



CONFERENCE OF WESTERN WAYNE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER- BROSNAN

Mayor Brosnan called the meeting to order at 9:33 am.

Trustee Mr. Rush introduced the board and the audience to Sumpter Township.

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;

Mayor Robert McCraight, alternate, City of Romulus;

Mayor Bill Bazzi, City of Dearborn Heights;

Mayor John Rhaesa, City of Wayne;

Mayor Ken Voigt, City of Belleville;

Ms. Colleen Lazere, alternate, 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;

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: City of Plymouth and City of Westland.

Others present: 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 June 13, 2025.

AYES: All. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES- MCRAE

Motion by McRae, supported by Rush to approve the meeting minutes for May 9, 2025.

AYES: All. Motion carried.

6. TREASURES REPORT- MCCRAIGHT

Motion by McRae, supported by Graham-Hudak to approve the Treasurers report for 5/31/25.

AYES: All. Motion carried.

7. DIRECTORS REPORT

A. Executive Director's Report- Sellek

Executive Committee Authorization -Action Item

The CWW Board does not meet during the months of July and August. Traditionally, the CWW Executive Committee has been authorized to act on standard board issues with the ability to call a special meeting for the full board if necessary.
The CWW Board Members may wish to adopt the below resolution designating the executive committee to act on behalf of the full board from June 14, 2025 to September 11, 2025:

A Resolution in Support of the Executive

Committee to Act for Full Board

Whereas, the Conference of Western Wayne (CWW) is a consortium of eighteen western Wayne County communities joined in an effort to improve local government and local services through cooperation and collaboration; and

Whereas, the CWW Board traditionally does not hold full Board Meetings during the months of July and August of each year; and

Whereas, if any issues of extreme urgency arise, a full Board Meeting would be called for all communities to attend;

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved that the Conference of Western Wayne Board authorizes the Executive Committee to act on behalf of the full Board from June 14, 2025 through September 11, 2025 with the next full CWW Board Meeting scheduled for September 12, 2025.

Motion by Rush, supported by Bazzi to adopt the Executive Committee to act for full board.

AYES. All. Motion carried.

CWW Transit Subcommittee

Members of the CWW Transit Subcommittee have met numerous times to discuss the upcoming Wayne County Transit millage. The millage, which will likely appear on the August 2026 ballot, would request just under 1 mil for some type of transit plan in Wayne County. CWW communities would contribute \$33.8 million of the \$58 million county-wide tax, as western Wayne is 57% of the County's tax base.

Many of our communities are currently working on gathering data from their residents on transit needs. SEMCOG has also partnered with MDOT on a transit study, which will continue through the fall after a summer hiatus and is expected to be completed by next spring or early summer. SEMCOG will share that data with us when it is available.

The Subcommittee is working on bringing a recommendation to the Full Board at the September meeting.

Board Meeting Format Changes

Ana and I are scheduling individual meetings with Board members throughout the summer to discuss goals and needs for 2026. One change we are considering is allocating more dedicated time at the start of the meeting for host communities to present on special projects or issues they are currently working on.

We will be seeking input on what types of information could be helpful to you. I.e., specific types of community projects, transit systems, fund balance budgeting, public safety, etc.

CWW Summer Activities

The CWW staff will be working on several significant projects over the summer months. Staff will be occupied with the 2025 Salary Survey, the CWW 2025-2026 budget, and the 2025-2026 State budget.

We are also seeking input on any desired changes to the 2026 Salary Survey. We will be exploring more in-depth questions on police and fire retirement for the 2026 survey.

A Special Thank You

CWW would like to thank and acknowledge Cari Johnson, Assistant Director of the Downriver Community Conference for her 45 years of service to the organization and the region. CWW will be sending Ms. Johnson a recognition plaque in recognition of her retirement.

Next CWW Meeting

Have a great summer. The next CWW meeting is Friday, September 12, 2025 in Garden City.

B. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE- Sellek

FEDERAL:

Drone Executive Orders

Last Friday, President Donald Trump issued two new executive orders: [Unleashing American Drone Dominance](#), which focuses on accelerating drone integration into American airspace, and [Restoring American Airspace Sovereignty](#), centered on bolstering security against emerging drone threats. Both contain pivotal mandates with significant implications for state and local government drone operations.

