

MINUTES

BUDGET/AUDIT COMMITTEE

111 S. Michigan Ave., Room 200, Saginaw, MI 48602

Thursday, January 15, 2026 – 4:00 p.m.

Members: Christopher Boyd – Chair, Tracey Slodowski – Vice-Chair, John Kaczynski, Michael Webster, Jack Tany
Absent: Michael Webster
Others: Koren Thurston, Mark Piotrowski, Denny Harris, Sheldon Matthews, Gerald Little, Dave Gilbert, Undersheriff Gomez, Darcie Totten, Kelly Suppes, Christina Harrington, Mary McLaughlin, Patricia Johnson, Todd Borders, Suzy Koepplinger, Renee Sharkey, and Catherine Hicks

- I. Call to Order – ***Chair Boyd at 4:00 p.m.***
- II. Welcome
- III. Correction/Approval of Minutes (***December 4, 2025***)
 - ***Moved by Tany, seconded by Kaczynski, to approve. Motion Carried***
- IV. Public Comment (*Speakers limited to 3 minutes*)
- V. Agenda

1. **Koren Thurston, Finance Director**, re:

- **1-20-10** Approval of Vendor Transactions, Dec. 1 – 31, 2025 - \$12,546,197.33
 - ***Moved by Slodowski, seconded by Kaczynski, to approve. Motion carried. (Board Report)***
- **1-20-11** Submitting the Monthly Financial Statement for December 2025
 - ***Moved by Tany, seconded by Kaczynski, to receive and file. Motion carried. (Receive & file)***
- **1-20-12** Submitting a report of budget adjustments approved by the County Administrator (or their designee) including grants accepted on behalf of the County for July 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025 and for October 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 and approved budget adjustments carried forward from FY 2025 as outlined in Budget Resolution “A”
 - Finance Director Thurston explained that this process is moving money that the Board has already appropriated. It’s being carried forward for projects that are not yet completed and balancing the books.
 - ***Moved by Kaczynski, seconded by Slodowski, to receive and file. Motion carried. (Receive & file)***

2. **Christina Harrington, Health Officer, Health Department**, re:

- **1-20-13** - Requesting approval to accept \$150,000 in grant funds from MDHHS (labeled Michigan HUB Program) for FY26 and to amend the budget accordingly; and
 - ***Moved by Tany, seconded by Kaczynski, to approve. Motion carried. (Board Report)***
- - Requesting to receive and file the Health Department’s FY24 Write-off Report
 - ***Moved by Slodowski, seconded by Tany, to receive and file. Motion carried. (Receive & file)***

3. **Undersheriff Gomez**, re:
- **1-20-14** Requesting an increase to 207-31500-64209 (Surplus Sales) and 207-31500-98100 (Vehicle Purchase) of \$13,000 to purchase a Dodge Durango for \$35,528
 - Undersheriff Gomez reported that a different agency had ordered the vehicle and changed their mind. Kelly Suppes contacted the Sheriff's office to make them aware of the opportunity. The vehicle will be used as an unmarked unit. The extra \$356 charge is the upcharge for the paint color. Commissioner Kaczynski asked if leasing was considered. The Purchasing/Risk Manager reported it was not preferred due to bad experiences in the past.
 - ***Moved by Slodowski, seconded by Kaczynski, to approve. Motion carried. (Board Report)***
4. **Koren Thurston, Finance Director**, re:
- **1-20-15** Submitting additional information requested at the December 16, 2025 Committee of the Whole regarding commissioner compensation
 - Discussion was held; all commissioners are in a different situation. For example, Commissioner Boyd reported that he, as a Saginaw County retiree, wouldn't qualify for benefits. He recommended commissioners complete a survey to determine exactly what each commissioner is requesting. Finance Director Thurston advised that commissioner benefits had not been budgeted for this year and this is not a qualifying event for adding health insurance. The next open enrollment period will be January 2027. Tom Heiger from MyMember Insurance is working on it. There is risk involved if there is a catastrophic claim before open enrollment because the county would be responsible for the entire cost. Other elected officials qualify for benefits because they are full-time employees. The Committee requested Tom Heidger to attend the upcoming strategy session to answer questions. The discussion is postponed until the February 5th Budget/Audit Committee meeting.
(Postponed-No action)
 - **1-20-16** Requesting approval of a budget adjustment appropriating \$5,196,878 from the General Fund to the Public Improvement Fund specifically for the purposes of the development and construction of a new Health Department facility
 - ***Tany moved, seconded by Slodowski, to approve. Motion carried. (Board Report)***
5. Any other matters to come before the committee
- Todd Borders, 10th Circuit Court Family Division Court Administrator, addressed the committee requesting approval to amend the Childcare Fund programming by \$258,720. The contract was budgeted for \$215,000 but expenses will be \$473,720. The childcare fund will provide \$194,040 of the increase and SCCMHA will cover the remaining \$64,680. There is no General Fund contribution.
 - ***Tany moved, seconded by Slodowski, to approve the amendment to the budget. Motion carried. (Board Report)***

VI. Miscellaneous-None

VII. Adjournment

- ***Moved by Kaczynski, seconded by Tany, to adjourn; time being 4:36 p.m.***

Respectfully Submitted,
Christopher Boyd, Committee Chair
Suzy Koeplinger, Committee Clerk