WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 3, 2025

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL

A session of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners was held at the Administration Building, in the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on September 3, 2025.

The meeting was called to order at 07:22 PM by Comm. Scott, Chair of the Board of Commissioners.

Members Present: Comms. Shannon Beeman, Justin Hodge, Andy LaBarre, Crystal Lyte, Jason Maciejewski, Yousef Rabhi, Caroline Sanders, Katie Scott, Annie Somerville

Members Absent: Comms.

Others Present: Greg Dill, County Administrator; Andrew DeLeeuw, Deputy County Administrator; Michelle Billard, Corporation Counsel; Tina Gavalier & Catherine Jones-Alther, Finance; Guillermo Hernandez, Director of Human Resources; Brady Peck, Director of Operations; Terrence Williams, Administration; Jeff Rose, ITS; Ashley Hall, BOC Communications and Operations Manager; Ashlyn Poole, Clerk's Office; and members of the public.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Tom Moyer, Dexter Twp., spoke about the Vella Gravel Pit Mine. He expressed his desire for the county to help to protect the people of the community. He spoke about his concerns regarding the gravel pit, truck traffic, noise level, and other issues.

   Wendy Albers, Augusta Twp., spoke about data centers and the impact on the citizens.

   Tim Bruno, Saline Twp., spoke about his opposition to the data center and the negative impacts that it will have.

   Tammy Bruno, Saline, Twp., expressed her opposition to the data center and it negative impacts.

   Patricia Valliencourt, Manchester, expressed her disappointment with the board putting a hold on the Older Adult Millage funds until a Director of Aging is hired. She also asked the board to recognize the contributions of WAVE.

   Tyrone Kelsey, executive director of Friends in Need, Washtenaw County, spoke about reduced benefits from the federal and state government. He stated that he wanted to introduce himself to the board.

Tim Olson, Ann Arbor, asked the board to reopen the Washtenaw pension and VEBA plan.

Nancy Heine, Ypsilanti City, spoke in support of reopening the pension and VEBA plans.

Shannon Seegert, Washtenaw County employee, showed her support for reopening the pension plan.

Tracy Shelton Marriane, Saline, expressed her support for restoring WCERS and VEBA.

Eric Flynn, Manchester, also spoke about restoring retiree healthcare and pension benefits. He spoke about employee retention.

Danny Cooper, Milan, spoke about the living wage waiver and her support for the pension and retiree healthcare.

Jeremy Haley, Ypsilanti Twp., spoke about being able to hear differing political opinions.

Abigail Hallman, Detroit, asked the board to begin talks with the unions about reopening the pension plans. She spoke about the younger worker's desire for a pension.

Sandra Buchanan, Hamburg Township, spoke about the importance of county health insurance asked the board to consider reopening the retiree healthcare and pension plan.

Ashley Phelps, York Twp. Spoke about institutional knowledge and the work of the county prosecutors.

Kenneth Overwater, Dearborn, spoke about his health issues and the way that the benefits from the county helped him. He asked for the board to reopen negotiations for retirement benefits.

Evelina Taylor, Interim Manager of People's Express, Washtenaw county, introduced herself to the board.

Amy Oschefski, Ann Arbor, spoke about the community devastation that the mine created. She asked for the health department to test the water.

IV. COMMISSIONER FOLLOW-UP TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Comm. LaBarre stated that the pension will be discussed at the next working session.

Comm. Rabhi thanked everyone for coming out and expressed his agreement with the remarks that residents made. He expressed his disappointment with the gravel mine and the data center. He spoke about his work on the environmental council. He spoke about AI and the loss of jobs and tax credits. He expressed his anger at the state legislature giving tax breaks to corporations. He expressed his support for reopening the pensions and retiree healthcare. He thanked Haley for his comments. He spoke about the waiver for living wage ordinance and expressed that he was not in support of it.

Comm. Beeman spoke about the data center and echoed the sentiments of Comm. Rabhi regarding the data center. She expressed her feelings that the process is disorganized. She spoke about the county's role in the process. She spoke about her work to ensure that her residents have the resources that they need.

Comm. Somerville, spoke about her hopes that the sheriff's office would look into the issue with the gravel mine workers. She expressed her appreciation for the employees who came and spoke about the pension issue. She stated that she voted in opposition to data centers at the environmental council meeting. She also expressed her frustration at the wait for Older Adult Millage dollars.

Comm. Beeman thanked Pat Vailliencourt for coming to speak and stated that she would like to get funds to the community.

Comm. Scott expressed her appreciation for all the speakers. She spoke about the gravel mine. She expressed her concerns with the data center. She spoke about the living wage ordinance and stated that she would speak more about the issue. She explained how the Federal government pays workers and explained why she would be voting yes.

