.18	6,862.18	
Register of Deeds Automation Fund – 256	318.37	318.37	
Palisades Fund – 257	80.23	80.23	
Indigent Defense Fund – 260	256.25	256.25	
Central Dispatch Fund – 261	52.83	52.83	
Local Corrections Officers Training Fund – 264	500.00	500.00	
Grants – 279	13,495.21	13,495.21	
Sheriffs Contracts – 287	9,335.37	9,335.37	
Transportation Fund – 288	19,561.41	19,561.41	
Child Care Fund – 292	6,886.11	6,886.11	
Capital Improvement Fund – 401	85,310.18	85,310.18	
CIP – Youth Home Building Fund – 492	11,133.50	11,133.50	
Property Tax Adjustments – 516	5,680.30	5,680.30	
Tax Reversion 2018 – 629	204.00	204.00	
Fleet Management/Motor Pool – 661	10.98	10.98	
Self-Insurance Fund – 677	5,442.74	5,442.74	
Drain Fund – 801	147,895.04	147,895.04	
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIMS</b>	<b>\$406,098.78</b>	<b>\$406,098.78</b>	

June 27, 2025

	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED
General Fund – 101	119,640.07	119,640.07	
Parks/Recreation Fund – 208	149.61	149.61	
Friend of the Court – 215	520.77	520.77	
Health Department Fund – 221	7,828.16	7,828.16	
Indigent Defense Fund – 260	37,975.34	37,975.34	
Grants – 279	9,309.00	9,309.00	
Crime Victims Rights Grant – 280	193.12	193.12	
Transportation Fund – 288	6,807.92	6,807.92	
Child Care Fund – 292	5,397.02	5,397.02	
Veterans Relief Fund – 293	195.48	195.48	
Senior Services Fund – 298	119,692.87	119,692.87	

Capital Improvement Fund – 401	16,158.65	16,158.65	
Property Tax Adjustments – 516	2,362.26	2,362.26	
Self-Insurance Fund – 677	8,969.46	8,969.46	
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIMS</b>	<b>\$335,199.73</b>	<b>\$335,199.73</b>	

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners adopts the report of claims for 6/20/25, 6/27/25, and interfund transfers.

Moved by Commissioner Van Beek, seconded by Commissioner Beltman to adopt the report of claims for February 3, 2025 and February 10, 2025. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**9/ AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF WESTERN MICHIGAN (AAAWM)—APPROVE ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (AIP) FY26**

**WHEREAS**, on June 18, 2025, the County's Commission on Aging (COA) reviewed the AIP plan and recommends the Board of Commissioners (Board) approval.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that in accordance with all statutes and policies governing the AAWM, the Board supports the AIP for FY2026, as presented.

Moved by Commissioner DeYoung, seconded by Commissioner Lubbers to Approve the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) FY 26. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

**10/ BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS—SELL OVERFLOW PARKING LOT PROPERTY**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator to contract, list, and sell the parcel located at Cutler & Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010: Parcel 51-105-186-00 (0.879 Acres); and **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the County Administrator is authorized to sign all necessary documents on behalf of the County.

Moved by Commissioner Beltman, seconded by Commissioner Van Beek to Sell Overflow Parking Lot Property. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

**BREAK – 10:05A.M.**

**11/** Upon reconvening at 10:15A.M., the following Commissioners were present: Commissioner Van Beek, DeYoung, Lubbers, Beltman and Dugan. Absent: None.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**12/ 2025-29 BOARD PLANNING – NEW PROJECT ADDITIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners identified new projects through its 2025 planning year.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board recognizes that these projects shall be included in the 2025-29 Board Strategic Plan:

- Proactively maintain employee labor relations
  - By December 31, 2027, have 12 Collective Bargaining Agreements ratified.
  - Update Employee Handbook
- Maintain a compensation system representing at least the comparable market's midpoint.
  - Market Study Phase 1 to 3,
- Perform a worker space analysis, Phase 1 to 8,
- FY2029-33 Budget,
- FY2030-34 Budget,
- FY2029 Audit,
- Research Potential Tax Limitation Renewal (2025),
  - Gauge ISD and Township Support (Commissioner Dugan/Beltman)
- Parks and Recreation Funding (Outline various funding options for the Board, review parks plan and categorize the service level options)
- Board appointed committee bylaw review and changes (with focus on standardization)
- National Community Survey (Priorities),

- The Economy in Allegan County (deeper research into the concerns of the citizens and evaluate possible tactics to aim towards improvement or education)
- Health and Wellness in Allegan County (continue the Community Health Needs Assessment for more specific data, and participate in the development of the Community Health Improvement Plan)
- Safety in Allegan County (Update on current service and safety related gaps if they exist)
- Sale of the county-owned overflow parking lot, (broker led process, if the City desires to have an interest or control of the property, the City would be eligible to submit an offer through the broker)
- Using Brownfield Redevelopment for Housing,
- Maintain Quality and Availability of Water
  - Well & Sewer Assistance Program
  - Community Education Programs
- Evaluate options for increasing accessibility to service (in-person and digitally, balancing win/win strategies for customers and employees e.g., 4/10 scheduling).

Moved by Commissioner Lubbers, seconded by Commissioner Van Beek to approve New Project Additions. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

## **ELECTIONS**

### **13/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

Chair Dugan opened nominations to fill the existing 3-year term on the Economic Development Commission, At Large Representative; term to expire 12/31/2025.

Commissioner Dugan nominated Abby Klomparens, 837 Brook Village Ct., Holland, MI 49423.

Moved by Commissioner Van Beek, seconded by Commissioner Lubbers to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Abby Klomparens as nominated. Motion carried unanimously.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

### **14/ 911 POLICY AND PROCEDURE BOARD**

Chair Dugan announced the appointment of the following individual to the 911 Policy and Procedure Board to fill a 2-year term; term to expire 7/31/2027

Brenda Mays, 911 S. Main St., Wayland, MI 49348.

Moved by Commissioner Van Beek, seconded by Commissioner Beltman to approve the appointment as made. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – NO COMMENTS**

**15/** Chair Dugan opened the meeting to public participation and as there were no comments from the public, he closed the meeting to public participation.

## **CLOSED SESSION: COLLECTIVE BARGAINING**

**16/** Moved by Commissioner Van Beek, seconded by Commissioner Lubbers to recess to closed session to discuss collective bargaining. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

## **RECONVENE/ROLL CALL FROM CLOSED SESSION**

**17/** Moved by Commissioner Van Beek, seconded by Commissioner Lubbers that the Board come out of closed session at 11:37 A.M. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

**ADJOURNMENT UNTIL JULY 10, 2025 AT 9:00 A.M.**

18/ Moved by Commissioner Beltman, seconded by Commissioner Van Beek to adjourn until July 10, 2025 at 9:00 A.M. The motion carried by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 11:38 A.M. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.



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Deputy Clerk

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Board Chair

Minutes approved during the 00/00/2025 Session

DRAFT

Roll Call #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: \_\_\_\_\_

Second By: \_\_\_\_\_

June 26, 2025

call to order 9:00AM

Roll  
VOTE

DIST#	COMMISSIONER	Yes	No
1	Craig Van Beek	✓	
2	Mark DeYoung	✓	
3	Brad Lubbers	✓	
4	Scott Beltman	✓	
5	Gale Dugan	✓	

Yes No

Carried _____
Lost _____
Tabled _____

ABSTAIN  
ABSENT

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES' PLAN TO IMPLEMENT A COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT PROCESS FOR PREPAID INPATIENT HEALTH PLANS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JUNE 4, 2025

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan currently operates a publicly managed and community-based system for the delivery of specialty behavioral health services through 10 Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs), which are responsible for managing Medicaid mental health, developmental disability, and substance use disorder services; and

WHEREAS, the current PIHP system has consistently demonstrated value, local accountability, and community engagement, while successfully managing costs and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recently announced plans to initiate a competitive procurement process for the management of PIHP functions, which may open the door to private, non-profit health plans or managed care organizations (MCOs) assuming control over behavioral health services; and

WHEREAS, such privatization could disrupt longstanding relationships between local mental health authorities, providers, and the communities they serve, and jeopardize the person-centered, recovery-oriented approach that has been cultivated under the public system; and

WHEREAS, many stakeholders, including individuals receiving services, advocates, local officials, and providers have expressed significant concerns about the potential impact of a competitive procurement process on care quality, access, local control, and transparency; and

WHEREAS, counties across Michigan have historically played a vital role in the governance, funding, and oversight of the public behavioral health system, and any change to that structure without meaningful county input undermines the principle of local governance; and

WHEREAS, maintaining a publicly accountable and locally governed behavioral health system is essential to ensuring that individuals with mental health and substance use needs receive timely, appropriate, and high-quality care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners formally opposes the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' (MDHHS) plan to implement a competitive procurement process for Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board urges Governor Whitmer, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), and the Michigan Legislature to halt any plans for privatization and instead work collaboratively with counties, PIHPs, Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSPs), service users, and other stakeholders to strengthen and improve the public behavioral health system, by only allowing public organizations with experience in managing Michigan's public mental health system to be part of any bid process should one occur; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners directs the County Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to the Washtenaw County delegation of both the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives; Governor Gretchen Whitmer; and as a communication to other Michigan Counties.