The first directive would expand drone capabilities for public safety, **streamlining the process for agencies to introduce beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) operations**. That would allow an unmanned aerial system (UAS) pilot to maneuver a drone beyond where they can see it in the sky, as is common with [drone-as-first-responder programs](#), [search and rescue operations](#), disaster response, and damage assessments. By July 6, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) must begin the process of writing new rules to make it easier and more common for public safety drones to fly beyond the operator's line of sight. The FAA must also establish safety rules for these extended flights. The FAA has a deadline of February 2026 to publish the final rule that allows for BVLOS flight operations for commercial and public safety purposes.

The presidential order also utilizes AI tools to expedite drone waiver processes. **In addition, it mandates grants for state and local tech that can detect, track and identify drones that might appear in communities. However, the orders do not explicitly grant state and local law enforcement new authority to take down or disable unauthorized drones.**

The attorney general and secretary of Homeland Security have been mandated to ensure their grant programs permit eligible state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) agencies to receive federal funds to purchase tools to help detect, track, and identify individuals flying unauthorized drones.

Within 60 days, law enforcement will get automatic, real-time access to information about drones flying in their area, including who owns them and where they're flying from.

Remote ID data will serve as a form of digital license plate that law enforcement can see, potentially making it much faster and easier to determine if a drone poses a problem and locate its operator.

Within 90 days, the FAA is required to solicit applications from state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, in collaboration with a private-sector partner, to participate in a special pilot program testing electric vertical takeoff and landing aircraft. The federal government will select five pilot tests for advanced drones to deliver supplies or cargo. Selections will be finalized in 2026. This is to support public safety's ability to logistically move heavy equipment, like carrying water or fire suppressant, during wildfire operations.

The federal government will also publish new guidance to help private owners of critical infrastructure, such as power plants or water treatment facilities, learn how to use technologies to detect drones.

Federal agencies will also begin examining ways to enhance the inclusion of local law enforcement in joint anti-drone operations. The attorney general and Secretary of Homeland Security are directed to explore integrating counter-UAS operational responses into Joint Terrorism Task Forces for the protection of mass gathering events.

The executive orders are expected to create an immediate surge in drone activity requests from delivery companies, emergency services, infrastructure inspection teams, and other commercial operators. Communities that lack comprehensive drone operations management systems will likely find themselves overwhelmed or at a competitive disadvantage.

As CWW has discussed and many of our communities have started planning for, local governments will need to establish new zoning regulations for takeoff and landing areas, develop communication protocols to keep residents informed about increased drone activity in their neighborhoods, and create enforcement mechanisms for violations of restrictions. Law enforcement agencies will require training on drone-related regulations and response procedures, while legal departments must draft policies covering everything from data privacy to liability frameworks.

Finally, the new orders call for all federal agencies to prioritize American-made drones. **The executive orders don't ban Chinese-made drones**, but the administration stated that it will prioritize American-made drones in federal procurement programs and open up grants to help state and local first responders purchase U.S.-made drones.

Airspace Link has also compiled a comprehensive analysis of both orders.

[What the Administration's Historic Drone Executive Orders Mean for America](#)

Tax-Exempt Municipal Bonds

The federal budget reconciliation bill, or the One Big Beautiful Bill, did not include changes to tax-exempt municipal bonds.

AI Preemption

The House passed budget reconciliation bill bans state and local governments from enacting or enforcing any law regulating artificial intelligence for a period up to 10 years.

However, the Senate version requires states not to regulate AI in order to access federal broadband funding.

Proponents of the moratorium argue a patchwork of state laws is confusing or burdensome to technology companies trying to innovate in multiple parts of the country.

PHMSA and Rail Derailment Requirements

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has a requirement in place for all Class I railroads to notify 911 centers of train derailments by June 24, 2025. The railroads have one year to develop and implement an electronic notification system for 911 centers, but they must still notify them in some fashion starting this June 24.

All railroad systems are required to notify 911 centers of derailments by June 24, 2026.

AskRail is now available to 911 centers via access request by the center. Derailment notifications can be done via AskRail.

