

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Chairperson
Bruce DeLong
Vice-Chairperson
Zach Rudat

Members
Nicole Fickes
Brian Hurtekant
Robert Showers
John Andrews
Dwight Washington

COURTHOUSE
100 E. STATE STREET
ST. JOHNS, MICHIGAN 48879-1571
989-224-5120



Administrator/Controller
John F. Fuentes
Clerk of the Board
Debra A. Sutherland

This meeting is posted to the Clinton County Meetings YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@ClintonCounty-MI>

DATE 03/12/2026 The Clinton County Board of Commissioners met on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. with Chairperson Bruce DeLong presiding.

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Chairperson DeLong called for a moment of silence. The pledge of allegiance was given to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL Roll was called with a quorum of the members in attendance: Nicole Fickes, Zach Rudat, Bruce DeLong, Brian Hurtekant, Robert Showers, John Andrews and Dwight Washington.

COUNTY PERSONNEL John Fuentes, Todd Campbell and Debra Sutherland

VISITORS Eric Voisinet, Kevin Garvey, Jennings West, Kathy George, Dawn Levey, Bruce Levey, Louis Faivor, Dan Smith, Joe Thelen, Nancy Hughson, John Weber, Rob Mack, Larry Kindel, Donna Graham, Jon Thelen, Theresa Owen, Ed Thelen, Maggie Sayles, Val Vail Shirey, Jim Lawless and Dawn Lawless.

AGENDA The agenda was presented for approval.
BOARD ACTION: Commissioner Showers moved, seconded by Commissioner Rudat to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES The following minutes were presented for review and approval:

- February 24, 2026 Board of Commissioners Meeting

BOARD ACTION: Commissioner Showers moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington to approve the minutes as printed. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS Chairperson DeLong called for public comments. The following individuals offered public comments:

- Bruce Levey, Duplain Township Supervisor;
- Larry Kindel, Greenbush Township Trustee;
- Jennings West, Ovid Township Supervisor.

DISCUSSION ON PLANNING & ZONING SERVICES Administrator/Controller Fuentes provided a brief overview of the materials included in the meeting packet and summarized how prior meeting discussions led to the requests presented.
Chairperson DeLong called for discussion.
Discussion held.

BOARD ACTION: Commissioner Rudat moved, seconded by Commissioner Fickes that the County preserves Planning and Zoning at the County level indefinitely. Voting on the motion by roll call vote, those voting aye were Commissioners Rudat, Fickes, Hurtekant and DeLong. Those voting nay were Andrews, Showers, and Washington. Four ayes, three nays. Motion carried.

BOARD ACTION: Commissioner Showers moved, seconded by Commissioner Andrews to create an equitable payment system that will recognize what each Township should contribute to the yearly shortfall, and they will be responsible to take care of the shortfall for the Planning and Zoning services that they use.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Showers amended his motion, seconded by Commissioner Andrews to create an equitable payment system that will recognize what each Township should contribute to the yearly shortfall beginning in 2027. Voting on the motion by roll call vote, those voting aye were Commissioners Andrews, Showers, Washington and Hurtekant. Those voting nay were Commissioners Rudat, Fickes and DeLong. Four ayes, three nays. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

APPOINTMENT OF REBECCA BRINKLEY BATTERBEE TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD ACTION: Commissioner Fickes moved, seconded by Commissioner Showers to appoint Rebecca Brinkley Batterbee to the Planning Commission for the remainder of a three (3) year term expiring May 1, 2028. Chairperson DeLong called for further nominations. Commissioner Rudat moved to nominate Stephanie Schaefer. Chairperson DeLong asked for support. There was no support for the nomination. Nominations closed. Commissioner Rudat asked for the record to reflect that the nominee, Rebecca Brinkley Batterbee resided in Bingham Township. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF BRIAN BYARS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD ACTION: Commissioner Fickes called for further nominations to appointment to the Planning Commission for the remainder of a three (3) year term expiring May 1, 2026.

Commissioner Washington nominated Jason Almerigi, seconded by Commissioner Andrews.

Commissioner Showers nominated Brian Byars of Dewitt Township, seconded by Commissioner Hurtekant.

Commissioner Rudat nominated Bill Irrer, no support.

Nominations closed. Voting on the motion by roll call vote, those voting Commissioner Showers(Byars), Washington(Almerigi), Hurtekant(Byars), Fickes(Byars), Andrews(Almerigi), Rudat(Byars) and DeLong(Byars). Five for Brian Byars, two for Jason Almerigi. Brian Byars is appointed to the Planning Commission for the remainder of a three (3) year term expiring May 1, 2026.

REAPPOINTMENT OF BRIAN BYARS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD ACTION: Commissioner Showers moved, seconded by Commissioner Washington to reappoint Brian Byars to the Planning Commission for a three (3) year term expiring May 1, 2029. Chairperson DeLong called for further nominations. There were none. Motion carried.

ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS APPOINTMENTS

APPOINTMENT OF MARK
WINSOR
TO THE ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS

BOARD ACTION: Commissioner Fickes moved, seconded by Commissioner Showers to appoint Mark Winsor to the Zoning Board of Appeals for the remainder of a three-year (3) term expiring December 31, 2026. Chairperson DeLong called for further nominations. There were none. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM
KEITH JONES
TO THE ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS

BOARD ACTION: Commissioner Fickes moved, seconded by Commissioner Showers to appoint William Keith Jones to the Zoning Board of Appeals for the remainder of a three-year (3) term expiring December 31, 2028. Chairperson DeLong called for further nominations. There were none. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR/
CONTROLLER'S REPORT

Administrator/Controller Fuentes had nothing to report.

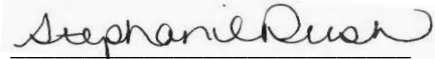
COMMISSIONERS'
COMMENTS

Chairperson DeLong called for Commissioners' comments.

Commissioner Rudat, Commissioner Hurtekant, Commissioner Fickes and Commissioner Washington offered comments.

ADJOURNMENT

BOARD ACTION: With no further business to come before the Board, Chairperson DeLong entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Showers moved, seconded by Commissioner Andrews. Chairperson DeLong declared the meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m.



Stephanie L. Dush, Clerk of the Board

NOTE: These minutes are subject to approval on March 31, 2026.