V. LIAISON REPORTS

Comm. Hodge reported on Community Action Board and the Financial Empowerment Center.

Comm. LaBarre reported the CMH meeting. He also spoke about the Continuum of Care meeting and dealing with limited resources.

VI. REPORT FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

1. Administrator Dill reported on the status of the Director of Aging selection process. He also spoke about meeting with the Ypsilanti Senior Center team. He spoke about touring the Townsley Health Center and his work on the Animal Control issue. He invited everyone to the Downtown cookout and thanked the Finance team for their work.

   Comm. Somerville thanked staff for their work at the Ypsilanti Senior Center.

VII. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Chair Scott thanked staff for their work interviewing the potential Directors of Aging.

VIII. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

1.

IX. APPOINTMENTS

1. Comm.LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Beeman, moved that a resolution appointing members to the Historic District Commission be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that the minutes of the August 6, 2025 meeting of the Board of Commissioners be approved. Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register's Office.)

2. **R-0041** RECEIVED: August 13, 2025: City of Ann Arbor: Resolution R-25-282: Resolution to Approve Amendment #1 For the Broadway Park Redevelopment Brownfield Plan

   R-0042 RECEIVED: August 27, 2025: Scio Township: Notice of Dissolution of Downtown Development Authority

   R-0043 RECEIVED: August 27, 2025: Berrien County Clerk: Resolution Supporting Senate Bills 293 and 294 creating an effective bond-or-forfeiture process for animals seized due to pending or active court cases

   Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that the communications be received and dealt with as recommended. Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register’s Office.)

3. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that the following reports be received: Report of Standing Committees. Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register’s Office.)

4. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that the following reports be received: Report of Special Committees. Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register’s Office.)

5.

A. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm.Hodge, moved that the following reports be received: A report from the Washtenaw County Road Commission on the summary of service requests for the month of July, 2025. Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register’s Office.)

B. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that the following reports be received: A report on contracts in the amount of $25,000 and under from July 29, 2025 through August 26, 2025. Voice vote - motion carried. (Complete report is on file in the County Clerk/Register’s Office.)

6.

XI. RESOLUTIONS

1.

A. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution approving the Washtenaw County Community Mental Health 2025/2026 annual operating budget in the amount of $151,575,367 for the period of October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 from Community Mental Health be approved. Voice vote — motion carried.

B. Comm. Rabhi asked if the funds were accounted for in the budget. Trish Cortes, Executive Director, CMH and Nicole Phelps, Finance Manager, CMH explained the item.

Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution amending the 2024/25 Community Mental Health budget be approved. Voice vote - motion carried.

C. Comm. Rabhi asked for clarification on the position being created. Jimena Loveluck, Public Health Officer, and Jennifer Brassow, Budget & Finance Manager, provided that clarification.

Comm. Rabhi expressed his concerns about eliminating a union position. Brassow explained why she disagreed with the statement and explained their position structure further. Comm. Rabhi stated that he would have more questions at the final reading.

Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution authorizing the County Administrator's signature on the Washtenaw County Health Department's Comprehensive agreement for the period October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, from Washtenaw County Health Department be approved. Voice vote — motion carried.

D. Comm. Lyte asked about allocating funds to the Community Corrections. She expressed her belief that the funds would be better utilized in the Washtenaw Health Project. She asked for a layout of what Community Corrections would do with the funds. Administrator Dill stated that he would provide those figures for her.

Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution appropriating $1,000,000 in American Rescue Plan Act interest earnings and amending the budget from County Administration be approved. Voice vote — motion carried.

E. Gretchen Driskell, Water Resources Commissioner, spoke briefly about the grant.

Comm. Rabhi asked for information on operations which Driskell provided.

Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution ratifying the County Administrator's signature on a grant agreement with Superior Township in the amount of $445,848.30 and amending the budget be approved.

F. Comm. Rabhi asked about the funds received by the project and what they utilized the funds for. Nathan Voght, OCED, provided more information about the funds. James Vandyke, Roxbury Group provided further clarification.

Comm. Rabhi asked about a parking structure being funded with Brownfield dollars. Vandyke spoke more about this.

Comm. Rabhi asked about site construction management. He expressed his opinion that funds should not be used to pay for the project. David DiRita, Roxbury group spoke more about this issue.

Comm. Rabhi asked about the affordable housing agreement. DiRita spoke more about building affordable housing on site.

Comm. Rabhi read out the costs of the Brownfield plan to the taxpayers.

Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution to adopt the

Broadway Park Redevelopment Brownfield Plan Amendment #1, from the Office of Community and Economic Development be approved. Voice vote — motion carried.

G. Comm. Rabhi asked if the settlement amount was over the lifetime of the settlement which Comm. Scott confirmed. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution approving the opioid litigation settlement with various generic manufacturers from Corporation Counsel be approved. Voice vote — motion carried.

H. Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution approving the opioid litigation settlement with defendants Purdue Pharma and the Sackler Family, from Corporation Counsel be approved. Voice vote - motion carried.

2.

3.

A. **25-179** Comm. LaBarre noted why an RFP was submitted. He stated his belief that the RFP should be extended for a year and stated his desire to be proactive in the future.

Comm. Rabhi asked about the equal amounts of funding between the 3 entities. He asked about the scoring process. Brady Peck, Director of Operations, spoke about the review process and how funds were allocated.

Comm. Rabhi expressed his concerns that the scoring rubric was not used. Peck explained the process further. Comm. Rabhi stated that he would like to see the results of the scoring rubric in the future.

Comm. Rabhi asked about who will be served by the allocation and the areas that the providers cover. Peck spoke about this issue. Rabhi asked about who would be serving the residents of Ann Arbor. Peck spoke about JFS.

Comm. Sanders proposed that the vote be postponed because of missing information from providers. She explained her concerns by providing funds without the pertinent information. Sanders asked about what happens to vehicles in case of the non-profit being closed. She also expressed that she would like to see the scoring guide. She spoke about her concerns regarding capital costs at JFS.

Administrator Dill spoke about the gaps in requests for information. Peck stated that he would get the scoring rubric to the board.

Comm. LaBarre expressed his desire to pass the resolution.

Comm. Rabhi suggested providing funds to the organization that provided the proper documentation.

Comm. Sanders withdrew the motion.

Comm. Sanders moved that WAVE be approved. Sanders withdrew.

Comm. Sanders, seconded by Comm. Lyte moved to adjourn funding approval for Peoples Express and JFS until the next meeting.

Comm. Beeman asked if the board wanted to approve the funds being split evenly between the three organizations.

Comm. Somerville expressed her disagreement with the amendment and explained her reasoning for voting no.

Comm. LaBarre expressed his agreement with Comm. Somerville.

Comm. Lyte stated that she agreed and spoke about the ways that JFS utilizes funding. She also stated that she wanted to make sure the Eastern part of the county is served.

Comm. Maciejewski thanked the people who served on the review committee. He spoke about the importance of the RFP. He spoke about his desire to not always divide funds equally between providers.

Comm. Maciejewski asked how funds would be paid out. Peck stated that contracts have not been created yet but that Administration would more than likely reimburse monthly.

Maciejewski asked about data metrics in the contract. Peck spoke more about this and spoke about proposals that the county received. He also asked about the goals of the proposals and what will happen if they do not meet the goals outlined in the proposal.

Comm. Maciejewski spoke about setting a precedent with the RFP process.

Comm. Hodge expressed his agreement with Comm. Maciejewski's comments. He spoke about the urgent need for transportation and stated that he would be open to providing more than 1 million for a more robust plan. He stated that he did not want to wait for a Director to be hired to approve RFPs.

Comm. Somerville expressed her agreement with Comm. Maciejewski and expressed the importance of hiring the right person for the Director of the Office of Aging.

Comm. Lyte asked about the difference that the time delay would make and if the delay would stop rides. Administrator Dill stated that they did not have that information. Lyte reiterated her question.

Comm. Sanders spoke about the delay and asked representatives from the companies to speak to the issue. She expressed that she was willing to support the funds going to the organizations. However, she expressed her disagreements with a three-way split.

Sanders welcomed feedback from senior residents that they were not being served by organizations appropriately.

Comm. LaBarre expressed more about his belief that the item should be passed.

Comm. Scott spoke about the board adhering to their standards.

Comm. Rabhi stated that he did not like a single reading item. He proposed a first reading vote on the item.

Comm. Beeman asked a question to Corporation Counsel about setting precedents, since organizations did not submit the proper requirements.

Billard stated that it would not invalidate the contract but stated that a future bidder could use it in the future.

Comm. Maciejewski asked if a delay in passing would delay the contract. Peck explained how the contract could be delayed. Dill provided further clarification on the movement of the issue.

Comm. Maciejewski spoke about the importance of complying with an RFP.

Comm. Lyte asked if the information could be provided at the meeting.

Comm. Hodge asked about the recommendation and asked why, despite the missing information, the item was recommended. Peck explained that all three of the requestors were existing providers in the transportation space and expressed a level of trust for the organization.

Comm. Rabhi stated that in the future the process should be held to a high standard.

Postpone funding for People's Express and JFS Funding until the next meeting.

Roll Call Vote: YEAS 6 NAYS 3 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.

Comm. LaBarre spoke about his disappointment in the way the vote went tonight. He also expressed his support for JFS and stated that there were

Comm. Beeman spoke about the value of transparency and valuing seniors. She spoke about having complete packets from organizations.

