



The Governing Voice for  
700,000 Wayne County Residents

## CONFERENCE OF WESTERN WAYNE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**April 10, 2026**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER- GRAHAM-HUDAK**

Supervisor Anne Marie Graham-Hudak called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Mayor Brosnan welcomed the board and the members of the audience to the City of Livonia.

### **2. ROLL CALL- McCRAIGHT**

Mayor McCraight called the roll:

Supervisor Ann Marie Graham-Hudak, Canton Charter Township;

Mr. John Carter ,alternate, City of Northville;

Mayor Robert McCraight, City of Romulus;

Mayor John Rhaesa, City of Wayne;

Mr. Randy Priest ,alternate, City of Belleville;

Police Chief Everette Robbins ,alternate, Huron Township;

Fire Chief Joseph Murray, alternate, City of Dearborn;

Supervisor Pat McRae, Redford Township;

Fire Chief Jason Kaye, alternate, City of Inkster;

Ms. Sandy Groth ,alternate, Plymouth Township;

Supervisor Mark Abbo, Northville Township;

Mayor Mark Jacobs, City of Garden City;

Deputy Mayor Jim Godbout, alternate, City of Westland;

Mayor Maureen Brosnan, City of Livonia;

Mr. Tim Rush, alternate, Sumpter Township;

Mr. Dan Sellman ,alternate, Van Buren Township;

Mayor Linda Filipczak, City of Plymouth.

CWW Board Member/voting alternate of record not present: City of Dearborn Heights

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

### **3. INTRODUCTIONS- GRAHAM-HUDAK**

Board members and the audience introduced themselves.

#### **4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA- GRAHAM-HUDAK**

Motion by Brosnan, supported by Rush to approve the agenda for April 10, 2026.

#### **5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES-McCRAIGHT**

Motion by Brosnan, supported by Murray to approve the meeting minutes for March 13, 2026.

#### **6. 2025 FINANCIAL REVIEW**

Plante Moran came to give the board the 2025 financial review for CWW.

#### **7. DIRECTORS REPORT-SELLEK**

##### **Preemption Package Update**

Both the Preemption bill package and the MI Home Program bills are in the Government Operations Committee. No action is expected until after the April 21 filing deadline.

The Governor has indicated the desire to do a Michigan State Housing Credit similar to the Federal Housing Credit. Bills to address this are expected to be introduced mid-to-late April. There is also potential for House budget bills to start dropping next week, and as indicated by Speaker Hall, property tax reform is a House priority.

Please continue engagement with your legislators about the preemption package and the MI Home Program bills. MML, MTA and SEMCOG have materials on their websites that communities can use in educating on the effects of the proposed legislation. Also important to note, the preemption bills cannot pass the House without democratic support. The republicans do not have the votes.

##### **Romulus and AG Nessel File Suit on Planned Ice Detention Center**

On March 24<sup>th</sup>, Romulus and Nessel announced a lawsuit against what she calls a “rush job” from U.S. Immigration and Enforcement to turn a Romulus warehouse into a detention center.

The lawsuit claims the warehouse is simply not and never will be an appropriate place for a detention center, citing nearby schools and residential neighborhoods, as well as being rushed through traditional zoning processes.

ICE confirmed in February, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security purchased a facility in Romulus, near DTW, touting economic benefit it would create.

ICE said the facility is not a warehouse, but rather a “very well-structured detention facility”, meeting our regular detention standards.

### **Mullin Pauses Warehouse Purchases**

Days after new DHS Secretary Markwayne Mullin was sworn in, DHS paused the purchase of new warehouses intended as ICE detention centers. The Department is going through all related contracts signed by former DHS Secretary Noem.

**During Mullin’s confirmation hearing he stated that he wanted to “work with community leaders” and “be good partners”. He also noted that most municipalities don’t have the capacity in their infrastructure for the waste and water needs that come along with a detention center.**

He inherited the \$38.3B plan to boost detention capacity by 92,000 beds. So far, 11 warehouses have been purchased, but there are 3 lawsuits pending and the capacity of at least one warehouse has been scaled back.

