Proceedings
Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
January 20, 2026

The Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. in the Circuit courtroom. At the call to order the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call showed John Cane absent.

By motion of Bourdeau supported by Store and carried to approve the minutes of the 12/16/2025 regular meeting with one correction.

Public comment: None

By motion of Nousiainen supported by Store and carried to approve the agenda as presented.

By motion of Bourdeau supported by Nousiainen and carried on a 4-0 roll call vote to nominate and elect John Cane for Vice Chair for 2026.

By motion of Store supported by Nousiainen and carried on a 4-0 roll call vote to approve the request from Barbara Braithwaite for $2,000.00 for the Ontonagon County Victim Services Unit for upcoming training and for emergency expenses and to allow $560 to be used for mileage.

By motion of Bourdeau supported by Store and carried on a 4-0 roll call vote to approve the John Wilmes as 2026 Park Manager,

By motion of Bourdeau supported by Nousiainen and carried on a 4-0 roll call vote to approve the appointment of Pat Tucker for the EDC board.

By motion of Nousiainen supported by Store and carried on a 4-0 roll call vote to approve the cash advance for Prosecutor Rudolph Perhalla to attend the Prosecutor Mid-Winter Conference in the amount of $1,087.80.

By motion of Bourdeau supported by Store and carried on a 4-0 roll call vote to approve the Transits fiscal year 2027 Resolutions of Intent 2026-01.

ONTONAGON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION #2026-01
FY 2027 RESOLUTION OF INTENT

THE APPROVED RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027 UNDER ACT NO. 51 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1951, AS AMENDED

WHEREAS, pursuant to Act No. 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended (Act 51), it is necessary for the Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners, (hereby known as THE APPLICANT) established under Act 94, to provide a local transportation program for the state fiscal year of 2027 and, therefore, apply for state financial assistance under provisions of Act 51; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the governing body, to name an official representative for all public transportation matters, who is authorized to provide such information as deemed necessary by the State Transportation Commission or department for its administration of Act 51; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to certify that no changes in eligibility documentation have occurred during the past state fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the performance indicators for this agency have been reviewed and approved by THE Governing Body;

WHEREAS, THE APPLICANT, has reviewed and approved the proposed balanced (surplus) budget, and funding sources of estimated federal funds $174,691 estimated state funds $322,017 estimated local funds $409,797, estimated farebox $64,000, with total estimated expenses of $970,505.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that THE APPLICANT hereby makes its intentions known to provide public transportation services and to apply for state financial assistance with this annual plan, in accordance with Act 51; and

HEREBY, appoints Melissa Walters, as the Transportation Coordinator, for all public transportation matters, who is authorized to provide such information as deemed necessary by the State Transportation Commission or department for its administration of Act 51 for 2027.

I, Stacy C, Preiss, Clerk of Ontonagon County, Register of Deeds, of the County of Ontonagon having custody of the records and proceedings of Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners, do hereby certify that I have compared this resolution adopted by Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners at the meeting of January 20, 2026, with the original minutes now on file and of record in the office and that this resolution is true and correct.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed seal of said Board this 20th day of January,2026.

_____

Jerri Corey, Chief Deputy Clerk

By motion of Bourdeau supported by Store and carried on a 4-0 roll call vote to approve the Transits FY 27 contract Resolutions of Intent 2026-01.

FY 2027 RESOLUTION OF INTENT

The approved resolution of intent to apply for state formula operating assistance for fiscal year 20 27 under Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended.

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete and return it to the Michigan Department of Transportation.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended (Act 51), it is necessary for the Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners , (hereby known as THE APPLICANT) established under Name of Applicant (Legal organization name)

Act 94 to provide a local transportation program for the state fiscal year of 2027 and, therefore, apply for state financial assistance under provisions of Act 51; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the governing body to name an official representative for all public transportation matters, who is authorized to provide such information as deemed necessary by the State

Transportation Commission or department for its administration of Act 51; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to certify that no changes in eligibility documentation have occurred during the past state fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the performance indicators have been reviewed and approved by the governing body.

WHEREAS, THE APPLICATION, has reviewed and approved the proposed balance (surplus) budget, and funding sources of estimated federal funds$ 174,691.00 , estimated state funds$ 322,017.00 estimated local funds$ 409,797.00 , estimated fare box$ 64,000.00 , estimated other funds $ 0.00 , with total estimated expenses of$ 970,505.00

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that THE APPLICANT hereby makes its intentions known to provide public transportation services and to apply for state financial assistance with this annual plan, in accordance with Act 51; and

HEREBY, appoints Melissa Walters as the Transportation Coordinator, for all public transportation matters, who is authorized to provide such information as deemed necessary by the State Transportation Commission or department for its administration of Act 51 for 2027.

I, Stacy C. Preiss (Name) Clerk/Register of Deeds (Secretary/Clerk) of

THE APPLICANT, having custody of the records and proceedings of THE APPLICANT, does hereby certify that I have compared this resolution adopted by THE APPLICANT at the meeting of January 20 , 2026 , with the original minutes now on file and of record in the office and that this resolution is true and correct.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed seal of said _____, this 20 day of January A.D. 2026. --

SIGNATURE

Chairman Nykanen appointed Commissioner Store to the Brownfield authority committee with Commissioner Bourdeau as the alternate.

Chairman Nykanen appointed Commissioner Nousiainen to the WUPPDR board with Commissioner Store as the alternate and carried on a 4-0 vote.

By motion of Nousiainen supported by Bourdeau and carried on a 4-0 roll call vote to approve the 2026 County Board of Commissioners meeting schedule.

