



The Governing Voice for
700,000 Wayne County Residents

CONFERENCE OF WESTERN WAYNE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 8, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER- MCRAE

Supervisor McRae called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Mayor Turnbull and Supervisor Abbo welcomed the board and the members of the audience to the City of Northville and Northville Township.

2. ROLL CALL- SELLEK

Ms. Sellek called the roll:

Deputy Supervisor Joseph Hawver, alternate, Canton Charter Township;

Mayor Brian Turnbull, City of Northville;

Mr. John Danci, alternate, City Dearborn Heights;

Mayor John Rhaesa, City of Wayne;

Mr. Randy Priest, alternate, City of Belleville;

Supervisor Kelly Trombly, Huron Township;

Fire Chief Joseph Murray, alternate, City of Dearborn;

Supervisor Pat McRae, Redford Township;

Fire Chief Jason Kaye, alternate, City of Inkster;

Supervisor Chuck Curmi, Plymouth Township;

Supervisor Mark Abbo, Northville Township;

Mayor Mark Jacobs, City of Garden City;

Deputy Mayor Jim Godbout, alternate, City of Westland;

Ms. Aarica Smith, alternate, City of Livonia;

Mr. Tim Rush, alternate, Sumpter Township;

Mayor Kevin MacNamara, Van Buren Township;

Mayor Linda Filipczak, City of Plymouth.

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

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

3. INTRODUCTIONS- MCRAE

Board members and the audience introduced themselves.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA- MCRAE

Motion by Rush, supported by Godbout to approve the agenda for May 8, 2026.

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES- MCRAE

Motion by Jacobs, supported by Turnbull to approve the meeting minutes for April 10, 2026.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT- MCRAE

Motion by Murray, supported by Rush to approve the March 31, 2026 Treasurer's report.

7. DIRECTORS REPORT-SELLEK

Local Governments Closely Monitoring Property Tax Discussions

Local government organizations are closely following the roll out of House Republican's property tax cut proposal and are interested in having more conversations.

Early last week, the House held the first committee meetings for the bill package, which includes HBs 5873-5880.

House Republicans are championing the legislation as a revenue-neutral way to address affordability and the housing crisis, while House Democrats remained skeptical about the math of the plan and how it would affect the School Aid Fund budget and the budgets of local governments.

The package, which includes more roughly \$5 billion in property tax cuts, is being labeled as revenue neutral by Republicans because they are also planning legislation to expand the sales tax to some services. That bill has not been formally discussed or completely defined, however.

Local groups agree there needs to be discussions on property tax, and the history of how we got here with Proposal A. The pop-up tax has severely limited how much local governments can grow.

Local government revenue streams are unpredictable. While we've seen small increases in revenue sharing, many municipalities didn't see increases for decades.

MTA's Judy Allen stated: The estimated impact of this proposal is approximately \$4.9 billion. What has been discussed is that the replacement would generate roughly \$4.7 billion. The replacement mechanism is structured so that schools will be held harmless, and any remaining revenue that would be generated from this new sales tax on services would go to local units of government, but if it's not matching dollar for dollar there would not be sufficient funds.

MML agreed the legislature will need to have a broader conversation, both about property tax and the diversity of revenue streams at the local level.

Revenue Sharing Trust Fund Bills Passed by Senate

The Senate unanimously passed the Revenue Sharing Trust Fund package (SB 559, 561 and 912) which is designed to provide stable, consistent tax revenue to cities, villages, townships and counties. The fund aims to protect funding for local services and has an implementation aimed at October 1, 2026.

The fund would receive a dedicated percentage of the state's sales tax revenue and lock those dollars in a restricted fund. This ensures revenue sharing grows with the economy and that the state budget isn't annually balanced on the backs of local governments. We know revenue sharing has not kept pace with state revenue growth.

Please thank your Senator for their yes vote on this important local government bill package.

GLWA PFAS Settlement Webinar

GLWA has retained Stag Liuzza to represent and advise the organization in the ongoing PFAS litigation. The informational webinar is not meant as an endorsement of the firm, but only to provide information to member communities regarding the 3M and DuPont settlements.

The webinar is scheduled for Thursday, May 14 at 3pm.

Registration for the event: [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

MPSC Issues Request For Proposals For MEAP

As Michigan's system for assisting low-income households with energy assistance continues to expand and provide help to more families, the Michigan Public Service Commission issued a request for proposals (RFP) from agencies that can administer funding and provision of services under the Michigan Energy Assistance Program.

The MPSC issued a notice of funding opportunity and the RFP seeking qualifications, workplans, and budgets for the administration of about \$93 million in MEAP and federal funding and provision of services to assist income-eligible households reduce energy insecurity and resolve home energy crisis situations. **Eligible applicants for one-year grants must be a nonprofit organization, a unit of local or state government or a Tribal government.**

The RFP comes as the state continues its expansion of energy assistance for income-qualified Michiganders. The state passed and the Governor signed legislation in 2024 expanding the income eligibility threshold for Michigan households to receive MEAP support and the amount that may be raised for it each year.