COMMISSIONER	Y	N	A	COMMISSIONER	Y	N	A	COMMISSIONER	Y	N	A
Beeman	X			Maciejewski	X			Somerville	X		
Hodge	X			Rabhi	X						
LaBarre	X			Sanders			X				
Lyte	X			Scott	X						

CLERK/REGISTER'S CERTIFICATE - CERTIFIED COPY

ROLL CALL VOTE:

8 0 1

STATE OF MICHIGAN )

I, Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register of said County of Washtenaw and Clerk of Circuit Court for said County, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners at a session held at the County Administration Building in the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on June 4, 2025 it appears of record in my office. In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at Ann Arbor, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June 2025.

COUNTY OF WASHTENAW) <sup>SS.</sup>

LAWRENCE KESTENBAUM, Clerk/Register

BY: *Ashlyn Poole*  
Deputy Clerk

Res. No. 25-123



# Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners

Courthouse, 725 Greenland Road

Ontonagon, MI 49953

Telephone (906) 884-4255

Fax (906) 884-6796

**Chairperson:** Carl Nykanen  
**Vice Chairperson:** John Cane

**Commissioners:** Richard Bourdeau  
Robert Nousiainen  
Ron Store

## RESOLUTION #2025-04

### URGING ACTION TO OPPOSE PROPOSED CUTS TO MEDICAID BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

**WHEREAS**, the Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners recognizes that Michigan's public mental health system is facing a serious and escalating funding crisis, driven by several compounding factors, including the loss of Medicaid-covered lives, inflationary pressures, increasing demand for services, and expanding regulatory burdens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan public mental health system funding increases for core behavioral health and intellectual/developmental disability services have not kept pace with medical inflation and have in fact, recognized flat funding for the last five years, while medical inflation has increased by over 10% and Medicaid expenses have increased by nearly 25%; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Michigan has lost nearly 700,000 Medicaid beneficiaries since the end of the Public Health Emergency (PHE), resulting in reduced capitation payments to CMHSPs despite continued or increasing demand for mental health services; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed cuts to Medicaid would force impossible choices including—shrinking access to care, shifting costs onto the state budget and to local providers and threatening the coverage of people with disabilities who require daily support; and

**WHEREAS**, additional factors exacerbating this crisis include skyrocketing inpatient psychiatric and residential costs, AND Misclassification of Medicaid eligibility groups resulting in lost revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, failure to adequately fund the public behavioral health system undermines the ability of CMHSPs and the State of Michigan to meet the needs of the most vulnerable residents—including children, adults with serious mental illness, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and those with substance use disorders;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners urgently calls on the United States Legislature, and the President to:

1. **Fully allocate Medicaid behavioral health funds to the State of Michigan** in fiscal year 2025 and beyond.

2. Forego propose reductions to Medicaid through; Shifting to block grants, Per Capita Caps, reducing Medicaid expansion, or other suggested means of reducing the federal share for Medicaid spending which would transfer the financial burden to the state of Michigan.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to local and state members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the U.S. legislature and the Michigan Association of Counties.

Motion offered at a regular meeting of the Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners, June 17, 2025 by Commissioner *Nausiainen* supported by Commissioner *Bourdeau*

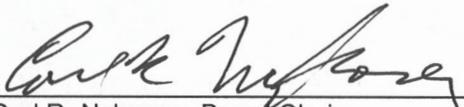
AYES: *Nousiainen, Bourdeau, Stone, Cane & Nykanen*

NAYES: *None*

ABSTENTIONS: *None*

ABSENT: *None*

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Carl R. Nykanen, Board Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stacy C. Preiss, County Clerk

Roll Call #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: Beltman

Second By: Lubbers

June 12, 2025 Minutes  
adopted as presented

DIST#	COMMISSIONER	VOTE	
		Yes	No
1	Craig Van Beek		_____
2	Mark DeYoung		_____
3	<u>S</u> Brad Lubbers		_____
4	<u>M</u> Scott Beltman		_____
5	Gale Dugan		_____

Carried	<u>X</u>
Lost	_____
Tabled	_____

Yes	No
<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>
ABSTAIN	_____
ABSENT	<u>/</u>

# Allegan County Board of Commissioners



County Services Building  
3283 – 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Allegan, MI 49010  
269-673-0203 Main Office  
269-686-5331 Main Fax  
<http://www.allegancounty.org>

**Gale Dugan, Chair**  
**Scott Beltman, Vice Chair**

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## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING – AGENDA**

Thursday, June 26, 2025 – 9 AM

County Services Building – Board Room

Virtual Connectivity Options Attached

### **DISTRICT 1**

Craig Van Beek  
616-299-6668  
cvanbeek@  
allegancounty.org

*Meetings of the Board of Commissioners held in the Board Room are streamed live and recorded in accordance with the County's Live Stream & Publishing Recordings of Meetings [Policy](#), which can be viewed on the County's website. Your attendance constitutes your consent to audio/visual streaming and/or recording and to permit the County to broadcast your name/voice/image/content to a broader audience.*

### **DISTRICT 2**

Mark DeYoung  
616-318-9612  
mdeyoung@  
allegancounty.org

9 AM

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**ROLL CALL:**

**OPENING PRAYER:** Commissioner Mark DeYoung

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Attached

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** June 12, 2025

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

**CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

**INFORMATIONAL SESSION:**

Judge Jolene Clearwater—Probate Court

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

### **DISTRICT 3**

Brad Lubbers  
616-218-5069  
blubbers@  
allegancounty.org

### **DISTRICT 4**

Scott Beltman  
616-292-1414  
sbeltman@  
allegancounty.org

### **CONSENT ITEMS:**

1. Motion to approve of claims paid and to incorporate into proceedings of the Board (6/20/25 & 6/27/25)
- 

### **DISTRICT 5**

Gale Dugan  
269-694-5276  
gdugan@  
allegancounty.org

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan—approve Annual Implementation Plan 2026
  2. Board of Commissioners—sell Overflow Parking Lot Property
- 

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. 2025-29 Board Planning—New Project Additions
- 

#### **Mission Statement**

“The Allegan County Board of Commissioners shall plan, develop, and evaluate the necessary policies and resources to ensure our county continues to progress and prosper”

**PLANNING ITEMS:**

1. None
- 

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENTS & ELECTIONS:  
ELECTIONS:**

1. Community Mental Health Board
  - a. General Public Representative—term expires 3/31/2026
2. Economic Development Commission
  - a. Arts & Culture Representative—term expired 12/31/24
  - b. At Large Representative—term expired 12/31/25 [Applications REC 5/6/25 & 6/11/25](#)

**APPOINTMENTS:**

1. 911 Policy & Procedure Board
  - a. Emergency Services Representative—term expires 7/31/25 [Application REC 6/11/25](#)
2. Local Emergency Planning Committee
  - a. Educational Representative—term expires 12/31/25
3. Material Management Planning Committee
  - a. One Compost Facility Representative—term expires 8/1/29
  - b. Representative of Environmental Interest—term expires 8/1/29
  - c. Elected Official of a Township Representative—term expires 8/1/29
  - d. Elected Official of a City or Village Representative—term expires 8/1/29
4. Jury Board (Circuit Judge recommends/Board appoints)
  - a. One Representative—term expired 8/31/23
  - b. One Representative—term expires 3/31/25
5. Tourist Council
  - a. Two Representatives—terms expire 12/31/26
  - b. One Representative—term expires 12/31/25

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. OPENING PRAYER: Commissioner Brad Lubbers
2. INFORMATIONAL SESSION: Community Mental Health
3. CONSENT: Motion to approve of claims paid and to incorporate into proceedings of the Board (6/20/25 & 6/27/25)