By motion of Bourdeau supported by Store and carried on a 4-0 roll call vote to approve Resolution 2026-02 Depository resolution for Ontonagon County.

RESOLUTION 2026 - 02

DEPOSITORY RESOLUTION FOR ONTONAGON COUNTY

WHEREAS, under the laws of the State of Michigan, Act No. 40 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1932, 1st Extra Session, as amended (MCL 129.12), this Board is required to provide, by resolution, for the deposit of all public monies, including tax monies, belonging to, or held for, the State, County or other political units coming into the hands of the County Treasurer, in one or more Financial Institutions within the State.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners as follows:

1. The Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners hereby provides for the designation and deposit of all public money including tax money by the Ontonagon County Treasurer in the following financial institutions:

Citizens State Bank
Gogebic Range Bank (Scheduled to become Zeal Credit Union - September 2026)
Huntington Securities
Incredible Bank
Lake Superior Credit Union
Miners State Bank
Settlers Federal Credit Union
Superior National Bank

2. The Treasurer is authorized to enter into and execute on behalf of the County any contracts with any bank or trust company for the safekeeping or their party custodianship of any of the County's securities as well as any contracts or repurchase agreements with any corporation for the purchase of any such securities which will be the subject of such safekeeping or third party custodianship arrangements, on such terms and conditions as the County Treasurer shall require, and;

3. The County Treasurer is authorized to rely on the continuing effect of these Resolutions until amended or repealed by a subsequent resolution of this or a successor Board of Commissioners.

By motion of Bourdeau supported by Nousiainen and carried on a 4-0 roll call vote to approve Resolution 2026-03 for the formation of a Health Care Needs Committee.

RESOLUTION 2026-03
FOR THE FORMATION OF A HEALTH CARE NEEDS COMMITTEE
AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF ONTONAGON COUNTY ON JANUARY 20, 2026

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Ontonagon, Michigan, does hereby find as follows:
WHEREAS, there is a need for additional health care in Ontonagon County;
WHEREAS, the collective input and guidance from County Citizens is vital to developing a health care plan;
WHEREAS, Ontonagon County is not in a financial position to fund, obligate itself to fund, or guarantee any costs related to providing healthcare services in the county.
THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that an Ontonagon County Health Care Committee be formed as follows:

The Ontonagon County Health Care Committee shall consist of 6-8 people, to include two County Commissioners and the remaining members shall be "at large citizens" who are willing to serve on the Committee. The "at large" members shall consist of no less than 2 Ontonagon County residents. The health care committee shall be appointed by the Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners.

The Ontonagon County Health Care Committee will be responsible for the following:

1. Assessing healthcare needs in Ontonagon County,
2. Reporting findings, and
3. Developing a strategic plan.

That no health care funding shall be provided by Ontonagon County.

Dated: _____ _____
Chairman

By motion of Bourdeau supported by Store and carried on a 4-0 roll call vote to approve the request from Renee Pantti for the non-renewal of the printing contract with townships.

By motion of Store supported by Bourdeau and carried on a 4-0 roll call vote to approve the request from Lisa Linna, Ontonagon County Airport Manager, for the 911 Emergency Coordinator office at the airport being vacated and in the future be used by the airport.

Donna Strancel-Roberts spoke to the board regarding the road in front of her house becoming a snowmobile trail and the memorial plaque at the park being in disrepair. The board stated they have no jurisdiction on the road situation advised her to go to the County Road Commission. Park board members said they will go look at the plaque site when weather allows.

By motion of Bourdeau supported by Store and carried on a 4-0 roll call vote to approve payment of the following:

(101) General Fund $62,091.78, (210) SONCO $144.000.00, (211) OCAP Fund $15,000.00, (215) FOC Fund $0.00, (253) 911 Equipment Fund $12,717.50, (256) ROD Automation Fund $987.00, (257) Veteran's Van Fund $0.00, (259) CAA Fund $0.00, (260) Indigent Defense Fund $174.15, (261) 911 Service Fund $4,969.66, (263) CPL Fund $487.99, (269) Law Library Fund $607.69, (280) Senior Citizens Fund $0.0 (288) Public Transit Fund $3,684.45, (292) PCCF $311.69, (296) Veterans Service Grant Fund $0.00 & (525) Foreclosure Fund $0.00 totaling $217,314.41.

Prepaid bills from 12/11/2025 – 1/14/2026 (101) General Fund $119,145.13, (251) Land Bank Fund $2504.00, (256) ROD Automation Fund $0.00, (260) MIDC Fund $6,726.40, (261) 911 Service Fund $477.62, (263) CPL Fund $0.00, (264) Corrections Officer Training Fund $0.00, (269) Law Library Fund $0.00, (271) Library Board Fund $0.00 (288) Transit Fund $26,038.79, (292) PCCF $1303.32, (296) VSO Fund $0.00, (525) Foreclosure Fund $5072.72. Total prepaids $161,267.98.

Payroll periods ending 12/19/2025 & 1/08/2026 (101) General Fund $184,711.06, (260) MIDC Fund $290.03 (261) 911 Service Fund $2,307.92, (288) Transit Fund $28,994.33, (292) PCCF $3,278.80 Total payroll $219,582.14.

Committee reports: None

Department Head reports: Lisa Linna updated the board on projects.

Other business: None

Agenda requests: None

Public comment: Stacy Canada thanked the board for attendance at the Healthcare Forum.

By motion of Bourdeau supported by Store and carried to adjourn to the call of the Chair at 4:41 p.m.

_____ _____
Carl Nykanen, Chair Jerri Corey, Chief Deputy Clerk