Last month, the Commission set the Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund funding factor at \$1.50 per electric meter, starting with the September 2026 billing month. Each billing meter for customers of participating utilities will be assessed \$1.50, no more than one meter per household. Proceeds pay for MEAP energy assistance and self-sufficiency services.

Before 2024, LIEAF was capped at no more than \$1 per meter, with a maximum limit of funding the surcharge could raise set at \$50 million. The 2024 law eliminated the funding cap and permitted the funding factor to be raised by 25 cents each year until hitting a new maximum of \$2, subject to adjustments for inflation.

The expanded MEAP funding, combined with \$5 million in federal Home Energy Assistance Program, is estimated to provide energy security for a year for about 90,000 Michigan households, up from an average of about 50,000 households yearly before the 2024 MEAP expansion.

The MEAP [RFP](#) and further information about it are available at Further information about the RFP is available at the [MPSC's MEAP webpage](#).

A pre-proposal meeting on Microsoft Teams will be held May 14, 2026, from 10 a.m. to noon. Grant proposals must be submitted no later than 3 p.m. June 12, 2026. The anticipated announcement of grant awards will be in August 2026.

Blue Envelope Program

Canton Township joined the National Public Safety Alliance for Individuals with Disabilities, Blue Envelope program. Some states have enacted it statewide, but Canton decided to deploy the initiative at the request of a local organization.

The Blue Envelope Program is a voluntary, state-level initiative designed to improve interactions between law enforcement and drivers with autism spectrum disorder, dementia, anxiety, or

other communication-related disabilities. Drivers store their license, registration, and insurance in a specialized blue envelope, which signals to officers potential communication needs.

Key Features and Benefits

- **Enhanced Communication:** The outside of the envelope provides guidance for both the driver and the officer, fostering patience and understanding.
- **Safety Tool:** It reduces stress and potential misunderstandings during traffic stops.
- **Contents:** The envelope typically holds the driver's license, registration, proof of insurance, and emergency contact information.
- **Additional Items:** Participating agencies may provide supporting items like seatbelt covers, visors, or wallet cards to further alert officers

Here is the link:

<https://nps-aid.org/>

Canton Township's public outreach:

As Autism Awareness Month concludes, the Canton Police Department is proud to share the meaningful steps we've taken to better support individuals with autism and other special needs, and to introduce new resources that will be available year-round.

This month, we officially rolled out the Blue Envelope Program, designed to improve communication and comfort during traffic stops or other interactions with officers. Individuals can store essential documents, such as identification, vehicle information, emergency contacts, and communication preferences, inside a clearly marked blue envelope. Blue Envelope postcards will be available at the Canton Police Department for anyone who would like to participate.

Canton also introduced new Understanding Stickers. These stickers are intended for placement on vehicles to help notify officers that a driver or passenger may benefit from additional patience, clear communication, or sensory-aware interaction during a stop.

In addition to these new resources, we continued highlighting tools already in place to support safe and compassionate responses:

- **Autism Profile & Emergency Contact Forms:** Families can provide officers with important information to help guide emergency responses.

- Sensory & Communication Support Bags: Each patrol car is equipped with items such as noise-canceling headphones, weighted lap pads, fidgets, snacks, and communication boards.
- Vulnerable or Impaired Person (VIP) Registration: A secure statewide fingerprinting program that helps identify and safely reunite individuals who may wander or be unable to communicate.

These efforts reflect our ongoing commitment to inclusion, understanding, and compassionate service for every member of our community — not just in April, but every day of the year.

Special thanks to all involved for your diligent work on this project.

New CWW Policy-Action Item

CWW Meeting Order Protocol

Chairperson:

First Notice: May I ask you please to be quiet. The Conference of Western Wayne recognizes the right of dissent, but we also recognize the right and need to conduct CWW business. Under the guidelines I must ask you to cease and desist this disturbance and allow our board of directors to continue.

Second Notice: For a second time I ask you to recognize the right of our board of directors to conduct business. This constitutes a second notice. If you are not immediately quiet, I will ask you to be escorted from the assembly room.

Final Notice: You have not responded to my requests to recognize the board of directors' rights to conduct business and are interfering with our ability to do so. I now ask that you be immediately escorted from the meeting room.

*We may ask for a meeting recess and remove the person during the break rather than in the middle of the speech.

Motion by Turnbull, supported by Jacobs to adopt the new CWW meeting policy.

Ayes. All. Motion carried.

