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**SAGINAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SUMMARY OF OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
MARCH 17, 2026 SESSION**

The **March Session** of the Board of Commissioners of Saginaw County, Michigan convened at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at the Saginaw County Courthouse, 111 S. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, MI 48602 with the Honorable Jack B. Tany in the Chair.

PRESENT: Lisa R. Coney, Denny M. Harris, Gerald D. Little, Sheldon Matthews, Mark S. Piotrowski, Tracey L. Slodowski, Richard A. Spitzer, Jack B. Tany, and Michael A. Webster – **9**

ABSENT: Christopher S. Boyd and John L. Kaczynski – **2**

TOTAL: – **11**

OTHERS: Vanessa Guerra, Mary Catherine Hannah, Dave Gilbert, Koren Thurston, Darcie Totten, Jaime Ceja, Denise Joseph, Kelly Suppes, Brian Keenan-Lechel, Andrew Klaczkiewicz, Joseph Kline, Kimberly Trinklein, Paul Glazar, Heidi Storck, Sue Persinger, Ariana Turner, Samantha Burkett, Anna M. Grath, Chris Van Loo, Kevin O’Brien, Jeff Wolpert, Jim Dowe, Gaye Sass, Greg Sass, Roger Klomp, Ryan Gembarowski, Randall Ives, Craig Baldwin, Tammus Hileman, James Comer, Jennifer Comer, Jen Huckeby, Carrie Wheatley, Bailey Kellerman, Freeland High School Basketball Team and coaches, 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 February 17, 2026 Regular Board Session were approved.

AUDIENCES

- Commissioner Spitzer presented Firefighter Greg Sass with a Certificate of Recognition for his 50 years of service with the Saginaw Township Fire Department. He acknowledged first responders and volunteers for being the heart of the community, working long hours and making personal sacrifices to help keep people safe. Firefighter Greg Sass addressed the audience; saying he’s not one for speeches and announced he doesn’t plan on retiring yet. Fire Chief Christopher Van Loo spoke of many modernizations that have occurred while Firefighter Sass has been serving. He teased that horse drawn fire apparatus was discontinued 50 years before Greg Sass started with the department; rubber coats are no longer used, and air packs, thermal imaging and drones weren’t even a dream yet. Chairman Tany thanked Firefighter Greg Sass for his service.
- Commissioner Piotrowski presented a Resolution of Recognition to the Freeland High School Boys Basketball Team as D2 State Champs! Chairman Tany announced that the team will be dropping the puck March 18, 2026 at the Saginaw Spirit hockey game. The team was asked to walk around the table so commissioners could congratulate them personally before they left the meeting.
- Kimberly Trinklein thanked Administrator Hannah and commissioners for speaking with her. She voiced complaints to the Board that Saginaw County Animal Care & Control (SCACC) personnel are allowed to work remotely.
- Paul Glazar listed funds he believes to have been spent inefficiently by SCACC. He requested more volunteers at the shelter.
- Heidi Storck spoke of lawsuits against SCACC and the need for staff training.
- Sue Persinger brought a handout to the Board of Commissioners and voiced complaints about the SCACC Director.

FOIA APPEAL

- ✓ The Board approved sending written notice to Jamie Geesey denying her appeal and upholding the cost of the response in relation to her February 10, 2026 FOIA request.

LAUDATORY RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

- ❖ Certificate of Recognition to Jessica Sargent, Commission on Aging Director, upon her departure after 15 years of service
- ❖ Certificate in Memoriam to the friends and family of Nyesha Clark-Young, 1974 – 2026, with sympathy and remembrance of her contributions and achievements
- ❖ Certificate of Recognition to Firefighter Greg Sass for 50 years of service to the Saginaw Township Fire Department
- ❖ Certificate of Recognition to Dr. Samuel Shaheen for his contributions, achievements, and dedication to the community and County of Saginaw
- ❖ Resolution of Recognition to the Freeland High School Boys Basketball D2 State Champions

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Approved County Administrator's request for a new County Facility Security and Access policy
- Approved vendor transactions for February 2026 in the amount of \$9,224,136.23
- Approved request from Human Resources for a Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement between the County of Saginaw and UAW Local 455 – Unit 48 representing Managerial and Supervisory Employees regarding a proposed biweekly stipend for two employees who are taking on the duties of the Commission on Aging Director's position
- Approved request from the County Administrator to add a temporary PCN (1.0 FTE) Attorney-Referee position at Family Division within org. code 10128400
- Approved Commissioner Compensation Reports 3-17-26.1 and 3-17-26.2

