



July 28, 2025
10:00 AM – Oceana County
Michigan State University Ag Bio Research
West Central Michigan – Research and Extension Center
5185 North Oceana Drive
Hart, MI 49420

I. CALL TO ORDER – 10:00 AM by Chairperson Kathy Winczewski

II. ROLL CALL QUORUM: Yes

Commissioner’s Present:

Lake County:	Clyde Welford
Mason County:	Les Johnson, Lewis Squires, Kathy Winczewski
Muskegon County:	Kim Cyr, Rachel Gorman, Michelle Hazekamp, Bonnie McGlothlin, Roger Morgenstern
Oceana County:	Tim Beggs, Joel McCormick
WMSRDC Appointees:	James Kelly, Andrea Large, Jonathan Wilson
Muskegon CC:	Beth Dick
West Shore CC:	Mark Kinney

Commissioner’s Absent:

Muskegon County:	Jennifer Hodges, Chris McGuigan
Newaygo County:	Bryan Kolk, James Rynberg, Paul Mellema

Staff/Guests Present: Erin Kuhn, Syndi Copeland, Annika Gacnik
Grace Sytsma, Muskegon Chamber Intern

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Welford and supported by Commissioner Wilson to approve the agenda for July 28, 2025. Motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Hazekamp and supported by Commissioner Wilson to approve May 19, 2025, Commission meeting minutes. Motion carried.

June 23, 2025, officers meeting minutes are provided for information.

V. WELCOME – Oceana County Commissioner, Tim Beggs

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS

VII. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – There was no report

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Transportation – Transportation staff return this week from the yearly Michigan Transportation Planning Association (MTPA) conference.

Economic Development – Erin sent out an email regarding the President's budget zeroing out the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Funding has, however, been included for both the House and Senate budgets. This gives hope that EDA will be funded at some level.

Environmental Program – WMSRDC held a large event, funded through Healing Our Waters (HOW) Coalition, to promote the good work of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funding that has come into Muskegon to help delist Muskegon Lake as an Area of Concern. Local, state and federal legislators as well as media and project partners were invited. A bus tour took participants to three sites and was followed with a light dinner at the WMSRDC office. In the evening, participants went on a sunset cruise aboard the AquaStar where more sites were viewed from the water. The event was very well attended. WMSRDC thanks DTE for sponsoring Ice Box bars on the AquaStar.

Local Government Services – The Materials Management Planning efforts are moving along as anticipated. Newaygo, Oceana and Lake counties have signed contracts with the State. Muskegon and Mason counties are very close.

Other – Erin announced that the Michigan Infrastructure Council will have another round of Asset Management Champions. The program will begin in mid-August. The deadline to sign up is August 8. Syndi forwarded an email regarding this. This program is highly recommended for any staff members as this will help Michigan better manage its infrastructure. There are already over 600 Champions across the state. A shortened version of the Champions program is being developed to specifically target elected officials and leaders and should be available in the spring of 2026.

IX. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A. June 2025 Financials – Amanda sent a memo with the packet, and Erin stated that financials are going well. Cash is in a good position. When Amanda returns, they will be working on the FY26 budget. A motion was made by Commissioner McGlothlin and supported by Commissioner Morgenstern to accept the June 2025 Financials. Motion carried.

X. **PRESENTATION** – ERC Fellowship – Annika Gacnik

XI. **NEW BUSINESS** – There was no new business.

XII. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – WMSRDC PROGRAMS** - No public attended the meeting.

