



CONFERENCE OF WESTERN WAYNE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER- BROSNAN

Mayor Brosnan called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Mayor Hammoud introduced the board and the audience to The City of Dearborn.

2. ROLL CALL- MCRAE

Supervisor McRae called the roll:

Supervisor Anne Marie Graham-Hudak Canton Charter Township;

Mayor Brian Turnbull, City of Northville;

Deputy Supervisor Timothy Rush, alternate, Sumpter Township;

Mr. Kevin Krouse, alternate, City of Romulus;

Mr. Roger Farinha, alternate, City of Dearborn Heights;

Mayor John Rhaesa, City of Wayne;

Mayor Ken Voigt, City of Belleville;

Supervisor Kelly Trombly, Huron Township;

Mayor Maureen Brosnan, City of Livonia;

Supervisor Pat McRae, Redford Township;

Mayor Byron Nolen, City of Inkster;

Supervisor Chuck Curmi, Plymouth Township;

Supervisor Mark Abbo, Northville Township;

Ms. Colleen Pobur, alternate, City of Plymouth;

Mr. Dan Selman, alternate, Van Buren Township

Mayor Mark Jacobs, City of Garden City;

Deputy Mayor James Godbout, alternate City of Westland.

CWW Board Member/voting alternate of record not present: none

Others present: Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib, and members of the audience.

3. INTRODUCTIONS- BROSNAN

Mayor Brosnan asked board members and members of the audience to introduce themselves.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA- BROSNAN

Motion by Turnbull, supported by Rush to approve the agenda for May 9, 2025.

AYES: All. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES- MCRAE

Motion by McRae, supported by Pobur to approve the meeting minutes for April 11, 2025.

AYES: All. Motion carried.

6. TREASURES REPORT- GRAHAM-HUDAK

Motion by Graham-Hudak, supported by Turnbull to approve the Treasurers report for 4/30/2025.

AYES: All. Motion carried.

7. DIRECTORS REPORT

A. Executive Director's Report- Sellek

DTE Files Nearly \$600M Rate Increase Request

DTE filed an application with state regulators seeking a nearly \$600 million rate increase. DTE said its requested rate increase of \$574.1 million per year would fund infrastructure upgrades, improvements to grid reliability, and the transition toward renewable energy.

If approved, DTE expected the rate increase to be effective as early as February 25, 2026, following the completion of the 10-month process for the PSC to complete rate cases.

DTE's request comes three months after the PSC approved its last proposed rate increase of \$217.4 million, just under half of the original request by DTE.

The Michigan League of Conservation Voters estimated that the average residential customer would see a \$13.50 per month increase in their utility bill if DTE's request were approved.

New Report Shows Increased Use of Public Safety Technology

A new report has shown that local government leaders found significant increases in police surveillance technology.

A [report](#) conducted by the University of Michigan's Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy said law enforcement and government leaders used more technology such as dashboard cameras, body cameras, drones, license plate readers, and facial recognition software from 2015 to 2024.

Most people already use body and dashboard cameras. According to the report, 23 percent of government officials reported using body cameras in 2015. In 2024, they reported 77 percent usage. Also, 55 percent of government officials reported using dashboard cameras in 2015 and 74 percent in 2024.

Drones and aerial surveillance were reported to be the least used out of the categories, with only 3 percent using them in 2015 and 31 percent in 2024.

26 percent of sheriffs and police chiefs use automated license plate readers, 10 percent use facial recognition technology, and only 3 percent use predictive policing tools.

Most local government officials, sheriffs, and police chiefs reported believing technology is a worthwhile investment for their community on all topics.

Hegira COPE Livonia Closing May 9

As of today, the Livonia location of the COPE Crisis Center is closed. Services will now be provided by Team Wellness Center located in Westland. Team Wellness Center handles emergency and non-emergent mental health and substance use issues in an outpatient setting.

Services provided:

- 24/7 Mental Health and Substance Use Services
- Evidence-Based Crisis Response and Intervention
- Crisis Stabilization On-Site
- Prescriber on site for evaluation and treatment
- Addiction and Overdose Treatment
- Mobile Crisis Team

Individuals can walk in or be referred. Transportation is also available upon request.

Located at 34290 Ford Rd. Westland 48185.

For immediate referral, contact the Crisis Stabilization Unit at 313-291-2753.

Non-crisis and general inquiries contact 888-813-TEAM (8326)

EGLE Proposed Rules Changes

EGLE held a public hearing on April 8th to discuss proposed changes to the Part 41 rules. The proposed rule changes require operator certification for collection systems and retention treatment basins. The rule changes are a step towards issuing collection system permits to communities that discharge into a regional wastewater system - like GLWA and Downriver Utility Wastewater Authority (DUWA). The proposed permits will require additional O&M, reporting, and operator certifications.