**Also, to note, last week Mullin rescinded a rule that DHS expenditures over \$100,000 be approved by his office. The rule that was instituted by Noem had created a particular burden on FEMA’s work aiding disaster and response recovery.**

## **Municipalities Encouraged to Review Public Water System Settlement Claims**

Local governments are encouraged to carefully review the class-action settlements claims process designed to resolve allegations of PFAS contamination in public water systems' drinking water before entering into agreements with outside firms.

The state Department of Attorney General has been made aware of law firms advertising their services to help municipalities obtain proceeds from these PFAS settlements. **While municipalities may choose to retain legal support at their discretion, no separate legal representation is required to apply for settlement funds.** The claims process is designed to allow municipalities to complete submissions directly through the claim's portal managed by a special master and a claims administrator on the [PFAS Settlement website](#). **Eligible water systems are already included in the settlement class unless they previously opted out. [A list of eligible municipalities is available online](#), as are upcoming deadlines, FAQs, and contact information for the claims administrator, special master and class counsel who represent all eligible water systems.** Formulas that determine exact distribution amounts to eligible water systems are pre-determined as part of the settlement's allocation procedures. **The volume of impacted water and degree of impact are the main factors in calculating the cost of treating PFAS. There is no negotiation to increase an eligible water supply allocation.**

Some law firms may charge a fee for their services or request a percentage of settlement proceeds as compensation. This may cause municipalities to incur unnecessary expenses and thus, municipalities are encouraged to review an agreement carefully before joining. Information on the basics of the settlements and key dates is available on the [PFAS Water Settlement website](#).

## **Report: Local gov'ts Fiscally Stable...For Now**

The University of Michigan's Center for Local, State and Urban Policy, using local government financial data from the Department of Treasury covering fiscal years 2022-24, found a slight increase in the percentage of local governments experiencing increased fiscal stress. The report shows that while local governments in Michigan are generally strong fiscally, pressures emerging in recent years continue to persist and are putting more communities in a more fragile position.

**Results in the [report](#) came from responses received from 79 of the state's 83 counties as well as 274 cities, 241 villages and 1,191 townships.**

**A total of 8% of local governments reported high fiscal stress in the center's 2025 Michigan Public Policy Survey, with was unchanged from 2023.**

**The percentage of jurisdictions reporting low fiscal stress fell from 63% in 2023 to 56% in 2025, while those reported medium fiscal stress grew from 26% in 2023 to 31% in 2025.**

Economic pressures listed as putting local governments at risk of additional fiscal stress include inflation, workforce constraints, varying levels of revenue growth and the end of COVID funds.

Researchers found that local governments are in a strong position to maintain operations for the short term, having cash for daily operations if cashflow is interrupted. Local governments are advised to have enough cash on hand to continue operations for at least 90 days. While strong, the median amount of cash flow for local governments has declined between fiscal years 2022-24.

Counties had a median of 213 days of cash on hand in fiscal year 2022, which had fallen to 168 days in 2024. For cities, the decline was from 257 days in 2022 to 226 days in 2024. For townships the decline was from 692 days in 2022 down to 580 days in 2024.

The report stated that 47% of local officials told researchers they believe their local government was neither better nor less able to meet its financial needs compared to the previous fiscal year. Another 32% said their financial health has improved, and 19% said their financial health has become worse.

**One major source of economic stress for local governments is their ability to meet obligations, notably other post-employment benefits and pensions as well as addressing debt.**

**In fiscal year 2024, pension and OPEB liabilities made up 62.3% of counties' long-term liabilities, followed by 51.8% for cities and 48.9% for townships.**

Local government officials were asked about their expectations for fiscal health in the years ahead. A total of 49% of officials said they expected their communities to have good fiscal health in 2030, which was down from 56% who reported good fiscal health last year.

Fourteen percent of local officials expected high fiscal stress, up from the current 8%.

### **May CWW Board Meeting Location Change**

Northville Township will co-host the May 8 board meeting with the City of Northville at Township Hall.