**REQUEST FOR MILEAGE:**

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REPORTS:**

**ROUND TABLE:**

**CLOSED SESSION:** Collective Bargaining

**ADJOURNMENT:** Next Meeting – Thursday, July 10, 2025, 9 AM @ **BOARD ROOM – COUNTY SERVICES BUILDING, COUNTY SERVICES COMPLEX.**

Roll Call #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: Lubbers

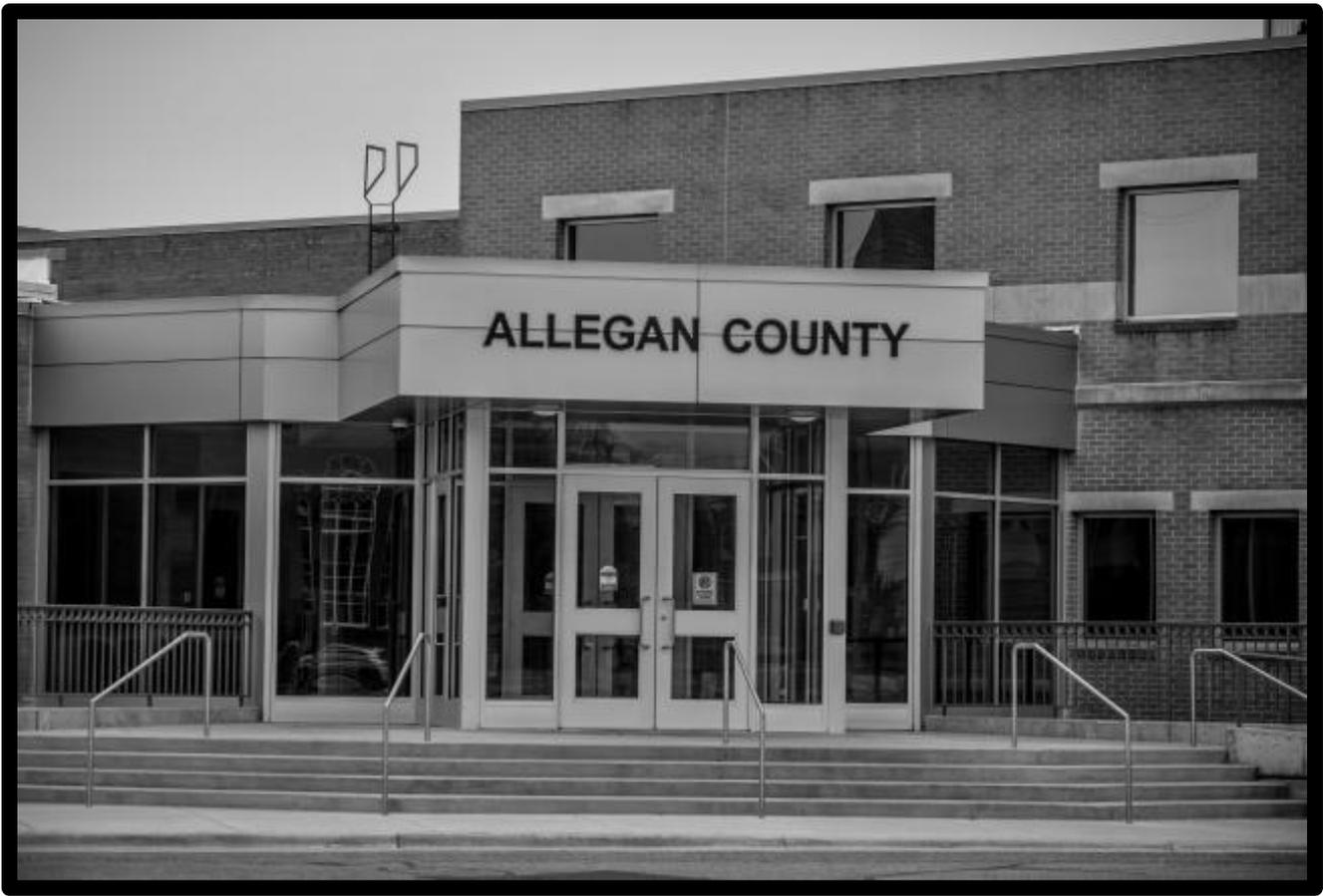
Second By: Van Beek

approval of agenda  
as presented

DIST#	COMMISSIONER	VOTE	
		Yes	No
1	S Craig Van Beek		
2	Mark DeYoung		
3	M Brad Lubbers		
4	Scott Beltman		
5	Gale Dugan		

Carried	<u>0</u>
Lost	_____
Tabled	_____

Yes	<u>5</u>	No	<u>0</u>
ABSTAIN			_____
ABSENT			_____



# PROBATE COURT 2024 REPORT



*HON. Jolene A. Clearwater*  
*Register Alice L. Bernal*  
*Judicial Secretary Alicia Blik*  
*Deputy Reg. Jennifer Callaway*  
*Deputy Reg. Jennifer White*  
*Court Specialist Thomas Moore*

## **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Allegan County Probate Court is to administer justice with fairness, equality, and integrity, to resolve matters before the court in a timely manner, and to provide courteous and prompt service in a manner that inspires trust and confidence, while being good stewards of county resources.

## **Goals**

The goal of the judiciary staff is to support the Judge and complete the mission by:

- providing excellent customer service to all those with business before the court.
- processing all matters within the time guidelines set by the State Court Administrative Office
- ensuring the compliance of court-appointed fiduciaries with statutes and court rules, in order to safeguard protected individuals and their property

## **Operational Goals of the Court**

- Increase access to Court with a State provided e-filing system.
- Continue to update the website to make it easier for the public to obtain and file the documents that they need for Probate Court.
- Increase access to Court with a public kiosk for record searches and form completion.
- Increase the number of available competent court-appointed attorneys and public guardians available by providing competitive wages, support and oversight.
- Increase collections on court ordered fees and costs.
- Utilize best practices and forward thinking to maintain efficient operating costs.
- 

## **Probate Court Authority**

Article VI Section 15 of the Michigan Constitution provides that “the jurisdiction, powers and duties of the probate court and of the judges thereof shall be provided by law.” Through the promulgation of the Estates and Protected Individuals Code (EPIC), the Mental Health Code, and other acts, the legislature has conferred jurisdiction to the Probate Court over the following matters:

- **Safekeeping of Wills**
- **Decedent Estate Proceedings**
  - Supervised Estates
  - Formal Estates
  - Information Estates
  - Small Estates
- **Civil Actions**
- **Trust Proceedings**
- **Guardianship Proceedings**
  - Minor Conservatorships
  - Adults Guardianships
- **Guardianships of Incapacitated Individuals (adult guardianships)**
- **Protective Orders**
  - Protective Orders for Minors
  - Protective Orders for Adults
- **Conservatorships**
  - Adult Conservatorships
  - Minor Conservatorships
- **Guardianships of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities**
- **Involuntary Commitments of Mentally Ill Persons**
  - Transport Orders
  - Adjudications of Mental Illness
  - Jury Trials
  - Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital Coverage
- **Drain Appeals**
- **Secret Marriages**
- **Registration of Foreign Birth**
- **Safekeeping of Election Records**
- **Committee Appointments**
  - Boundary Commission
  - Veterans Counsel
- **Adoptions**
  - Adoption record requests
  - Appointment of uninterested facilitators.

## Probate Judge Honorable Jolene A. Clearwater



Judge Jolene Clearwater is the Probate and Presiding Family Court Judge in Allegan County. She began her judicial career in 2013 as a juvenile and domestic attorney referee and the Director of Family Court Probation with the 48th Circuit Court Family Division in Allegan, Michigan. Judge Clearwater is a graduate of Valparaiso University (Bachelor of Science), the Thomas M. Cooley Law School (Juris Doctorate, litigation concentration), and Franciscan University of Steubenville (Master of Arts). Through her previous work with the 48th Circuit Court, Judge Clearwater managed community probation and diversion in-home care programs that served both formally adjudicated and informally disposed delinquent youth in Allegan County. As an Attorney Referee and Deputy Probate Register, she has over a decade of experience conducting hearings on proceedings

involving juvenile delinquency, child abuse and neglect, minor guardianships, and parenting time and custody issues.