A recording of the public hearing can be viewed on you tube through the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uKEml2WYHvU>

There is concern that the proposed collection system permits will put additional financial pressure on the municipalities and make employee hiring and retention more difficult.

Many CWW communities submitted comments before the April 30 deadline. Thank you to CWW attorneys Fausone and Grysko for providing this information.

2025 Police Week

May 11, 2025-May 17, 2025

The week honors and remembers law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty.

Next CWW Meeting

The June 13, 2025 meeting will be held in Sumpter Township.

B. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE- SELLEK

Federal:

Homeland Security/Emergency Preparedness Changes

[Achieving Efficiency Through State and Local Preparedness – The White House](#)

Over the past few years, there has been debate over Michigan's lack of specific emergency preparedness and homeland security funding. Emergency management and homeland security are a division within the Michigan State Police. Unlike many other states, this division has no separate funding source. Instead, it draws over 80% of federal funding meant to be allocated for emergency management programs within the state. Therefore, leaving less than 20% for the over 100 emergency management programs statewide.

President Trump recently signed an Executive Order called Achieving Efficiency Through State and Local Preparedness. As stated in the EO, the purpose is:

Commonsense approaches and investments by State and local governments across American infrastructure will enhance national security and create a more resilient Nation. Federal policy must rightly recognize that preparedness is most effectively owned and managed at the State, local, and even individual levels, supported by a competent, accessible, and efficient Federal Government. Citizens are the immediate beneficiaries of sound local decisions and investments designed to address risks, including cyber attacks, wildfires, hurricanes, and space weather. When States are empowered to make smart infrastructure choices, taxpayers benefit.

This order empowers State, local, and individual preparedness and injects common sense into infrastructure prioritization and strategic investments through risk-informed decisions that make our infrastructure, communities, and economy resilient to global and dynamic threats and hazards.

Communities differ in who is responsible for their local emergency management. Some have their own departments, some are certified PA 390 (which allows for independent emergency management jurisdiction) jurisdictions, and some rely on Wayne County. PA 390 jurisdictions (Livonia, Canton Township, Dearborn) have the statutory authority and responsibility to plan, organize, and coordinate emergency functions for their residents.

Federal performance grant funding meant to be allocated to these emergency management programs is being drawn down by MSP and its emergency management division by over 80%.

With this Executive Order, local agencies and communities will be responsible for disaster preparedness and response. This includes developing and implementing risk-informed strategies tailored to local needs, as federal oversight and support are streamlined.

The EO mandates the creation of a National Resilience Strategy within 90 days, aiming to guide infrastructure security and risk mitigation efforts. Communities, working with their emergency management jurisdiction, will need to align their preparedness plans with this forthcoming strategy.

A new national risk register will be developed to identify and assess risks to national infrastructure. Emergency management entities will be expected to contribute data and insights to this register.

The EO indicates a move towards reducing subsidies for programs deemed inefficient. The Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) may experience changes in federal funding levels, which could lead to alternative funding sources to support emergency preparedness and first responders.

The full EO is provided at the end of this report.

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Bond Proposals Fail Drastically Statewide

Voters rejected more than half the proposals for school districts seeking tax increases to fund new and renovated school buildings.

There were 46 total bond proposals on the ballot across the state, with 21 passing and 25 failing, a success rate of 49%. Well below the 60% passage rate in May 2024 and the 62% in the most recent November election. All in all, the approval rates are lower compared to 2018-2021.

In recent years, rural districts have tended to deny tax increases for new and improved buildings, while urban and suburban districts have been inclined to pass them. However, on Tuesday, these proposals failed throughout the state regardless of whether they were urban, suburban, or rural.

The most significant bond proposal in the state was Midland seeking approval for \$285 million. It failed by a more than two-to-one margin. The fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth largest failed as well.

However, some of the largest proposals did pass: Dexter Community Schools at \$241.8 million

and Ferndale Public Schools at \$114.8 million.

57% of Sinking fund increases were approved, and 100% of school renewal requests were passed.

Eleven communities went out for increases for police and fire, roads, and general operations. Three passed, while eight, including a \$10M police millage for Eaton County, failed.

One passed for parks and recreation, and one failed. Of the nine public safety proposals seeking increases with results, six passed, and three failed. Both proposed road millage increases failed, and both proposed new millages for senior services passed.

Bills to Repeal the 2023 Energy Siting Law Passed

The House passed (58-48) bills that would reverse PA 233 of 2023, which gave the state authority over siting for solar and wind projects.

The bills, HB 4027 and HB 4028, would undo the controversial legislation

and restore zoning and permitting authority to local governments.

MML and MAC testified in favor of the bills to repeal the law.