SB 917 988 Funding vs. 911 Funding

SB 917 (Bayer) was introduced on April 22. The 911 industry opposes the funding mechanism proposed in SB 917 due to its reliance on a device-based surcharge structure that intersects with Michigan's long-standing 9-1-1 funding model. At the same time, 911 recognizes and supports the importance of the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and appreciate the Legislature's focus on strengthening behavioral health response systems.

Michigan's 9-1-1 system is funded through device-based surcharges on phone lines. These surcharges are carefully structured to directly support emergency communications infrastructure, including call handling, dispatch operations, and the technology required to respond to nearly 6 million emergency calls annually, as well as millions of additional non-emergency calls and text interactions. **Because this funding model is tied to devices and is limited in capacity, any additional surcharge layered onto the same base has the potential to impact the long-term sustainability of the 911 system as a whole. As such, any changes should be evaluated within the context of the existing 9-1-1 framework to ensure clarity, consistency, and long-term system stability.**

2026 Police Week

May 10, 2026-May 16, 2026

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

Next CWW Meeting

The June 5, 2026 meeting will be held in the City of Belleville.

B. Legislative Update- HEALANDER

FEDERAL

As of May 1, the 76-day partial shutdown of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has ended.

All agencies and employees within DHS are fully funded and operating normally. Employees are being paid and back pay is guaranteed by federal law.

The only unresolved issue is future funding for immigration enforcement agencies and that could become a problem again if negotiations fail.

STATE

Drone “Shield” Bills

Members of the Michigan State Capitol Commission were told the House drone legislation is being watched closely and if passed into law in the coming months, further steps can be taken to protect the Capitol Building in Lansing. Waiting for movement in the House is the 15-bill bipartisan package of bills, we have discussed, that would regulate drones acquired or operated by public entities in the State. It would also provide funding for certain public safety departments that want to grow their Drones as a First Responder program.

Michigan Senate and House Pass Their Respective Budgets

The House advanced its \$75.8B budget package, and the Senate advanced its own \$88B spending bills. The Governor’s proposal was also \$88B.

The House reduced or eliminated many earmark type projects and increased focus on oversight and accountability in state spending. They also significantly scaled back any programs tied to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

The Senate increased School Aid and maintained or expanded recent programmatic investments.

The legislature is not in Lansing this week, they will be in Lansing the next 2 weeks and then will break again for Mackinac the last week in May. June will likely serve as the budget home stretch before the July 1 break for campaign season.

House Panel Debates Privacy concerns surrounding License Plate Readers

The House Committee on Judiciary discussed legislation that attempts to address the regulatory wild west of automatic license plate reader systems on the who, when and how of the technology’s use.

The committee took up testimony on HB 5492 and HB 5493, which would work together to regulate how long the data would be stored and what purposes the system could serve.

The bills would only allow government agencies like police departments to keep data for 14 days upon request of the system. The department would also only be able to obtain information from the system collected in the last 14 days with a warrant or preservation request. The department could keep data for longer as part of an ongoing investigation into a criminal act that would be

destroyed at the conclusion of the investigation under the bills. The system could only be used to compare captured plate data with alerts connected to an ongoing criminal or missing person's investigation, parking enforcement, controlling access to non-public areas and electronic toll collection.

The Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police (MACP), opposed the bills, saying the guidelines in place "cannot come at the expense of reasonable and legal public safety practices. These bills as written go too far in ways that will significantly weaken a proven investigative tool, license plate readers are an investigative tool. It's not a surveillance tool. It does not monitor people at random. It does not capture video. It does not use facial recognition. It helps us look backward after a crime has been committed to identify vehicles connected with that crime, locate missing or endangered individuals, recover stolen vehicles and develop investigative leads that would otherwise not exist."

MACP's biggest concern was the 14-day limit, as criminal investigations do not operate on a fixed two-week timeline and crimes are often reported days or weeks after they occur, rendering the technology ineffective in its purpose.

The Michigan Sheriff's Association, also opposed the bill, saying the technology does not infringe on privacy because "they are not crystal balls," as the departments cannot even find who is driving the car, the system is not connected to the Secretary of State.

Michigan House Committee Clears Local Official Term Bills

SB 240 (Moss) would amend Election Law, which currently provides that the term of township officers begins at precisely 12 noon on November 20 after the election.

The bill would change the term of office to begin at precisely 12 noon on December 1 after the election.

8. PRESENTATIONS

Prosecutor Kym Worthy gave a presentation on unsecured firearms and consequences. And also heard the latest company update from Hegira Health.

9. ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

Congresswomen Rashida Tlaib gave an update to the board members on her office working on water access and affordability funding. She also informed the board that her team is beginning to receive responses on the community projects submitted.

10. CWW PARTNERS COMMENTS

Comments were made from SMART, The CEO's Office, PROTEC, Growth Works and DTE.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments were made.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Turnbull, supported by Rush to adjourn the CWW Board meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Ayes. All. Motion carried.