She currently sits on the Tribal Court Relations Committee and the Child Welfare Judicial Workgroup, through the State Court Administrative Office. She previously served on the Michigan Continuing Judicial Education Board and the Board of Directors for Mediation Services. Judge Clearwater regularly trains referees, judges, court staff, attorneys, and caseworkers on various topics involving child protection and juvenile delinquency.

### Probate Staff



**Alice L. Bernal, J.D., Probate Administrator (2025)**

- Probate Register
- Family Court Attorney Referee
- Domestic Relations Referee



**Jennifer Callaway, CER -Deputy Register (2012)**

- Minor Guardianships and Conservatorships
- Minor Protective Orders
- Developmentally Disabled Guardianships
- Mentally Ill Persons
- Delay Marriages/Foreign Birth



**Jennifer White, CEO - Deputy Register (2018)**

- Adult Guardianships
- Adult Conservatorships
- Adult Protective Orders



**Alicia Blik, Judicial Secretary (2020)**

- Probate and Family Court recording
- Maintaining docket
- Invoicing



**Thomas Moore, Court Specialist (2022)**

- Estates and Trusts
- Coverage for Recording
- File Management

## **Guardians Ad Litem**

Guardian ad litem is an individual appointed by the court to represent the best interests of an alleged legally incapacitated individual in legal proceedings. For a guardianship or conservatorship, the GAL conducts an investigation to determine the individual's needs and to ensure that their best interests are upheld in court. They report to the court what the results of their investigation. They are "the eyes and ears" of the court to assist the Judge in making an informed decision. They are NOT the same as legal guardians.

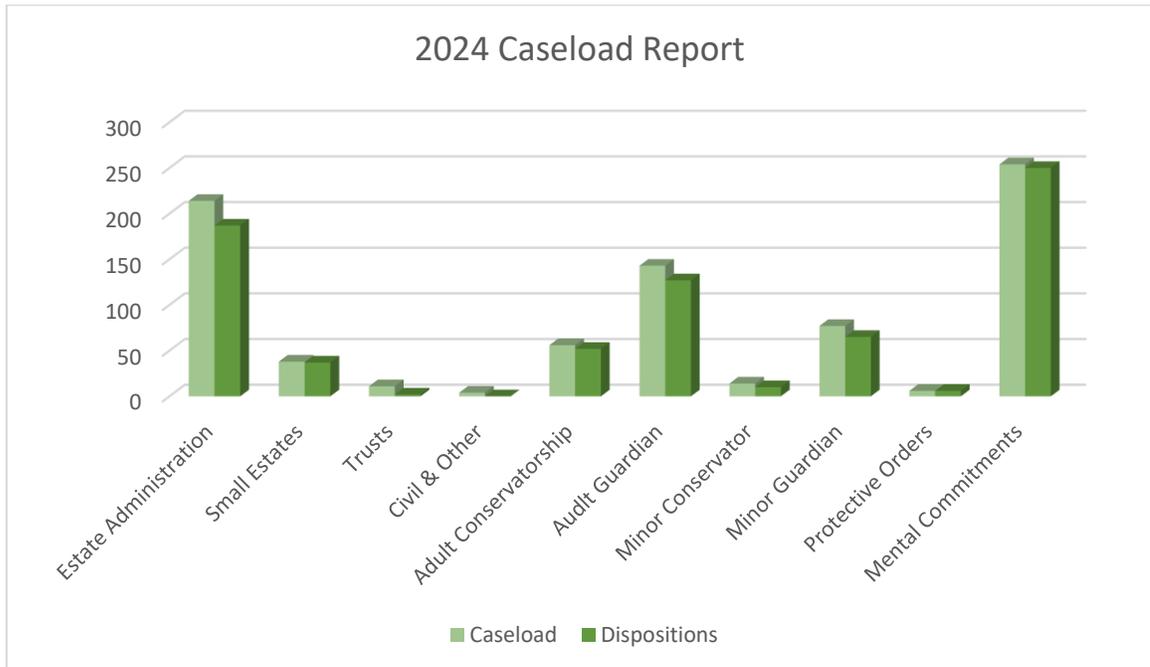
Because the court is legally responsible to appoint GALs, and ensure payment for their services it is a necessary and growing expense of the court. If the petitioner has resources to pay the GAL for their service, it is ordered that they do so. If they are indigent, the county must bear the burden. We have recently seen an increase in need for GALs and a dwindling number available. We are currently attempting to recruit more GALs by raising the hourly rates to be more competitive with neighboring counties, networking and advertising, and maintaining and fostering relationships by providing support and training.

## **Attorney Guardians Ad Litem**

The court also appoints Attorney Guardians Ad Litem for petitions for all developmentally delayed individuals, and sometimes for guardianships or conservatorships. Our attorney roster is critically small. Attorneys who serve in this position, do so at a substantial lesser hourly rate than their private practice rate. It is a much-appreciated service to the court. We are in desperate need of increasing the number of attorneys to be appointed. We are also attempting to recruit attorney GALs to fill this increasing need.

We are so thankful to the GALs and AGALs that we currently have meeting the high demand that we have for them. They are professional, competent, reliable, and necessary.

# Probate Court Caseload

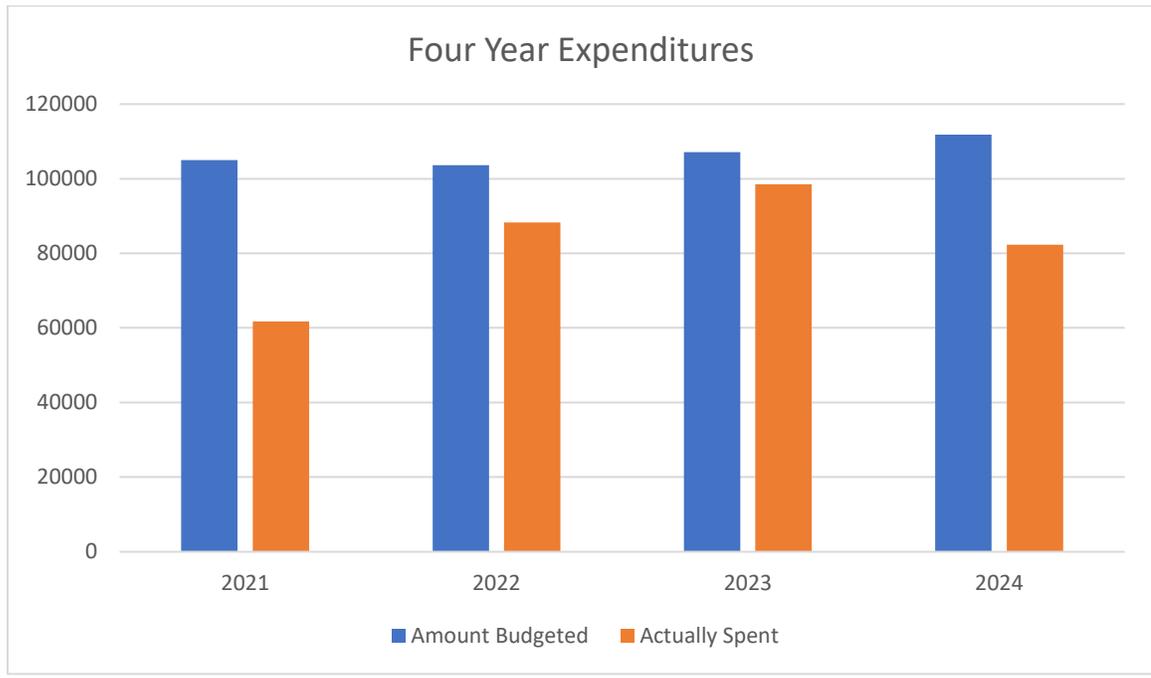


In 2024 the Probate Court handled a total of 776 new filings. The majority of these were comprised of mental health proceedings (254); Decedent Estates (214) and adult guardianships (143).

The dark green represents the total dispositions, or resolutions for cases. The Probate Court disposition rate exceeds the SCAO recommended standards and is above average for the State. Some cases will always be pending at reporting time, and some cases will always take longer than expected, but the Probate Court consistently clears in the 90's, while 2024 saw a 94% disposition rate.

Keep in mind that this graph *only* represents new filings. We are a court that can have a case that is open for a person's lifetime. For example, a petition for a developmentally disabled guardianship is usually filed when the child turns 18 and remains open throughout the ward's lifetime. Guardianship and Conservator cases require annual reporting such as the condition of the ward or an accounting of finances. Also, many petitions are filed to modify an existing guardianship, or seeking permission to sell real estate in a conservatorship for example.