Water Affordability Bill Reintroduced

Legislation to create a statewide program to support people who cannot afford their water bills was reintroduced in the Senate, and lawmakers in both chambers committed to the policy.

Similar legislation was taken up last term but never reached the governor's desk. The sponsor indicated several changes to the package being reintroduced.

The most significant change is a reduction in the monthly fee for the program from \$2 per month to \$1.25 per month, which would be charged on each domestic-use metered water account. The charge would increase 25 cents per year for the first three years.

Additionally, the legislation would still create a statewide income-based program, but local water providers would have the option to administer and fund their own plan.

The bills, SB 248-253, were sent to the Senate Housing and Human Services Committee. House bills are expected in the coming weeks.

The program would create two tiers of payment assistance based on income for those up to 135 percent of the poverty level and 200 percent of the poverty level. For the first tier, customer payments would not exceed 2 percent of their income, and for the second tier, payments would not exceed 3 percent. The legislation also includes water shut-off protections.

Public Safety and Violence Prevention Fund

HB 4260 and HB 4261, which would earmark \$115 million in sales tax revenues for public safety in counties, cities, villages, and townships, passed the House 104-4.

Senate Democrats moved a competing public safety proposal in its general government budget recommendation. They said it would provide more flexibility in what types of programs communities could spend the money on.

Within the Department of Treasury budget, the Senate Appropriations General Government Subcommittee did not pursue the governor's recommendation to use \$75 million in sales tax revenue within the revenue sharing portion of the department's budget for the Public Safety and Violence Prevention Fund as proposed.

In its place, the subcommittee instead included \$100 million in the Department of Treasury's operations budget as a newly created Community Crime Reduction Initiative.

Of this funding, \$60 million would be distributed according to the taxable value per capita formula to counties and eligible cities, villages, and townships, with \$50 million coming from a newly created Community Infrastructure Fund and \$10 million in the General Fund.

Another \$40 million in one-time funding would be distributed to counties and eligible cities, villages, and townships according to a taxable value per capita formula. Of this, \$25 million would be distributed through the proposed Community Infrastructure Fund, and the remaining \$15 million would go to the General Fund.

Cherry said the Senate proposal would provide more flexibility for communities in improving public safety. Some communities may want to hire more law enforcement officers, while others may wish to enhance mental health programs or build up a community violence intervention program.

State Road Plan and the 2026 Budget

The Senate held one committee hearing on the House roads package, which was passed in March. While the plan had bipartisan support in the House, the Senate has concerns about where the funding would come from in the existing state budget without affecting critical services. The Senate Transportation Committee did move a budget that includes \$3B in contingency spending if a long-term road spending plan were to be negotiated and approved. That does not mean they have funded a plan; it is only meant to acknowledge the possibility of a deal.

Through the new transparency portal created this year, the House received over 800 budget earmarks totaling over \$4B in spending requests. The House Appropriations Committee will vet each submission before it is considered.

While budget season has begun, House leadership has made it clear their priority is a long-term roads package using currently existing funds.

Remaining 2024 House Schedule Released

The House is scheduled not to meet May 27, May 28 and May 29, the dates of the Mackinac Policy Conference.

It is scheduled to meet in July and August; however, those are typically months when the House and Senate are not in session.

The House will meet July 1, July 15, July 22-24 and July 29. It is then scheduled to take the first two weeks of August off and then meet regularly – Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday – through Labor Day.

The Chamber will then be in session regularly from September through the week of November 10, except for state holidays. The last day of House session scheduled for the year is December 18.

Other Legislation

HB 4081 – Introduced by Rep. DeBoyer (R) would allow municipalities to use the Land Division Act to approve dividing land into additional parcels or tracts if the land met standards established by the municipality. **Passed by the House**

HB 4014 – A reintroduction by Rep. Slagh (R) would add grandmother or grandfather to the list of exemptions for a transfer of ownership for transfers of residential real property to a previous owner's immediate family member. **The bill was passed by the House 97-11.** The Senate referred HB 4014 to the Committee on Finance, Insurance, and Consumer Protection.

8. PRESENTATIONS

The Board and audience heard presentations from Semca Michigan Works and DTE.

9. ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

Congresswoman Debbie Dingell informed the board that the senate is in the midst of reconciliation with the budget. The Congresswoman encouraged the board to let her office know if a community experiences program freezes and to let her office also know what each community needs and what you are not getting.

Congresswoman Tlaibb and ensured that if funding has been promised, those communities are legally entitled to the funding. The Congresswoman's office is working on resubmitting community funding projects. She also invited her communities who have experienced denials for funding that she will work together to appeal. Lastly, the Congresswoman asked all communities to survey community on the 11% DTE increase that will be taking place as she is worried a lot of community members are unable to pay current rates.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments were made by the public.

11. OTHER BUISNESS

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The CWW Board Meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.