RESOLUTIONS

- **Approved Resolution 2026 – 3** APPROVING A MNRTF GRANT APPLICATION TITLED 'PRICE NATURE CENTER ADA IMPROVEMENTS'
- **Approved Resolution 2026 – 4** APPROVING A RECREATION PASSPORT GRANT PROGRAM 'RINGWOOD FOREST RESTROOM AND ADA IMPROVEMENTS'

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Approved amendments to the 2026 Board Rules

APPOINTMENTS

- ✓ Beth Reindel – Bernthal to Economic Development Corporation with a term to expire 4/1/32
- ✓ Ed Lesniak to Economic Development Corporation with a term to expire 4/1/28

ELECTIONS

The following were reappointed to the Saginaw County Community Mental Health Authority with terms to expire 3/31/29:

- ✓ Lisa Coney (County Commissioner)
- ✓ John Pugh (General Public)
- ✓ Tracey Raquepaw (General Public)
- ✓ Joan Williams (General Public)

CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chairman Tany thanked Commissioner Webster for joining him at the most recent STARS Drug Court graduation in Judge Clark's courtroom.
- Chairman Tany thanked the following individuals who joined him at the going away reception for Jessica Sargent at COA headquarters: Commissioners Webster, Little, Matthews, Piotrowski and Administrator Hannah
- Chairman Tany thanked the following individuals for representing the County with him at the Habit for Humanity Luncheon: Treasurer Novak, Administrator Hannah, Judge Gafkay and Magistrate Lamar were in attendance.
- Chairman Tany announced that he attended the Positive Results Downtown's annual meeting and thanked Commissioners Webster and Spitzer for joining him.
- Chairman Tany attended the Saginaw Future annual meeting and thanked the following people for joining him and representing the County: Administrator Hannah, Treasurer Novak, and Commissioners Harris, Spitzer, Kaczynski, Webster, Piotrowski and Little.

COMMISSIONER AUDIENCES

- ❖ Commissioner Coney thanked Administrator Hannah and County Clerk Vanessa Guerra for attending the NAACP and for speaking about elections, RxKids and the SIS program. She also received confirmation that Saginaw County has a social media policy.
- ❖ Commissioner Matthews announced he is seeking donations for the Ice Cream Social on Wednesday, July 15th from 12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. He appreciates those who have contributed.
- ❖ Commissioner Spitzer spoke of the ongoing debate in congress over the last month or so about whether to fund the Department of Homeland Security. The local MBS Airport TSA agents are in their third week without a paycheck. He recognized and thanked Commissioner Mark Piotrowski for his efforts to acquire contributions to help them out.
- ❖ Commissioner Piotrowski announced that donations of gas cards and gift cards for our local TSA agents are being accepted at GOP headquarters on Bay Road and yesterday the East Side Soup Kitchen made lunch for them.
- ❖ Commissioner Piotrowski drew attention to a Freeland 411 posting on Facebook from Melanie Lynn who wrote about the option to take animals out for a day from SCACC to get them out of cages and put them in a caring environment for exercise and companionship. She wrote that it's a good option for those who live in places that don't allow pets but still want to spend time with an animal.
- ❖ Commissioner Slodowski recognized County Clerk, Vanessa Guerra, and Deputy Clerk, Kyle Bostwick, for educating people on the voting process during their personal time. She gave verbal appreciation for all they do above and beyond what their job requires.
- ❖ Commissioner Webster announced that at the PRIDE luncheon Cassie Zimmerman gave a presentation about building projects and housing developments.
- ❖ Commissioner Webster also shared that at the Saginaw Future luncheon, Dr. Shaheen outlined the Medical Diamond Project and what it has looked like over the last 20 years. The presentation answered every question and gave information on the CMU 4-year College of Medicine and future growth. He would like to distribute the recorded information to the community. Chairman Tany added that Cassi Zimmerman, Director of Building, Planning & Economic Development at the City of Saginaw, spoke of 12-15 projects they are working on.

ADMINISTRATOR REMARKS

- ❖ Administrator Hannah announced that, in an effort to be more visible in the county, she has brought the Master Plan process to Chesaning, St. Charles and the Village of Birch Run for a preview. It has been well received. There will be a kick-off with planners and engagement of the whole county.
- ❖ Administrator Hannah gave kudos to Gilbert Ramirez II, Deputy County Administrator for Grants/Special Projects, who has submitted four funding applications – one for H.W. Browne Airport three for the medical examiner facility – along with two direct spending requests.
- ❖ A new tab has been added to our webpage to display our projects and will be built as we go.

Respectfully Submitted,

SAGINAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JACK B. TANY
CHAIRMAN

VANESSA GUERRA
COUNTY CLERK

Prepared by:

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Suzy Koeplinger, Board Coordinator/Deputy Clerk