

**NOTICE OF SEMI-MONTHLY COUNTY BOARD MEETING
And AUDIT/FINANCE MEETING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners will meet on **Thursday, March 26, 2026**, in the District Courtroom of the Schoolcraft County Building, Manistique, Michigan, commencing at **5:30 P.M.**

The following is the proposed Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of Minutes: March 12, 2026, Board/Audit Meeting

5. Approval of agenda
6. Public Hearings:
7. Public Comment
8. Unfinished business:

9. New Business:

Indian Lake/Gulliver/McDonald Lake Authority Update
Jury Board Appointments (2)
Pre-Employment Screening Policy
Township Zoning Administration Agreements
Audit-Finance Committee Report and Action Items

10. Committee and department reports
11. Announcements and notices
12. Public Comment
13. Commissioner's Comments
14. Communications
15. Audit Claims and Vouchers
16. Budget Adjustments
17. Adjournment

And, to take up and consider any other matter which may lawfully come before the Board at this time.

Paul Walker _____
Paul Walker, Chairperson
Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners

Daniel Hoholik _____
Daniel Hoholik, Chairperson Audit-Finance
Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners

Zoom viewing has been ended until further notice. Available only by request and/or invitation by contacting clerk@schoolcraftcounty.us 24 hours in advance of scheduled meeting.

SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING and AUDIT/FINANCE MEETING

The Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioner's Board Meeting / Audit Finance Meeting met on Thursday, March 12, 2026, in the District Courtroom of the Schoolcraft County Building, City of Manistique, Michigan. Chairman Paul Walker called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The roll was called with the following members present and/or absent:

Present: Commissioner Craig Reiter
 Commissioner Bruce Birr
 Commissioner Troy Bassett
 Commissioner Paul Walker
 Commissioner Daniel P. Hoholik
 Schoolcraft County Clerk Beth A. Edwards

Absent: None

Chairman Paul Walker led the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners and the members of the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

It was moved by Commissioner Bruce Birr and was seconded by Commissioner Troy Bassett to approve the minutes of February 26, 2026, Board and Audit Meeting and February 26, 2026, and February 27, 2026, Annual Department Reports Meetings of the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present. [Copies of minutes are available at the Office of the Schoolcraft County Clerk.]

Chairman Paul Walker asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the printed agenda. Commissioner Paul Walker asked to add Building/Grounds & Airport Committee Action item, Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate Member Appointment. **It was moved** by Commissioner Craig Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Daniel P. Hoholik to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Public Hearings: None

Brief Public Comment: Dixie Anderson addressed benefits of Recycling reading a letter from the Democratic Party. Asked that the letter be attached to the minutes.

It was moved by Commissioner Bruce Birr and was seconded by Commissioner Craig Reiter to attach the letter to the meeting minutes. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Brad Zellar addressed the Next Cycle Grant Application and requested a Letter of Support from the County.

Patrick Theut has many years of experience in recycling and offered his assistance.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Update on Indian Lake/McDonald Lake/Gulliver Lake Authorities:

Daniel P. Hoholik addressed the recent meeting of the Indian Lake Authority where they had discussion and renewed the water gauge contract for another year., and next meeting will be on June 10, 2026.

Paul Walker addressed McDonald Lake Authority, no Dam Operator Applications have been received, Commissioner Walker and Commissioner Reiter will be acting Dam Operator until something is in place, and there is a meeting being scheduled regarding methodology and assessment.

Craig Reiter stated that Gulliver Lake does not have a meeting date yet.

Mike Powers and Kaylynn McDougle presented timelines for Material Management (Recycling) including a request for one student and one business on the Community Committee. Brad Zellar requested a Letter of Support for a Next Cycle Grant in the amount of approximately \$168,000. Zellar Sanitation would be obligated to pay the matching funds. Also commenting that at some point he may be asking for the County to pay the matching funds from the current Grant the County received. No obligation on the part of the County. There was much discussion.