## Expenditures

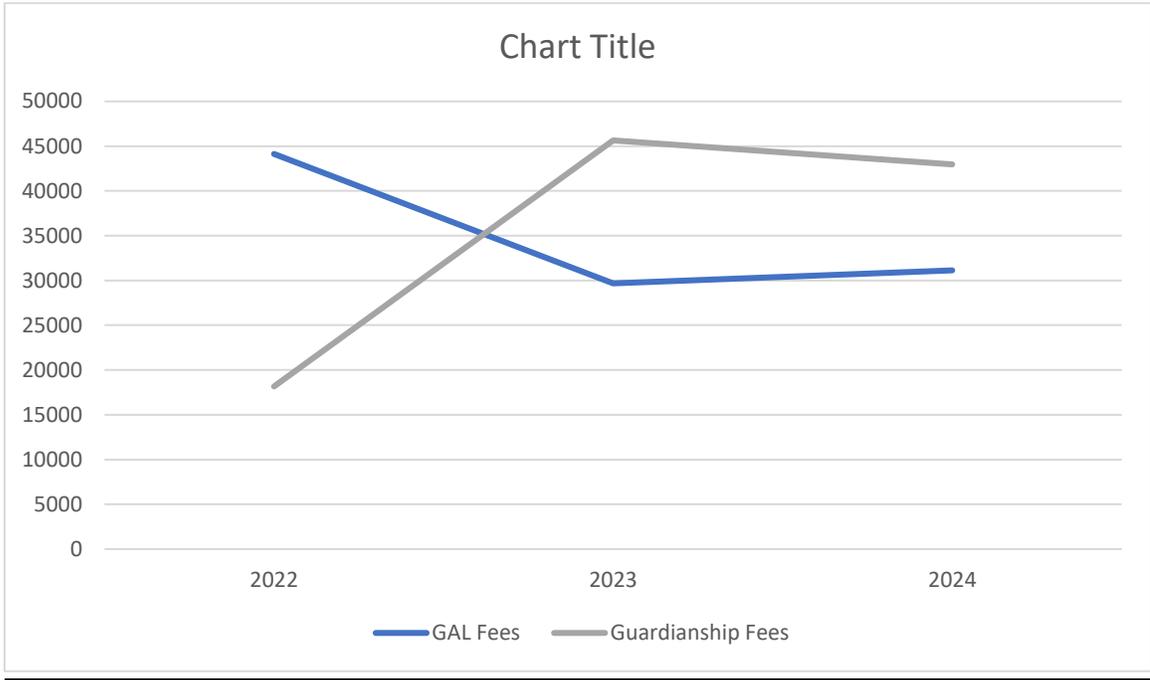


Each year the court consistently is able to remain within the total amount budgeted for Probate Court. We are committed to continuing to do everything possible to lower expenditures where we can and be good stewards of the resources of Allegan County.

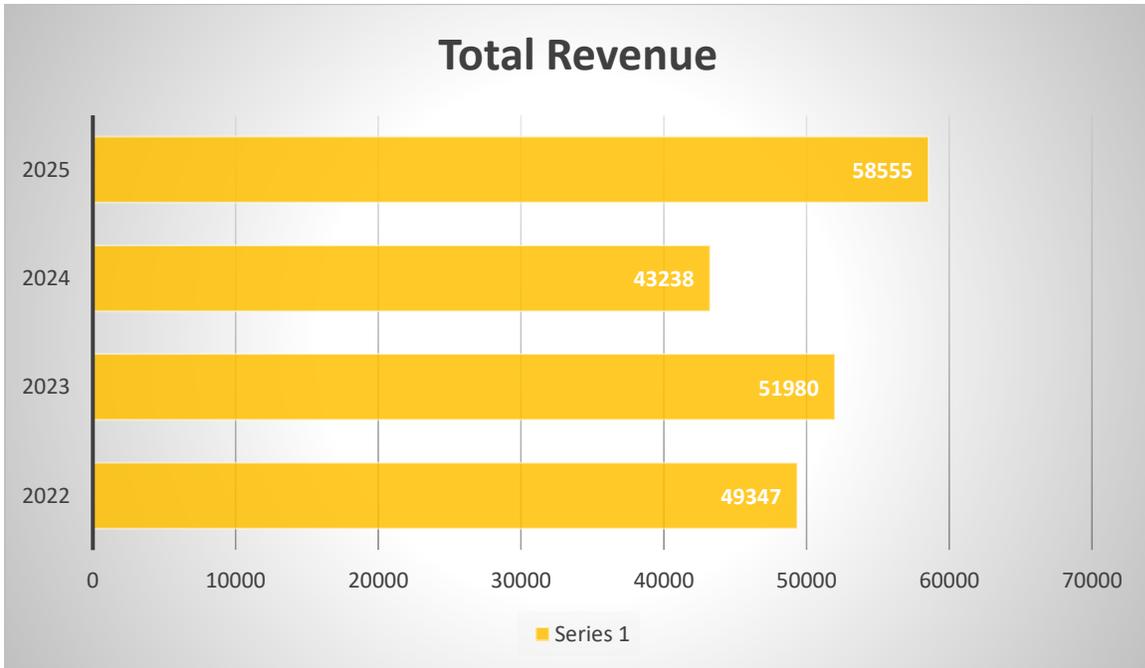
## Attorney and GAL Fees

The biggest expenditures of the court are the GAL and Attorney fees. Many courts use attorneys only in GALs, however, we use non-attorneys for cases that we are not required by state law. This saves the county a considerable amount of money because of the lesser hourly rate given to non-attorneys. There is a great deal of concern about the need for increased wages for GALs, AGALs and Guardians. Our county pays less than all neighboring counties. Our court has decided to increase rates gradually until we reach a competitive rate, in order to retain and recruit.

In the immediate future, we also expect to see an increase in cases filed for decedent estates and for legally incapacitated guardianships and conservatorships due the aging boomer generation population. This will require more appointments of GALs and increase expenditures. We need to be prepared to be able to meet our legal responsibilities.



## Revenues



Most of the Probate Court's revenues are dependent on filing fees and requests for copies. Each year the probate Court has exceeded the average amount it has budgeted for revenue collection over the past 10 years. In 2025, one of the focuses of the Court staff has been to close estates that remain open for nonpayment of the inventory fee. So far, these collection efforts have been successful and we hope to see an increase in revenue as a result of these efforts. The following graph shows revenues for the past four years and the expected revenue for 2025 based on amount received to date. We have also looked forward to improved processes to ensure collection of all revenues due to the court.

## **Court's Professional Guardian Reimbursement Program**

Thanks to funding from the County, the Court has greatly benefited from the professional guardian reimbursement program. This allows professional guardians to be reimbursed at the rate set by the Social Security Administration for services provided to each ward. This rate has recently increased from \$60 to \$83 per month. Without this service, professional guardians, and thus any guardian, would be unavailable for a number of our most vulnerable population.

## **Thank You**

We feel privileged to work in a county that cares about the people that it serves and employs. As the court that protects a vulnerable population of our county residents, we at the Probate Court aim to work together with all departments across the county to continue to provide the best service that we can to our residents.

## Current Information and Key Contacts

### **Allegan County Probate Court**

113 Chestnut Street

Allegan, MI 49010

Phone: (269) 673-0250

Fax: (269) 686-5157

<https://www.allegancounty.org/courts-law-enforcement/probate-court>

#### **Hon. Jolene A. Clearwater**

Chief Probate Judge

[jclearwater@allegancounty.org](mailto:jclearwater@allegancounty.org)

(269) 673-0532

#### **Alice L. Bernal**

Court Administrator/Probate Register

[abernal@allegancounty.org](mailto:abernal@allegancounty.org)

(269) 686-4633

#### **Alicia Blik**

Judicial Secretary/Court Recorder

[ablik@allegancounty.org](mailto:ablik@allegancounty.org)

(269) 673-0532

#### **Jennifer Callaway**

Deputy Probate Register

[jcallaway@allegancounty.org](mailto:jcallaway@allegancounty.org)

(269) 673-0250

#### **Thomas Moore**

Court Specialist

[tmoore@allegancounty.org](mailto:tmoore@allegancounty.org)

(269) 673-0250

#### **Jennifer White**

Deputy Probate Register

[jwhite@allegancounty.org](mailto:jwhite@allegancounty.org)

(269) 673-0250

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

**FINANCE COMMITTEE – CLAIMS & INTERFUND TRANSFERS**

**WHEREAS**, Administration has compiled the following claims for 6/20/25 and 6/27/25; and  
**WHEREAS**, the following claims, which are chargeable against the County, were audited in accordance with Section 46.61 to 46.63, inclusive, M.C.L. 1970 as amended and resolutions of the Board; and  
**WHEREAS**, said claims are listed in the 2025 Claims folder of the Commissioners’ Record of Claims.