STATE:

SB 319 Minimum Staffing Bill

Last session, CWW opposed the bills that would require minimum staffing be included in collective bargaining for all Act 312 agencies. **While facing an uphill battle, we (along with other groups) were effective in getting our message across and the legislation only passed the Senate before it died.**

The legislation has been reintroduced with the same language:

(2) For public employees subject to 1969 PA 312, MCL 423.231 16 to 423.247, as used in subsection (1), "other conditions of employment" includes, but is not limited to, minimum staffing levels within the bargaining unit. However, if, as compared to the immediately preceding fiscal year, there is a reduction in the amount of monies the public employer receives under section 10 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963 or a reduction in property tax collections due to a reduction in the total taxable value of the public employer, the public employer may, but is not required to, collectively bargain with public employees subject to 25 1969 PA 312, MCL 423.231 to 423.247, with respect to minimum staffing levels within the bargaining unit. For employees not subject to 1969 PA 312, MCL 423.231 to 423.247, this subsection does not prohibit the employees from collectively bargaining with respect to minimum staffing levels within the bargaining unit.

The Senate Committee on Labor held a hearing on Thursday morning on SB 319. A verbal update will be provided at the CWW Board meeting. CWW submitted a card of opposition. The committee took testimony only, there was no vote.

Polluter Pay Reintroduced

Senate Bills 385-387 and 391-393 were reintroduced from last session as the “Polluter Pay” package. Most of the language has remained the same, but there have been some minor changes. CWW opposed the package along with MTA.

For a refresh:

The intent of the legislation is to get companies to clean up their sites and provide transparency.

In 1990, Michigan passed the nation’s most stringent environmental cleanup laws. The Michigan Environmental Response Act made anyone who owned or operated a contaminated site at any point in its history responsible for cleanup. If the company believed it didn’t cause the problem, it was up to them to prove it wasn’t responsible. Fear of liability for cleanup led to a lack of investment in urban areas with the highest density of polluted sites. This resulted in developers setting their sights on Greenfields.

In 1995, Michigan passed a law to reduce the requirements for those found responsible, tying cleanup thresholds to the land’s intended use and requiring proof of who caused the contamination before anyone can be held accountable for fixing it. This new law resulted in 29 of 33 municipalities reporting an uptick in brownfield redevelopment.

The debate continues on how to address the issue, as Michigan has over 24,000 known contaminated sites, some of which have changed hands repeatedly, making it nearly impossible to prove who caused it. The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) estimates that it would take several billion dollars to clean all of them, plus extra staff.

Current law already requires companies to clean up contamination if they’re responsible. Still, this legislation goes further by requiring cleanup to be done to what is “technically feasible”. The updated bills did remove the “up to residential use” requirement, but the “technically feasible” is still ambiguous.

This legislation is unlikely to address the current contamination sites, as most are orphan sites that were established decades ago when protective laws weren’t in place. Additionally, many of the industries responsible for the contamination have either ceased operations or undergone restructuring. This legislation will increase time, reporting, notice, and investigation regarding Baseline Environmental Assessments (BEAs), which will likely make it more difficult for financing. **With the additional risk, this legislation could yield the same results as the 1990s law, leading developers to choose Greenfields or other states.**

The bill package had a committee hearing Wednesday morning (less than 18 hours after the bills were introduced). CWW submitted a card of opposition, as the committee's original intent was to vote out the bills. However, the committee ended up only taking testimony at Wednesday's meeting. We will work on gaining more knowledge of the changes over the summer. The committee is planning on bringing these bills back in the fall.

Hazardous Waste Legislation

SB 246 and 247 had a committee hearing last week. SB 247 is a reintroduction from last session, a bill which CWW supported. SB 246 is a reintroduction with changes, so CWW would need to reestablish its position on the legislation.

SB 247 (CAMILLERI) would establish a \$.41/cent per gallon fee for certain hazardous waste injected into a Class I commercial hazardous waste injection well. The bill would direct the fee revenue to a disposal well host community (Romulus) fund. There are currently only two Class I Commercial Hazardous Waste Disposal Wells in the State, both located in the City of Romulus. In the event of a disaster with this type of well, the community is responsible to additional equipment and public safety. This increase can help offset those costs.

SB 246 would increase the fee for disposing of hazardous waste from the current \$10/ton to \$25/ton. The bill also increases the disposal fee for radioactive waste from \$5 per ton to \$12.50 per ton. In addition the disposable waste tipping fee, or the charge to dump in Michigan landfills would increase from .36 cents a ton to \$1.20. The bill includes a CPI adjustment for the fee every five years.

