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SAGINAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SUMMARY OF OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS AUGUST 19, 2025 SESSION

The **August Session** of the Board of Commissioners of Saginaw County, Michigan convened at 5:02 p.m. on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at the Saginaw County Courthouse, 111 S. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, MI 48602 with the Honorable Jack B. Tany in the Chair.

PRESENT: Christopher S. Boyd, Lisa R. Coney, Denny M. Harris, John L. Kaczynski, Gerald D. Little, Mark S. Piotrowski, Tracey L. Slodowski, Richard A. Spitzer, Jack B. Tany, and Michael A. Webster - **10**

ABSENT: Sheldon Matthews - **1**

TOTAL: - **11**

OTHERS: Vanessa Guerra, Mary Catherine Hannah, Dave Gilbert, L.W. Smith, Koren Thurston, Mike Slodowski, Philip Zarvo, Terie Elbers, Dennis Borchard, Lori Brown, Jenifer Speckhard, Susan Caister, Jaime Ceja, Mike Gomez, Mark Weslock, Becky Boensch, Diane Booth, Alycia Norton, Brian Keenan-Lechel, Jamie Furbush, Barb Crawford, Ben Robertson, Tom Prabucki, Denise Joseph, Mark Angliss, Jennifer Broadfoot, Andrew Klaczkiewicz, Patti Johnson, Darcie Totten, Carol Pickelmann, Lydia Walker, Ericka Neuman, Jaime Ceja, Suzy Koeplinger, Renee Sharkey, Catherine Hicks, and others

 Commissioner Webster gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ❖ Minutes of the June 17, 2025 Committee of the Whole and the June 23, 2025 Committee of the Whole were approved. Minutes of the June 17, 2025 Board Session were approved after being amended to reflect that any vote made by Commissioner Richard Spitzer after December 10, 2024 be declared void and invalid pursuant to Resolution 2024 – 11.

PUBLIC HEARING

- A Public Hearing was held on the proposed Saginaw County 2025/2026 Fiscal Year Budget and property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support General Government Operations. There were no speakers and the hearing closed at 6:14 p.m.

AUDIENCES

- ❖ Commissioner Kaczynski presented Barb Crawford and her son Ben Robertson, Kernel Benny's founders and owners, with a Certificate of Recognition for being recognized at the 2025 Pure Michigan Governor's Conference on Tourism.
- ❖ Carol Z. Pickelmann, Animal Advisory Council Member and dog walking volunteer, spoke of the distortion of stories on social media and the way they lose their credibility as they spread. She expressed that all organizations have faults but it's unrealistic to expect that all the issues are the cause of one person. She knows the Commissioners do not make the laws and that SCACC staff is at only 50% capacity and accepting volunteers.
- ❖ Becky Boensch, SCACC Volunteer and dog walker, spoke to the board about the "Fetch" program and how she wants to expand it because of its success. In this program dogs are socialized and get special one-on-one attention which allows for discovery of their personalities and specific qualities that aid in adoption. Becky also mentioned a Volunteer Coordinator would be helpful, and she credits Director Horton for positive improvements to SCACC and spoke about the play groups that the director has implemented.

- ❖ Alycia Norton volunteers with the cats. She spoke of her recent certification and that SCACC already implemented some of the things she learned. She reported that, when possible, pets are returned to their owners. Even though more animals are coming in than ever before, they are spending less time in the shelter before adoption.

INITIATORY MOTIONS

- Approved increasing the H.W. Browne Airport FY25 Fund Budget: (1) by \$18,000 to purchase a zero-turn mower for runway maintenance and (2) by up to \$20,000 for backflow preventers required by Buena Vista Township; and to add both projects to the County Capital Improvement Plan.

LAUDATORY RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

- ❖ Certificate of Recognition to Jack Doyle, Police Chief of Richland Township, upon his retirement after 43 years of service (*Slodowski*)
- ❖ Certificate of Recognition to Barb Crawford for being honored as the recipient of the Stories of Inspiration award at the 2025 Pure Michigan Governor's Conference (*Kaczynski*)
- ❖ Certificates of Recognition to members of the Marion Township Fire Department for years of service: Bridget Wheelock (20); Tiffany Fiting (29); Les Efu (36); Ray Patterson (44); and Mike Babion (45) (*Slodowski*)
- ❖ Certificate commemorating the 50th Class Reunion of Saginaw High School Class of 1975 (*Matthews*)