June 20, 2025

	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED
General Fund – 101	74,441.08	74,441.08	
Parks/Recreation Fund – 208	2,116.33	2,116.33	
MCOLES CPE Fund – 217	822.54	822.54	
Health Department Fund – 221	3,217.77	3,217.77	
Solid Waste/Recycling – 226	12,476.36	12,476.36	
Animal Shelter – 254	6,862.18	6,862.18	
Register of Deeds Automation Fund – 256	318.37	318.37	
Palisades Fund – 257	80.23	80.23	
Indigent Defense Fund – 260	256.25	256.25	
Central Dispatch Fund – 261	52.83	52.83	
Local Corrections Officers Training Fund – 264	500.00	500.00	
Grants – 279	13,495.21	13,495.21	
Sheriffs Contracts – 287	9,335.37	9,335.37	
Transportation Fund – 288	19,561.41	19,561.41	
Child Care Fund – 292	6,886.11	6,886.11	
Capital Improvement Fund – 401	85,310.18	85,310.18	
CIP – Youth Home Building Fund – 492	11,133.50	11,133.50	
Property Tax Adjustments – 516	5,680.30	5,680.30	
Tax Reversion 2018 – 629	204.00	204.00	
Fleet Management/Motor Pool – 661	10.98	10.98	
Self-Insurance Fund – 677	5,442.74	5,442.74	
Drain Fund – 801	147,895.04	147,895.04	
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIMS</b>	<b>\$406,098.78</b>	<b>\$406,098.78</b>	

June 27, 2025

	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED
General Fund – 101	119,640.07	119,640.07	
Parks/Recreation Fund – 208	149.61	149.61	
Friend of the Court – 215	520.77	520.77	
Health Department Fund – 221	7,828.16	7,828.16	
Indigent Defense Fund – 260	37,975.34	37,975.34	

Grants – 279	9,309.00	9,309.00	
Crime Victims Rights Grant – 280	193.12	193.12	
Transportation Fund – 288	6,807.92	6,807.92	
Child Care Fund – 292	5,397.02	5,397.02	
Veterans Relief Fund – 293	195.48	195.48	
Senior Services Fund – 298	119,692.87	119,692.87	
Capital Improvement Fund – 401	16,158.65	16,158.65	
Property Tax Adjustments – 516	2,362.26	2,362.26	
Self-Insurance Fund – 677	8,969.46	8,969.46	
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIMS</b>	<b>\$335,199.73</b>	<b>\$335,199.73</b>	

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners adopts the report of claims for 6/20/25, 6/27/25, and interfund transfers.

Moved by Commissioner Van Beek, seconded by Commissioner Beltman to adopt the report of claims for February 3, 2025 and February 10, 2025. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

ATTEST, A TRUE COPY



\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk-Register

APPROVED: June 26, 2025

cc: Admin. – Finance - Human Resources

Roll Call #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: Van Beek

Second By: Beltman

Consent items

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

DIST#	COMMISSIONER	VOTE	
		Yes	No

1	<sup>M</sup> Craig Van Beek	✓	
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2	Mark DeYoung	✓	
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3	Brad Lubbers	✓	
---	--------------	---	--

4	<sup>S</sup> Scott Beltman	✓	
---	----------------------------	---	--

5	Gale Dugan	✓	
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Yes	5	No	0
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Carried	<u>X</u>
Lost	_____
Tabled	_____

ABSTAIN \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT /

# Allegan County Commission on Aging



3255 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite 200  
Allegan, MI 49010  
269.673.3333 - Office  
877.673.5333 – Toll Free  
269.673.0569 - Fax  
<http://www.allegancounty.org>

**Chairperson: Rich Butler**  
**Vice Chairperson: Sally Heavener**

## **COMMISSION ON AGING - MINUTES**

Chair Rich Bulter called the meeting to order at 9:02 am on June 18, 2025

Pledge of Allegiance, Roll call

The Commission of Aging met in the Zimmerman Room of the Human Services Building.

### **ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: Commissioner Mark DeYoung, Chairperson Rich Butler, Vice Chairperson Sally Heavener, Mary Campbell, Larry Ladenburger, Pat Petersen, Lue Phelps, Jim Storey, Jo VerBeek

EXCUSED ABSENT: None

OTHERS: Director Jen Garcia and Teresa Galloway, Senior Services; Sallie Prins with Holland PHO; Judy Habetler, public attendee from Allegan.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA- ADOPTED AS PRESENTED**

Approval of the agenda moved by Jim Storey, supported by Sally Heavener. All in favor, motion carried.

**PRESENTATIONS:** Susan Evans, Program Manager, Alzheimer's Association Michigan Chapter; Presented virtually

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Sallie Prins with Holland PHO an entity of Holland Hospital. Judy Habetler, public member on the COA Senior Workgroup, from Allegan.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

Motion made by Larry Ladenburger, supported by Pat Petersen. All in favor, motion carried.

- Motion to recommend Board of Commissioners approval of AAAWM FY26 Annual Implementation Plan (Attachment A) as received.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

-2026 Draft Budget Review (ACSS): Director Jen Garcia reviewed proposed 2026 budget for millage contracted services (Adult Day Services, In Home Support, Home Delivered Meals, Personal Emergency Response Devices, and Senior Transportation.

-Home Delivered Meal (HDM) Service: Vice Chairperson Sally Heavener, Chair of the COA Policy & Procedure Committee, led a member discussion around current HDM service with contractors Milestone's Senior Services for meal preparation, and Community Action of Allegan County for meal delivery. Heavener documented satisfaction and/or feedback received and member feedback on meal type (frozen vs. ready to eat). Policy & Procedure Committee will continue work towards HDM year-end contracting and report back to COA.

### **Mission Statement**

"Dedicated to serving Allegan County seniors by developing and coordinating services that support their independence, maintain their dignity, and preserve their quality of life"

-Senior Workgroup Goals: Chairperson Rich Butler led a discussion with a handout provided to members that included intended Senior Workgroup Goals and objectives. The handout included a listing of Allegan County libraries and local Township contact information.

-Allegan County Senior Expo, June 26: Director Jen Garcia provided an update on Senior Expo to date, with over 250 pre-registered participants and over 45 senior-focused vendors for the vendor fair. John Dudley will be the Emcee and entertainment, providing a magic show at 12:30PM during the lunch service. All workshop sessions are completely full. COA volunteer roles will be emailed out prior to June 26; members are asked to arrive by 7:00AM wearing COA shirt/smock, or Allegan County apparel. Commissioner Mark DeYoung noted that June 26 is a Board of Commissioners meeting day. Commissioner DeYoung has asked fellow members to adjourn for lunch attendance at Senior Expo.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

**ROUND TABLE (COA MEMBER TIME):**

Director Jen Garcia provided an update and response from a question presented at the May 21 COA meeting directly related to COA Bylaws, Article III, Member section. Boards and Commissions were discussed at the June 12 Board of Commissioners meeting. One of the Board Strategic Plan items is to review all the Boards and Commissions Bylaws and update for consistency across the organization.

**ADJOURNMENT UNTIL:** July 16, 2025

Motion to adjourn by Vice Chairperson Heavener, supported by Jim Storey. All in favor, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:51am. Next Meeting July 16, 2025 from 9:00 am-11:00 am in the Zimmerman Room at the Human Services Building.



*The Source for Seniors*

May 29, 2025

Gale Dugan County Board Chair  
Allegan County Board of Commissioners  
3283 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Allegan, MI 49010

Dear Commissioner Dugan,

Enclosed is the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan's (AAAWM) proposed Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for fiscal year 2025.

Upon approval by the State of Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging in August 2025, this plan will secure funding for programs and services that benefit older adults and caregivers, in Allegan County from October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026.

We kindly request your County Commission's written approval of this plan. Please ensure your response is received by AAWM on or before July 19, 2025. If we do not hear from you by this date, we will assume the County Commission's implied approval of the plan.