Revenue from the fees collected would be sent to the following funds:

55% to the Cleanup and Redevelopment Fund

20% to the City and Township Surcharge Reimbursement Fund (NEW)

15% to the Host Communities Grant Fund (NEW) (questions about this fund, how it would be disbursed and if funds would also go to host counties)

10% to the Materials Management Planning Fund (NEW)

Currently generators are eligible for a refund on fees paid if they can document a reduction in the amount of hazardous waste generated as a result of process change that reduces the amount of waste disposed in a landfill. The bill would eliminate this refund.

SB 246 would increase the fee on TENORM (Technologically Enhance Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material that was originally legislated with the intent of being for only hospital waste) disposed in a landfill from \$5/ton to \$12.50/ton, beginning 1/1/26.

Beginning in 2031, a CPI adjustment would be calculated for the fee, and the fee would have an ongoing CPI adjustment every five years.

The bill would require EGLE to develop a comprehensive state hazardous and LARM waste management plan. The plan would specify the maximum licensed capacity for hazardous waste and LARM waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities. The maximum capacity would be equal to the amount of hazardous and LARM waste that the department determines will be generated in the succeeding 5-year period. The language would update the last hazardous waste management plan, which was completed in 1990.

A substitute for SB 246 was submitted on Thursday prior to the committee hearing. The substitute changed the name of “community reimbursement fund” to “city and township reimbursement fund”. There are still questions as to how monies would be disbursed to municipalities. At this time, MML, MTA and SEMCOG are not taking a position on the legislation. However, stakeholders and the sponsor are working on changes between now and when the bill goes to the full Senate for a vote, so more changes are expected.

Trial Court Funding and SCAO

PA 47 of 2024 requires the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) to analyze trial court costs and revenue sources by May 1, 2026, and use this information to develop a new statewide court debt collection system and new systems to fund courts' capital improvement and operational costs. The bills also extend the sunset on a trial court's authority to impose the actual costs of court operations and facility maintenance on a defendant who is found guilty or pleads guilty to May 1, 2026.

The intent behind the change was to remove trial courts ability to impose fines and fees as a way to boost local revenue.

Under the new funding model, the key changes to the way trial courts will be funded are as follows:

- **Maintenance of Effort (MOE): To fund operational costs of the court, local funding units will be responsible for an MOE, set at the amount they currently spend on trial court operations from their own general fund, described further below.**
- **State & Federal Grants:** Current state and federal grant funding to the trial courts will not be affected under the new trial court funding model.
- **Statewide Collections:** Court assessments will be centrally collected by the Department of Treasury, go into a state Trial Court Fund, and then be redistributed to local funding units based on their need operational costs.

- **State Appropriation:** The state will appropriate any additional funding needed to fully fund trial court operational costs and distribute that to local funding units along with court assessments from the Trial Court Fund.
- **Total Operational Costs:** Total court operational costs will be calculated in part from current spending and informed by the Court Operations Resource Report (CORR), which will determine appropriate levels of staffing, discussed further below.
- **Facility Maintenance & Capital Funding:** Capital facility improvements will be funded separately, discussed further below.

While the final costs are still being finalized, it is anticipated the total cost to run probate, circuit, and district courts will be approximately \$1 billion.

The total budget (likely to be around \$1 billion) will include 1) the local contribution (MOE), which is the average of a local funding unit's annual expenditure of general fund on trial courts for the past three years, 2) court generated revenue (centralized at the state and redistributed), 3) existing state and federal grants, and 4) a state general fund contribution to make up any shortfall. For court operations (not including capital improvements, discussed below), local funding units will not be asked to contribute anything from their general fund that they aren't already spending or responsible for – the MOE memorializes that amount. It locks it into place (absent adjustments, discussed below) and does not require an additional contribution from local funding units.

The FAQ's between MML/MTA and SCAO, which address in more depth how the funding model would work will be provided in the email version of the report.

The recommendation report is set to be released in mid-June. While SCAO is required to submit these recommendations to the legislature, the legislature is not required to act on them. They could simply extend the sunset beyond May 1, 2026. Seeing as this will likely cost the state an exorbitant amount of money, that very well may be the route they take.

8. PRESENTATIONS

We heard a presentation from Stephanie Osborn with Make Food Not Waste.

9. ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

Congresswoman Tlaib addressed the board on the budget proposal impacts and wants there to be open communication from communities when they receive rejections or funding being taken away. Her and her team are working on injunctions for unlawful rejections. The Congresswoman is working on getting tariffs exempt on baby products for all to have affordable access.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments were made by the public.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

None

12. ADJOURNMENT

The CWW Board Meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.