## **B. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE- HEALANDER**

### **Federal**

As of April 6, the Federal Government is still partially shutdown, primarily affecting DHS. The ongoing shutdown has left tens of thousands of DHS employees, including TSA agents, FEMA Staff, civilian Coast Guard, Secret Service and CISA personnel without pay for nearly 2 months.

**On March 27, President Trump has signed an executive order directing the Department of Homeland Security to pay its roughly 61,000 TSA employees immediately.**

**On April 3, Trump ordered DHS to find a way to pay “each and every employee” of the agency.**

Both orders are unclear as to which funding streams were drawn or to be drawn from. But they do declare that once regular funding is restored “every effort should be made” to “adjust applicable funding accounts within DHS”.

### **State**

The House and Senate have been on spring break and will return to Lansing April 13.

### **Governor Whitmer Signs Legislation for Michigan Physicians**

Governor Whitmer signed legislation on March 26<sup>th</sup> to ensure Michigan remains in the Interstate Licensure Compact.

HB 5455-sponsored by Rep. Rylee Linting, was signed and is now PA 6 of 2026.

The compact is an agreement among states to streamline licensing requirements for physicians who want to participate in multiple states. The intent of the compact is to make it easier for patients to access medical care, particularly through telemedicine and underserved areas.

## **9 Bills From 2023-24 Term Headed to Supreme Court**

**The Michigan Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in May** that could potentially determine the fate of 9 bills leftover from the 2023-24 term that House [Speaker Matt Hall](#) declined to present to [Gov. Gretchen Whitmer](#).

Both the Court of Appeals and the Court of Claims [previously ruled](#) the Constitution required the House to present the bills. The Court of Appeals went further and ordered the House to present the bills.

House Republicans filed the appeal to the Supreme Court in December.

The Senate and the House will have 28 days to file supplemental briefs.

House Republicans, in their appeal, argued the Senate did not have standing in suing the House over the bills, and, by mandating they be presented, the court poses separation of powers concerns.

**Among the nine bills in question is one (House Bill 6058 of 2024) that would require local governments, school districts and other public bodies to pay a greater share of their employees' health insurance premiums.**

The case will face the Supreme Court's 6-1 Democratic majority in its appeal.

## **PSC Approves Consumers Rate Increase**

The [Public Service Commission](#) authorized Consumers Energy to raise rates by more than \$276 million, which is 40% less than what the company originally requested.

In a press release, the PSC announced the authorization for Consumers to raise rates by \$276.6 million. It also approved \$21.7 million for deferral costs for operations and maintenance as it increases efforts to trim trees and \$14.6 million for cloud computing costs associated with an information technology project.

Representatives with Consumers Energy [told reporters](#) the increases are needed to ensure the company can improve reliability and service.

In its release, the PSC said a typical residential customer using 500 kilowatt-hours a month will see an increase of \$6.46, or 6.1%, in their monthly bill. The new rates will take effect May 1, 2026.

## **New Law Enforcement Caucus Created**

State Rep. Mike Harris announced the formation of the Michigan House Law Enforcement Caucus, a coalition of lawmakers committed to supporting Michigan's police officers, sheriffs' deputies,

troopers, dispatchers, and corrections personnel amid rising anti-law enforcement rhetoric and increasingly dangerous conditions on the job.

The caucus will advocate for legislation that strengthens public safety, supports recruitment and retention, improving officer wellness resources, and pushing back against policies that undermine policing and embolden criminals.

The caucus was formed to deliver a clear message: Michigan will back the blue.

Members of the caucus say they are responding directly to what many officers have reported statewide: fewer recruits entering the profession, more resignations, and worsening public hostility.

## **8. PRESENTATIONS**

Melanie Richards from Kids Talk gave a presentation on the programs and resources they provide for our communities.

## **9. ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS**

Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib and Zach Hayward from Congresswoman Debbie Dingells office updated the board on the submitted 2027 appropriations her team is working on.

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Comments were made by the public.

## **11. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by McCraight, supported by Rush to adjourn the CWW Board Meeting at 11:09 a.m.