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Approved Commission on Aging FY 2026 application for Federal/State funding through Region VII Area Agency on Aging
- Approved Saginaw County 9-1-1 Communications Center Authority FY 2026 Budget
- Approved revised Management Agreement for Frankenmuth Convention and Visitor's Bureau
- Approved vendor transactions for June 2025 in the amount of \$12,392,964.95
- Approved vendor transactions for July 2025 in the amount of \$13,701,284.01
- Approved amendments/revisions to Draft #1 of the proposed FY 2026 Budget, including changes to Resolution A
- Approved to increase the FY 2025 SCCJCC budget by \$56,600 to cover additional costs for mobile data terminal replacement and to increase the various police agency SCCJCC FY 2025 budgets to cover additional costs related to the mobile data terminal replacements
- Approved temporary, occasional increases to the Board Coordinator's PNC Purchasing Card limit
- Approved an increase of \$49,100 to Community Mental Health Budget to reflect a new contract
- Approved an increase of up to \$150,000 to the FY25 Public Improvement Fund for current and future cost overruns on the Eleanor Frank location remodel for Commission on Aging
- Approved the extension of Bethany Jacques retiree contract at the Health Department
- Approved a temporary contract with Maria Cisneros at the Environmental Health Division
- Approved Officer Delegate and Employee Delegate to the MERS Annual Retirement Conference
- Approved amendment to County Policy #335, Sec. 7.4 titled "Compensation"
- Approved a Memorandum of Understanding between County of Saginaw and POAM 312 Corrections Officers for the period beginning October 1, 2024 and ending September 30, 2027
- Approved a small work group to begin working on the implementation of the Wayfinding and Parking Study recommendations
- Approved Commissioner Compensation Reports 8-19-25.1 through 8-19-25.4

RESOLUTIONS

- ❖ **Approved Res. 2025 – 12** RESOLUTION RE: OPPOSITION TO MDHHS PLAN TO IMPLEMENT A COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT PROCESS FOR PIHPS (SCCMHA)
- ❖ **Approved Res. 2025 – 13** RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION AND APPOINTING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AS THE COUNTY OF SAGINAW'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE TO TAKE ALL REASONABLE AND NECESSARY ACTIONS REGARDING ENTRY OF PARTICIPATION INTO FUTURE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS IN PARTIAL SETTLEMENT OF THE NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION OPIATE LITIGATION
- ❖ **Approved Res. 2025 – 14** RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF SETTLEMENT IN THE LITIGATION FOX, ET AL. V COUNTY OF SAGINAW, ET AL.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Tany made the following appointments:

- ✓ **BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**
Brian Rombalski, effective 7/31/25, to fill a vacancy, with a term to expire 12/31/27

ELECTIONS

None

CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ Chairman Tany showed appreciation to IT Director Andrew Klaczkiwicz for driving to Spaulding Township Hall to deliver equipment for the Intergovernmental Committee meeting and for getting Jen Acosta's Power Point presentation running.
- ❖ Chairman Tany acknowledged Jaime Ceja, Executive Assistant to the Administrator, for her graduation from the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Saginaw Program and Administrator Hannah, Vice-Chair Little, and Board Coordinator Suzy Koeplinger for attending the ceremony.
- ❖ Chairman Tany thanked Commissioner Webster for attending the STAR Recovery Court graduation in Judge Trice's courtroom on Friday, June 27, 2025.
- ❖ Chairman Tany announced that Vice-Chair Little and commissioners Coney, Matthews, Slodowski, and Webster attended the Mosquito Control Ribbon Cutting and Open House. Also in attendance were Koren Thurston, Mary Catherine Hannah, Jaime Ceja, Randy Pfau, Jessica Sargent and Suzy Koeplinger. He is encouraged to see Saginaw County department heads attending the events of other departments. "Bill Stanuszek and his crew did an exceptional job with their Open House, and I know they appreciated the support."
- ❖ Chairman Tany announced commissioners Slodowski, Matthews, Coney, County Clerk Guerra, and Deputy Clerk Bostwick were on hand to help raise the large U.S. flag on the Court Street bridge for the July 4th celebration.
- ❖ Chairman Tany announced that the City of Saginaw had its first citywide meeting where ARPA recipients provided information on how they spent their funds. Both he and Commissioner Coney were in attendance.