It was moved by Commissioner Craig Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to approve a Letter of Support for Zellar Sanitation for the Next Cycle Grant and authorize Paul Walker, Board Chairman, to sign the letter. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Bruce Birr and was seconded by Commissioner Troy Bassett to appoint Sue Hinkson and Judy Lucas to the Commission on Aging Board, term expiring December 31, 2029. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Troy Bassett and was seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to appoint David Muxlow to the Schoolcraft County Landbank Authority, term expiring December 31, 2027. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Bruce Birr and was seconded by Commissioner Troy Bassett to approve the 911 Surcharge in the amount of \$.42 per month per line for the period of July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Paul Walker and was seconded by Commissioner Troy Bassett to accept the MMRMA RAP Grant in the amount of \$9,530, 50% reimbursement for the \$19,060 Security Camera System purchase and install at the jail. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Troy Bassett and was seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to approve a one-year contract with NEUMO and authorize Paul Walker, Board Chairman, to sign the contract. Roll Call Vote: Troy Bassett, yes; Bruce Birr, yes; Craig Reiter, no; Paul Walker, yes; Daniel P. Hoholik, yes. The motion carried by majority aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Paul Walker and was seconded by Commissioner Troy Bassett to approve Resolution 26-4 Authorizing Interim Non-Aeronautical Use of a County-Owned Hangar at the County Airport and interim lease agreements. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Paul Walker and was seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to approve a line item for Pre-employment testing/screening within the Commissioners budget in the amount of \$500 annually. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Craig Reiter and was seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to approve a Letter of Understanding, including a schedule of payments, for the Schoolcraft County Townships for reimbursement of Zoning Department expenses. There was discussion. Roll Call Vote: Craig Reiter, yes; Bruce Birr, yes; Troy Bassett, no; Daniel Hoholik, yes; Paul Walker, yes. The motion carried by majority aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Troy Bassett and was seconded by Commissioner Craig Reiter to accept the bid from Bay Electric, Inc in the amount of \$373,850 for signage and lighting at the

Schoolcraft County Airport, and authorize Paul Walker, Board Chairman, to sign the Certifications. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Craig Reiter and was seconded by Daniel Hoholik to approve a letter to be sent to Chief Judge Beth A. Gibson and authorize Paul Walker, Board Chairman, to sign the same. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

It was moved by Commissioner Troy Bassett and was seconded by Daniel Hoholik to appoint Keith Rochefort to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate member term expiring December 31, 2029. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Reports, the following matters were heard:

Commissioner Daniel P. Hoholik: attended Building/Grounds and Airport Committee, EDC, Brownfield, Audit-Finance Committee, and Indian Lake Authority meetings.

Commissioner Craig Reiter : attended LMAS, Opioid Taskforce, Medicare Advisory Council, and MAC Finance meetings.

Commissioner Paul Walker: attended EDC, Brownfield, and Road Commission meetings.

Commissioner Bruce Birr: attended LMAS meeting.

Commissioner Troy Bassett: attended Building/Grounds and Airport Committee meeting.

Corey Barr addressed DDA applied for a land acquisition grant to purchase the parking lot by Triangle Park.

Heather LaLonde addressed foreclosure on 40 parcels of land this year.

Austin Clark addressed working on the Fetch GIS updates.

Announcements and Notices: None

Public Comment: Brad Zellar addressed Act 138 – requesting county assessment of \$25 per household and pay as you go service.

Patrick Theut addressed recycling and a Gasifier for waste.

Shannon Gerlach addressed misconceptions, people want a choice, and the approved letter of support for Zellar Sanitation and the need to do research.

Dixie Anderson pleased with the board's thought of setting up an authority on recycling.

Mike Powers addressed the Advisory Committee, and he would like to see some students on that committee.

Troy Bassett addressed the Materials Management Meeting in Escanaba is hard to make on Thursdays at 1 p.m.

Corey Barr cautioned on large board being hard to get a quorum.

Dixie Anderson asked whether the Township Association is still active in Schoolcraft County.

Commissioner's Comment:

Craig Reiter hard to find elected officials to fill seats on boards.

Paul Walker addressed Community Committees planning summer events and need help.

Bruce Birr stated that Material Management Planning Committee used to meet at 3:30 on the 3rd Thursday, maybe it could be changed again.

Troy Bassett addressed the Materials Management Committee, getting a quorum and then expecting them to research and read things to be informed. He would suggest appointing two commissioners to the old Public Works Subcommittee and through that committee there could be public comment and discovery.

Communications: None.