Please send your response to:

Sheri Harris, Director of Advocacy and Planning  
3215 Eaglecrest Drive NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Alternatively, you can email a response to: [Sherih@aaawm.org](mailto:Sherih@aaawm.org)

If the Commission does not support the AIP, please let me know. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached via email at [sherih@aaawm.org](mailto:sherih@aaawm.org), fax at 616-456-5692, or by phone at 616-222-7015.

Sincerely,

Sheri Harris, Director of Advocacy and Planning

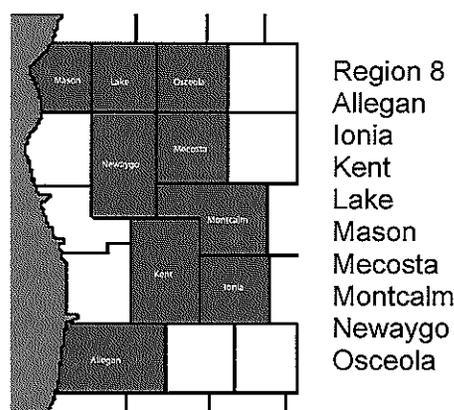
RECEIVED

JUN 09 2025

Allegan County Administration

## Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan: The Plan Summary FY26

Since its founding in April 1974, the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan (AAAWM) has been at the forefront of ensuring older adults, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers across Region 8—spanning Allegan, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Newaygo, and Osceola counties—have equitable access to the support they need to age with dignity and independence. With a blend of internal expertise, collaborative partnerships, and strategic advocacy, AAAWM continues to lead with innovation and compassion.



### Strategic Progress: Building for the Future

We continue progress in meeting our 2024-2026 Overarching Strategic Plan goals by engaging in new initiatives with agencies to develop partnerships to help diversify funding and expand to meet unfulfilled needs. We have implemented a strategic marketing calendar to build brand awareness to increase referrals to services and are in the process of implementing a new database to track those referrals and strengthen outreach and support region wide. We continue to focus on advocacy to have a greater impact on policy changes and improve our legislative influence by representing those we serve and communicating their needs.

### Strengthening Internal Capacity

To ensure AAAWM remains an inclusive workplace, we have refined our recruitment, hiring, onboarding, and retention practices. These enhancements are paired with ongoing educational opportunities to support professional development and cultivate a collaborative, mission-driven workforce.

### Addressing Senior Housing

We're in active discussions with senior housing agencies to confront the rising cost of rent and the growing number of older adults being priced out of their homes. These partnerships are vital to our strategy in addressing housing instability and home maintenance challenges.

## **Advocacy in Action**

Through steadfast advocacy, we helped secure an additional \$3 million in funding for the Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO) program, adding two full-time LTCO positions to our region and contributing to the statewide goal of 33 new positions. Our FY25 advocacy priorities remain focused on the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (OAA) and the sustainability of the MI Choice Waiver program, lifelines that provide essential services such as meals, caregiver support, and transportation.

In FY25, our advocacy efforts were grounded in building intentional, long-term relationships with legislators throughout our region. These relationships have allowed us to elevate the visibility of the issues facing older adults and individuals with disabilities, while ensuring our elected officials are informed partners in advancing policies that support these populations. Through consistent engagement, education, and collaboration, we have positioned ourselves as a trusted resource on aging and long-term care issues.

Looking ahead to FY26, our advocacy work will continue to build on these priorities, while also adapting to the evolving policy landscape. We will closely monitor and respond to proposed changes at both the federal and state levels, particularly around Medicaid and OAA funding. As these conversations unfold, we will work to ensure that the voices of older adults and those who serve them remain central to decision-making processes.

## **Financial Stewardship Amid Changing Funding Streams**

We have monitored the Older Americans Act (OAA) funding with the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), dollars ending in FY24. By maintaining ongoing conversations with our partner agencies and reviewing spending monthly, we are on track with our OAA spending to avoid any funding cliffs, due to phasing out ARPA dollars. We continue to monitor spending with the anticipated carryover cap resuming at the end of FY26.

AAAWM recently received a MDOT grant in collaboration with our transportation service partners that will help expand service and assist with rising transportation costs.

## **Caregiver Support: Expanding and Innovating**

Caregivers are at the heart of aging in place, and we've taken bold steps to support them. AAWM opened a new Caregiver Resource Center, expanded caregiver programming through the Caregiver Resource Grant, and launched innovative initiatives like the Caregiver Supplemental Service and Kinship Grandparent Back-to-School Gift Card Program. These initiatives provide both urgent assistance and long-term support, and feedback from families has been overwhelmingly positive.

Through the **Caregiver Resource Center Grant**, we have been able to expand support to caregivers in our region. We renovated part of our building to create a Caregiver Resource

Center where we host caregiver events and programs and have partnered with Impart Alliance for them to conduct DCW Trainings to those interested in joining the much-needed DCW workforce. Programs we have provided under this grant include the Dementia Caregiving Series, Self Care and Mindfulness, Hands-On Skills Training for Informal Caregivers, and expanded the Caregiver Supplemental Service to assist with one-time caregiver needs. We were also able to translate our caregiver service brochures and resources to various languages to increase access to the important services and information. We have been able to take many of these programs out across our region to meet caregivers where they are at and have received positive feedback from these programs.

We've also translated key caregiver resources into multiple languages, improving access and inclusivity across our region.

### **Nutrition: Beyond the Meal**

While home-delivered and congregate meals remain foundational, we recognize that nutrition is about more than food. That's why, looking ahead to FY27, we're exploring partnerships to launch nutrition education and counseling services that address holistic dietary needs for older adults and their caregivers.

### **Options Counseling & Person-Centered Services**

AAAWM is deepening its commitment to person-centered care through the expansion of our Options Counseling services. In collaboration with Regions 4 and 14, we are preparing to roll out Person-Centered Options Counseling (PCOC) alongside SHIP/MIPPA services in FY25. Until full implementation, we continue delivering both Options Counseling and MMAP services without interruption—ensuring clients have access to resources and support that match their individual needs.

### **Data-Driven Equity: Prioritizing Those Most in Need**

Serving those facing the greatest economic and social barriers is not just a goal, it is our mandate. We consistently analyze year-end service data, communicate expectations to our partners, and refine strategies using Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) data. These efforts help us reach underserved populations and promote health equity across our diverse communities.

### **Community Engagement and Visibility**

Our visibility strategy has focused on reaching underserved communities through local expos and marketing events. These touchpoints allow us to connect directly with community members, build relationships, and ensure that resources are known, trusted, and accessible.

### **Veterans Services: Honoring Those Who Served**

AAAWM proudly leads in serving veterans through the Veteran-Directed Home and Community-Based Services (VD-HCBS) program, becoming the first AAA in the country to do so. We've partnered with the Battle Creek VA Medical Center to support mental health summits, connected caregivers with services, and conducted staff training to deepen our understanding of veteran needs. These efforts ensure veterans receive the high-quality, personalized care they deserve.

### **A Year of Impact**

In FY24, AAAWM and its partners served over 15,700 clients—an incredible milestone that reflects the dedication of our network. Our Grandparents Raising Grandchildren initiative provided essential back-to-school assistance to 52 families, while our advocacy helped strengthen key aging programs statewide.

Caregiver support was expanded through hands-on training, mindfulness programs, and caregiver events hosted at our newly renovated Caregiver Resource Center. Interpreter services and improved communication strategies are in development to further reduce access barriers for diverse populations.

### **Looking Ahead**

As we move into FY25 and beyond, AAAWM remains committed to innovation, inclusion, and advocacy. We're navigating challenges within the MI Choice Waiver program, adapting to the evolving policy landscape, and embracing strategies that keep person-centered care at the core of everything we do. Through bold leadership, collaborative partnerships, and a clear mission for the future, we will continue to uplift and empower the aging population of Western Michigan.

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

**AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF WESTERN MICHIGAN (AAAWM)—APPROVE ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (AIP) FY26**

**WHEREAS**, on June 18, 2025, the County's Commission on Aging (COA) reviewed the AIP plan and recommends the Board of Commissioners (Board) approval.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that in accordance with all statutes and policies governing the AAWM, the Board supports the AIP for FY2026, as presented.