Comm. Hodge echoed the sentiments of Comm. LaBarre. He spoke about concerns he hears from constituents. He expressed his support for JFS and People's Express.

Comm. Rabhi spoke about revisiting scoring and the 1/3 split. He commented and stated his belief that the board should adhere to the scoring policy and adhere to the outcomes.

Comm. Somerville noted that she voted no on the previous motion and expressed that she was happy to support WAVE.

Comm. Lyte spoke about why she was voting yes on the resolution. She explained that at previous meetings, she expressed her issues with JFS and stated that she has a right to express her concerns with the organization. She stated that she wanted to ensure that funds would be utilized properly. She also commented on the changes on the board.

Comm. Maciejewski spoke about working with the three vendors as transportation providers.

Comm. Scott expressed her disappointment with the RFPs that were submitted.

Comm. Sanders expressed her agreement with Comm. Scott's comments and stated that she was not trying to disparage any organization. She recognized People's Express for sending revenue information.

Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.

B. **25-180** Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution authorizing provider exemption waivers for Community Mental Health providers in accordance with the Living Wage Ordinance for the 2025-26 fiscal year be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 7 NAYS 2 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.

C. **25-181** Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution authorizing the acceptance of the compost grant agreement with BPI from the Department of Public Works be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.

D. **25-182** Comm. Rabhi asked about the county's role in the facility which Administrator Dill spoke about. Rabhi asked about an MOU and stated his belief that an agreement on public funds should be created if funds are provided.

Comm. Scott stated that the county is providing money to rehabilitate the space. Comm. Rabhi stated that he would like more "strings attached" to the funds.

Comm. LaBarre expressed his support for the project and stated his belief that it is a great step forward.

Comm. Sanders added that she toured the facility and spoke about the potential ability to house 30 families in November.She also expressed her support for the project.

Comm. Somerville spoke about her tour of the facility and expressed her support for the project. She spoke about the work that AlphaHouse and Trinity Health has done. She also spoke about the urgency of the matter.

Comm. Hodge expressed his support for the issue and stated his hopes that the County provide case management in the future. He thanked Administrator Dill.

Comm. Lyte thanked the County Administrator and staff for their work and spoke about the housing being in her district. She spoke about AlphaHouse's work.

Comm. Scott spoke about the issue of homelessness and expressed her strong desire approve the resolution and get the funds to families.

Comm Rabhi spoke about his concerns on the timeline and funds going to Trinity Health. Administrator Dill stated that he did not have a timeline but stated that he would ask those questions. He expressed his belief that a timeframe should be delineated for the space.

Comm. Sanders spoke about other agreements between Trinity Health and other entities. She asked Comm. Somerville if she had more information.

Comm. Somerville stated that she was not sure about other agreements.

Comm. Beeman stated that the timeframe for the agreement is 30 years.

Comm. Rabhi provided more insight into his questions that he asked and stated that he would be voting yes.

Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution allocating up to $700,000 for the Trinity Health Ann Arbor/Alpha House Family Transitional Housing Project be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.

E. **25-183** Comm. Lyte expressed her confusion with the necessity of the item.

Comm. Rabhi thanked the Sheriff's office staff.

Comm. Scott also expressed confusion and thanked all the county staff.

Comm.Lyte clarified that her comments were in regard to passing the audit.

Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution commending the WCSO Dispatch and Emergency Services Division for exemplary performance in the 2025 Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) and Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Compliance Audit be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 8 NAYS 1 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.

F. **25-184** Comm. Hodge thanked Administration for their work on the resolution and their work preparing for the bicentennial.

Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution recognizing the Washtenaw County Bicentennial Working Group and their role in planning the county's 200th celebration in 2026 be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.

4.

A. **25-185** Comm. LaBarre, seconded by Comm. Hodge, moved that a resolution authorizing the payment of claims commencing with the last previously approved claim and continuing through the date of August 25, 2025 be approved. Roll Call Vote: YEAS 9 NAYS 0 ABSENT 0. Motion carried.

XII. ITEMS FOR CURRENT/FUTURE DISCUSSION

Comm. Sanders congratulated Ashlyn Poole from the Clerk's office on her new role.

Comm. Lyte spoke about canceling services with XFinity amidst their partnership with Target. She expressed that she did not support Target.

Comm. Beeman spoke about the industrialization of their land and bringing community leaders together.

Comm. Scott talked about supporting local businesses.

XIII. PENDING

XIV. ADJOURN TO NEXT SESSION

Comm. Sanders, seconded by Comm. Rabhi, moved to adjourn. Voice vote - motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:44 PM.

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Katie Scott, Chair of the Board of Commissioners

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Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register

By: Ashlyn Poole, Deputy Clerk

Board Approved: September, 17, 2025