At 6:56 p.m., the meeting was turned over to Daniel P. Hoholik, Audit-Finance Chairman.

It was moved by Commissioner Paul Walker and was seconded by Commissioner Craig Reiter to approve the claims and vouchers numbered **4963 through 5123**, inclusive. There was discussion. The motion carried by unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

At 6:57 p.m., the meeting was turned back over to Chairman Paul Walker. Chairman Paul Walker asked if there was any further business to come before the Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Troy Bassett and was seconded by Commissioner Bruce Birr to adjourn. The motion carried by a unanimous aye vote of the Board members present.

Chairman Paul Walker adjourned the Board and Audit Finance Meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Beth A. Edwards, County Clerk

Approved: _____



Resolution of the Schoolcraft County Democratic Party Regarding a County-wide Recycling Program

Whereas, the Schoolcraft County Democratic Party recognizes the importance of protecting the environment, promoting sustainability for future generations and our responsibility to ensure that they have the ability and right to live in a clean and healthy county; and

Whereas recycling not only has a positive impact on the environment but also provides an economic benefit by creating jobs and wages.

Now therefore it is resolved that the Schoolcraft County Democratic Party supports establishing a county-wide recycling program.

Dixie Anderson Chairperson

Schoolcraft County Democratic Party

March 10, 2026

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dixie Anderson".

Marh 10, 2026

Alger County
101 Court Street
Munising, MI 49862
906-387-2076

STATE OF MICHIGAN



11TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT

HON. BRIAN D. RAHILLY

Luce County
407 West Harrie Street
Newberry, MI 49868
906-293-5521

Schoolcraft County
300 Walnut St., Rm 104
Manistique, MI 49854
906-341-3655

Mackinac County
100 S. Marley Street
St. Ignace, MI 49781
906-643-7300

March 9, 2026

Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners
c/o Schoolcraft County Clerk
300 Walnut Street
Manistique, MI 49854

Re: Schoolcraft County Jury Board

The Court is nominating Ms. Tracy Block to fill the vacancy on the jury commission created by the resignation of Ms. Barbara Reiter. Ms. Block's term of office will expire on April 30, 2031.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BDR", written over a horizontal line.

Brian D. Rahilly

Circuit Judge

BDR/jp

Alger County
101 Court Street
Munising, MI 49862
906-387-2076

STATE OF MICHIGAN



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100 S. Marley Street
St. Ignace, MI 49781
906-643-7300

March 9, 2026

Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners
c/o Schoolcraft County Clerk
300 Walnut Street
Manistique, MI 49854

Re: Schoolcraft County Jury Board

The Court is nominating Ms. Jayne Brindley to fill the vacancy on the jury commission created by the resignation of Ms. Barbara Boyer. Ms. Brindley's term of office will expire on April 30, 2029.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BDR", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Brian D. Rahilly

Circuit Judge

BDR/jp

BOARD RESOLUTION LANGUAGE (Michigan-Compliant Version)

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A MICHIGAN-COMPLIANT PRE-EMPLOYMENT SCREENING POLICY

WHEREAS, the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners is authorized under the laws of the State of Michigan to establish employment policies; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to ensure lawful, fair, and consistent pre-employment screening procedures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the Pre-Employment Screening Policy as presented, consistent with Michigan law including the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act and the Bullard-Plawecki Employee Right to Know Act.

This policy shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY

PRE-EMPLOYMENT SCREENING POLICY

(Michigan Compliant – Drug Testing and Background Investigation)

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to promote a safe, secure, and productive workplace for the employees, residents, and visitors of Schoolcraft County and to ensure that all newly hired employees meet appropriate standards of integrity, reliability, and job suitability consistent with Michigan law.

II. SCOPE

This policy applies to all applicants receiving a conditional offer of employment for full-time, part-time, temporary, seasonal, and grant-funded positions with Schoolcraft County.

Certain positions designated as safety-sensitive may be subject to additional screening requirements consistent with state or federal law.

III. COMPLIANCE WITH MICHIGAN LAW

This policy is adopted consistent with:

- **The Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act (MRTMA), MCL 333.27951 et seq.**
- **The Bullard-Plawecki Employee Right to Know Act, MCL 423.501 et seq.**
- **The Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, MCL 37.2101 et seq.**
- **The Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 USC 1681 et seq.)**
- **Federal Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations, where applicable.**

Nothing in this policy shall be interpreted to violate state or federal law.