Moved by Commissioner DeYoung, seconded by Commissioner Lubbers to Approve the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) FY 26. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

ATTEST, A TRUE COPY



\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk-Register

APPROVED: June 26, 2025

cc: Admin. – Finance - Human Resources

Roll Call #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: DeYoung

Second By: Lubbers

Area Agency on Aging of W. Me

annual implementation plan

immediate action

DIST#	COMMISSIONER	VOTE	
		Yes	No
1	Craig Van Beek	_____	_____
2	<sup>M</sup> Mark DeYoung	_____	_____
3	<sup>2nd</sup> Brad Lubbers	_____	_____
4	Scott Beltman	_____	_____
5	Gale Dugan	_____	_____

Yes	No
<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>

Carried	<u>X</u>
Lost	_____
Tabled	_____

ABSTAIN	_____
ABSENT	_____

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS—SELL OVERFLOW PARKING LOT PROPERTY**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator to contract, list, and sell the parcel located at Cutler & Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010: Parcel 51-105-186-00 (0.879 Acres); and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the County Administrator is authorized to sign all necessary documents on behalf of the County.

Moved by Commissioner Beltman, seconded by Commissioner Van Beek to Sell Overflow Parking Lot Property. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

ATTEST, A TRUE COPY



\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk-Register

APPROVED: June 26, 2025

cc: Admin. – Finance - Human Resources

Roll Call #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: Beltman

Second By: Van Beek

Sell overflow parking lot

immediate  
effect of  
discussion

DIST#	COMMISSIONER	VOTE	
		Yes	No
1	<u>S</u> Craig Van Beek	<u>✓</u>	_____
2	Mark DeYoung	<u>✓</u>	_____
3	Brad Lubbers	<u>✓</u>	_____
4	<u>M</u> Scott Beltman	<u>✓</u>	_____
5	Gale Dugan	<u>✓</u>	_____

	Yes	No
Carried <u>X</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>
Lost _____	ABSTAIN	_____
Tabled _____	ABSENT	<u>/</u>

Roll Call #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: \_\_\_\_\_

Second By: \_\_\_\_\_

Break @ 10:05

reconvene @ 10:15

Roll Call

DIST#	COMMISSIONER	VOTE	
		Yes	No
1	Craig Van Beek	✓	_____
2	Mark DeYoung	✓	_____
3	Brad Lubbers	✓	_____
4	Scott Beltman	✓	_____
5	Gale Dugan	✓	_____

Yes

No

Carried \_\_\_\_\_

Lost \_\_\_\_\_

Tabled \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

**2025-29 BOARD PLANNING – NEW PROJECT ADDITIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners identified new projects through its 2025 planning year.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board recognizes that these projects shall be included in the 2025-29 Board Strategic Plan:

- Proactively maintain employee labor relations
  - By December 31, 2027, have 12 Collective Bargaining Agreements ratified.
  - Update Employee Handbook
- Maintain a compensation system representing at least the comparable market's midpoint.
  - Market Study Phase 1 to 3,
- Perform a worker space analysis, Phase 1 to 8,
- FY2029-33 Budget,
- FY2030-34 Budget,
- FY2029 Audit,
- Research Potential Tax Limitation Renewal (2025),
  - Gauge ISD and Township Support (Commissioner Dugan/Beltman)
- Parks and Recreation Funding (Outline various funding options for the Board, review parks plan and categorize the service level options)
- Board appointed committee bylaw review and changes (with focus on standardization)
- National Community Survey (Priorities),
  - The Economy in Allegan County (deeper research into the concerns of the citizens and evaluate possible tactics to aim towards improvement or education)
  - Health and Wellness in Allegan County (continue the Community Health Needs Assessment for more specific data, and participate in the development of the Community Health Improvement Plan)
  - Safety in Allegan County (Update on current service and safety related gaps if they exist)
- Sale of the county-owned overflow parking lot, (broker led process, if the City desires to have an interest or control of the property, the City would be eligible to submit an offer through the broker)
- Using Brownfield Redevelopment for Housing,
- Maintain Quality and Availability of Water
  - Well & Sewer Assistance Program
  - Community Education Programs
- Evaluate options for increasing accessibility to service (in-person and digitally, balancing win/win strategies for customers and employees e.g., 4/10 scheduling).

Moved by Commissioner Lubbers, seconded by Commissioner Van Beek to approve New Project Additions. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

ATTEST, A TRUE COPY



\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk-Register

APPROVED: June 26, 2025

cc: Admin. – Finance - Human Resources

Roll Call #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: Lubbers

Second By: Van Beek

2025-29 New Project  
Additions

DIST#	COMMISSIONER	VOTE	
		Yes	No
1	5 Craig Van Beek	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Mark DeYoung	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	M Brad Lubbers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Scott Beltman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Gale Dugan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Carried	<u>2</u>
Lost	_____
Tabled	_____

Yes	<u>5</u>	No	<u>0</u>
ABSTAIN			<u>1</u>
ABSENT			

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

Chair Dugan opened nominations to fill the existing 3-year term on the Economic Development Commission, At Large Representative; term to expire 12/31/2025.

Commissioner Dugan nominated Abby Klomprens, 837 Brook Village Ct., Holland, MI 49423.

Moved by Commissioner Van Beek, seconded by Commissioner Lubbers to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Abby Klomprens as nominated. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST, A TRUE COPY



\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk-Register

APPROVED: June 26, 2025

cc: Admin. – Finance - Human Resources

Roll Call #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: Van Beek

Second By: Lubbers

Elections EDC - at large  
nom: Abby Klomparsens

DIST#	COMMISSIONER	VOTE	
		Yes	No
1	MCraig Van Beek	<u>✓</u>	_____
2	Mark DeYoung	<u>✓</u>	_____
3	<u>S</u> Brad Lubbers	<u>✓</u>	_____
4	Scott Beltman	<u>✓</u>	_____
5	Gale Dugan	<u>✓</u>	_____

Carried	<u>10</u>
Lost	_____
Tabled	_____

Yes	<u>5</u>	No	<u>0</u>
ABSTAIN	_____	_____	_____
ABSENT	_____	_____	<u>1</u>

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

**911 POLICY AND PROCEDURE BOARD**

Chair Dugan announced the appointment of the following individual to the 911 Policy and Procedure Board to fill a 2-year term; term to expire 7/31/2027

Brenda Mays, 911 S. Main St., Wayland, MI 49348.

Moved by Commissioner Van Beek, seconded by Commissioner Beltman to approve the appointment as made. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

ATTEST, A TRUE COPY



\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk-Register

APPROVED: June 26, 2025

cc: Admin. – Finance - Human Resources

Roll Call #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: Van Beek

Second By: Beltman

appointments - 9/11

'Emer Sew Rep

nom - Brenda May's

DIST#	COMMISSIONER	VOTE	
		Yes	No
1	<u>M</u> Craig Van Beek		_____
2	Mark DeYoung		_____
3	Brad Lubbers		_____
4	<u>S</u> Scott Beltman		_____
5	Gale Dugan		_____

Carried	<u>✓</u>
Lost	_____
Tabled	_____

Yes	No
<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>
ABSTAIN	_____
ABSENT	_____

Roll Call #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: Van Beek

Second By: Lubbers

Closed Session - @10:50AM  
collective bargaining

DIST#	COMMISSIONER	VOTE	
		Yes	No
1	M Craig Van Beek	✓	
2	Mark DeYoung	✓	
3	S Brad Lubbers	✓	
4	Scott Beltman	✓	
5	Gale Dugan	✓	

	Yes	No
Carried <u>10</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>
Lost _____	ABSTAIN	<u>/</u>
Tabled _____	ABSENT	

Roll Call #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: Van Beek

Second By: Lubbers

Reconvene Closed  
Session@  
11:37

DIST#	COMMISSIONER	VOTE Roll	
		Yes	<del>No</del>
1	M Craig Van Beek		Here ✓
2	Mark DeYoung		✓
3	S Brad Lubbers		✓
4	Scott Beltman		✓
5	Gale Dugan		✓

Carried	<u>X</u>
Lost	_____
Tabled	_____

Yes	No
<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>
ABSTAIN	_____
ABSENT	_____

Roll Call #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: Beltman

Second By: Van Beek

adjourn @ 11:38

DIST#	COMMISSIONER	VOTE	
		Yes	No
1	<u>S</u> Craig Van Beek		_____
2	Mark DeYoung		_____
3	Brad Lubbers		_____
4	<u>M</u> Scott Beltman		_____
5	Gale Dugan		_____

Carried	<u>7</u>
Lost	_____
Tabled	_____

Yes	No
<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>
ABSTAIN	
ABSENT	