XIII. ROUND TABLE

- Mark Kinney stated that West Shore Community College had several programs running for the summer such as the Mud Trot, Discovery Program, and College for Kids (about 125 students taking different courses).
- Kim Cyr, Muskegon County, reported on Muskegon Airport. The terminal remodel is completed, new runways are now being completed, and there should be a restaurant up and running in about a year. Denver Air is doing a fantastic job.
- Jonathan Wilson, stated DTE's largest gas renewal project was on the lakeshore in Muskegon (along Apple and Quarterline). He is trying to compile a list of customers who currently don't have natural gas but would like to have it. If you are aware of any new

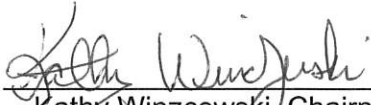
developments occurring that might need natural gas, or anyone who are just interested, he would like to add them to his list and also inform their expansion team to support them.

- Andrea Large – Mason County Community Foundation is opening their fall grant round on August 1, with applications due by September 25. These applications should fall within their strategic priorities of advancing education, improving workforce support, recreation and quality of life. The Youth Advisory Council is opening their teacher's mini-grant round so teachers will have the opportunity to apply for up to \$500 to support innovative education projects. They are hosting a nonprofit strategic planning workshop on August 14 at the Lakeshore Food Club.
- James Kelly, MSU Extension, wondered if the board had toured or hosted a board meeting at the Muskegon County Resource Recovery Center. He toured it in the spring and thought it would be eye-opening for all. James brought a couple of flyers regarding MSU extension field days.
- Rachel Gorman, City of Muskegon, talked about a community open house regarding the Lakeshore Drive construction next March through Labor Day. The city has launched the "See, Click, Fix" app. Anyone in the City of Muskegon can take a picture of anything in the city that needs municipal service attention and upload it to the app and follow its progress through to the end. Rachel commended Erin for a great job on her transportation presentation at the Chambers Economic Summit.
- Roger Morgenstern – The City of Norton Shores had a work session last week with a good discussion about non-motorized pathways. There is a new pathway from Lake Harbor Park to P.J. Hoffmaster State Park that the city would like to extend to the north. This would eventually connect to Muskegon County's Dune Harbor Park.
- Lewis Squires, Mason County, stated that the county has started on their FY26 budget. They are meeting with the West Michigan County Alliance to review the Cox Wedding venue. Mecosta County is likely dropping out of the West Michigan County Alliance. Mason is hoping that someone can communicate with them, that it's better to work together. There is much going on with the Housing Solar Development project. A new building has been bought for the Sheriff Department.
- Kathy Winczewski, City of Ludington, stated that a new restaurant is going up in the City of Ludington, and the contractors did not build it to the specs. There is a Truth and Taxation hearing tonight. They did buy new and bigger fish coolers for the city fish cleaning stations, but they continue talking about other solutions. They are looking for a Wastewater Superintendent.
- Bonnie McGlothin, City of Muskegon Heights, shared that the city finished up their festival in the park last week. They continue to look for a City Manager. The city is doing a lead pipe replacement and will refinish the streets while they are torn up. Thanks to WMSRDC, they are getting a new recreation plan. They are working on a new location for the Post Office. Although Broadway Avenue is a mess, this should be done by the end of this month. They also have a new restaurant going in.
- Beth Dick, Muskegon Community College, stated the fiscal year ended in June. July 1 starts new enrollment which is up 10% from last year. July is the kickoff to their 100-year anniversary. This Friday they will host Party in the Park in Hackley Park. This is to raise funds for MCC.
- Clyde Welford, Lake County, stated North Correctional Facility, detention center accommodating ICE detainees, has some issues with Webber Township about the amount of money they are paying in taxes. The annual Trout-O-Rama event occurred last week. Clyde is running for Congress.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

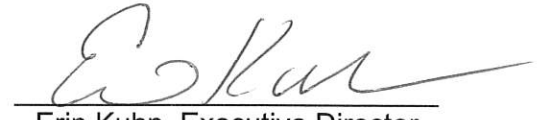
Motion was made by Commissioner Wilson and supported by Commissioner Cyr to adjourn at 11:00 AM. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: September 22, 2025 – Muskegon County



Kathy Winzcewski, Chairperson
9-22-2025

Date



Erin Kuhn, Executive Director
9-22-2025

Date