- ❖ Chairman Tany announced that he attended the Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance's Regional Mobility Summit on July 16th with Commissioner Spitzer and Commissioner Kaczynski. Commissioner Kaczynski did double duty and was a speaker and a member of the panel. It was a really nice seminar revealing the inner workings of STARS, Bay Metro, County Connection of Midland, as well as MBS International Airport. He reported the event was well worth his time.
- ❖ Chairman Tany spoke of his conversation with James Canders, MBS Airport Director, about his recent flight to Philadelphia for a national conference, expressing his desire to support and to use Saginaw County resources and noted that we could do better to help support our own airport. He commented that SVSU actually has a policy that requires employees who live within 30 miles of MBS to use MBS Airport.
- ❖ Chairman Tany thanked commissioners Slodowski, Harris and Piotrowski for representing Saginaw County at the opening ceremonies of the Saginaw County Fair. Undersheriff Gomez was also in attendance.
- ❖ Chairman Tany announced that he and commissioners Webster, Coney, Slodowski and Piotrowski as well as Administrator Hannah attended Go Great Lakes Bay event on July 30th, at Old Town Distillery, to debut the latest Under the Radar Michigan's episode which featured a couple of Saginaw businesses, and he stated it was a really nice event.
- ❖ Chairman Tany congratulated Commissioner Coney who was honored by SVSU Alumni for her years of service on the SVSU Alumni Board.
- ❖ Chairman Tany spoke of the employee picnic, held on the courthouse front lawn on August 7th, and thanked Commissioner Matthews, who helped set up, Vice-Chair Little and Commissioner Slodowski who helped him serve, and Jaime Ceja and Suzy Koeplinger for their help.
- ❖ Chairman Tany announced that Commissioners Spitzer and Kaczynski attended the Great Lakes Bay Regional Chamber Summit last Tuesday and congratulated Commissioner Kaczynski who was honored with the Individual Achievement Award.
- ❖ Chairman Tany announced that he and Commissioner Coney attended the second citywide meeting held by the City of Saginaw, last Wednesday, to give residents an update on ARPA projects in the community.
- ❖ Chairman Tany announced that there was an Ice Cream Social for all county employees last Thursday. He expressed his gratitude to Commissioner Matthews for coordinating the event and thanked all who contributed to it.

COMMISSIONER AUDIENCES

- ❖ Commissioner Kaczynski announced that he and Vice-Chair Little were at the Airport Board meeting. He commented on what a "cool" group they are and gave a shout out to Al Kaufman and his volunteers.
- ❖ Commissioner Kaczynski also announced the Wooden Covered Bridge (Holz Brucke) Labor Day Walk in Frankenmuth on Labor Day, September 1, 2025 at noon. The walk begins on the east side of the bridge and walkers will arrive at the Fischer Platz outdoor café about five minutes later. There will be music and food and beverages available for purchase. He pointed out that, unlike the Mackinac Bridge Walk, at the end of the covered bridge walk there is beer on the other side.
- ❖ Commissioner Slodowski thanked the volunteers at SCACC and the members of the Advisory Board who go above and beyond just attending meetings to improve the lives of all animals in our care.
- ❖ Commissioner Boyd acknowledged our Chairman, Jack Tany, who has been the chief of concessions this summer and thanked him for the frequent supply of goodies. He also recommended that the board consider H.W. Browne Airport in addition to MBS Airport for traveling.
- ❖ Commissioner Piotrowski stated that he missed the flag raising because he ran the Volksläufe - The People's Race - on July 4th in Frankenmuth. He commented on how well attended it is and that he finished the race.
- ❖ Commissioner Webster announced that he went to the Marie E. Davis Senior Center soft opening and found that the ARPA dollars awarded were very well spent. The upgrades are nice and the residents seemed pleased.

- ❖ Commissioner Little announced that Buena Vista Township has moved its office and there is an Open House and Ribbon Cutting on September 18th at 3:00 p.m. at the old Buena Vista High School on 3945 East Holland Road.
- ❖ Administrator Hannah announced that IT Director Andrew Klackiewicz was appointed Vice-Chair of the Infrastructure and Security Subcommittee of the Telecommunications and Technology Steering Committee for the National Association of Counties (NACo).

Respectfully Submitted,

SAGINAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JACK B. TANY
CHAIRMAN

VANESSA GUERRA
COUNTY CLERK

Prepared by:

Renee Sharkey, Assistant Board Coordinator/Deputy Clerk

Suzy Koepplinger, Board Coordinator/Deputy Clerk