IV. CONDITIONAL OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT

Schoolcraft County utilizes a conditional offer process. Pre-employment background investigations and drug testing shall only occur after a conditional offer of employment has been made.

Failure to successfully complete required screenings shall result in withdrawal of the offer.

V. BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION

A. Authorization

Applicants must sign a written disclosure and authorization form prior to any background investigation.

If a third-party consumer reporting agency is used, the County shall comply with the Fair Credit Reporting Act, including required disclosures and adverse action procedures.

B. Scope of Investigation

The investigation may include:

- **State and national criminal history records**
- **Michigan ICHAT or equivalent criminal search**
- **Sex Offender Registry search**
- **Verification of prior employment**
- **Verification of education and certifications**
- **Professional license verification (LARA, where applicable)**
- **Motor vehicle record (if driving is an essential job function)**

Credit history shall only be obtained where substantially job-related and legally permissible.

C. Individualized Assessment (Michigan Public Employer Standard)

Schoolcraft County will conduct an individualized assessment of criminal history results, considering:

- **Nature and gravity of the offense**
- **Time elapsed since conviction**
- **Nature of the job sought**
- **Relevance to job duties**
- **Evidence of rehabilitation**

An arrest without conviction shall not automatically disqualify an applicant.

D. Adverse Action Procedure (FCRA Compliance)

If employment may be denied based in whole or in part on a third-party background report, the County shall:

1. Provide a pre-adverse action notice with a copy of the report and “Summary of Rights Under the FCRA.”
 2. Allow the applicant reasonable time to dispute inaccuracies.
 3. Issue a final adverse action notice if the decision is finalized.
-

E. Record Retention (Bullard-Plawecki Compliance)

If hired, background materials that become part of the personnel record shall be made available for employee review consistent with the Bullard-Plawecki Act.

Confidential materials permitted by law to remain separate (e.g., investigative notes) will be maintained accordingly.

VI. PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG TESTING

A. Requirement

All applicants receiving a conditional offer must submit to a pre-employment drug test at a County-designated facility.

Testing will be conducted using scientifically accepted methods and may be reviewed by a Medical Review Officer (MRO).

B. Marijuana (Michigan-Specific Provision)

Under the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act:

- The County recognizes that adult recreational marijuana use is legal under state law.
- However, MRTMA does not require employers to permit employees to work while under the influence of marijuana.
- Schoolcraft County prohibits applicants from reporting to work under the influence of marijuana.

- For safety-sensitive positions, the County reserves the right to disqualify applicants for positive THC test results.
- For non-safety-sensitive positions, marijuana results will be evaluated consistent with operational necessity, public safety obligations, and federal funding requirements.

Applicants must comply with all federal drug testing requirements where applicable (e.g., CDL/DOT positions), regardless of Michigan law.

C. Substances Tested

The County may test for controlled substances including but not limited to:

- Marijuana (THC)
 - Cocaine
 - Opiates
 - Amphetamines
 - PCP
 - Other controlled substances as deemed appropriate
-

D. Prescription Medications

Applicants using legally prescribed medication must disclose such use to the Medical Review Officer during testing. Verified lawful prescriptions shall not automatically result in disqualification unless the medication would prevent safe performance of essential job functions.

E. Refusal or Positive Result

Refusal to test, tampering, failure to appear, or confirmed positive results may result in withdrawal of the conditional offer.

VII. SAFETY-SENSITIVE POSITIONS

Positions involving:

- **Law enforcement**
- **Corrections**
- **Emergency services**
- **Heavy equipment operation**
- **Commercial Driver's License (CDL)**
- **Public safety infrastructure**

may be subject to stricter testing standards consistent with federal or state law.

For DOT-regulated positions, federal law preempts state marijuana protections.

VIII. CONFIDENTIALITY

All screening information shall be:

- **Maintained separately from general personnel files where required**
 - **Accessible only to authorized personnel**
 - **Stored consistent with Michigan public records and personnel record laws**
-

IX. ADMINISTRATION

The Personnel Committee and Human Resources shall administer this policy and may develop procedures consistent with this policy and Michigan law.
