

MONTCALM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Organizational Meeting
Friday, January 2, 2026
9:00 AM

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Carr at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Commissioners Alexander, Johnston, Petersen, Johnson, Mahar, Carr, and Murray.
Members absent: None.

Others present: Kristen Millard, Brenda Taeter, Michelle Becker, Eric Smith and Elisabeth Waldon.

Chairman Carr stated that the first order of business would be the election of a Vice-Chairperson for a one-year term. He stated that he would accept nominations at this time. Commissioner Johnson nominated Adam Petersen as Vice-Chairperson for the next year. There were no additional nominations.

Moved by Commissioner Murray, supported by Commissioner Alexander that nominations be closed and a unanimous ballot be cast to elect Adam Petersen as Vice-Chairperson for the ensuing year. Motion carried.

Discussion took place on the Board of Commissioner meetings schedule for 2026. Brenda Taeter, Controller/Administrator, provided the Board with a proposed schedule that follows the current format of the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. Discussion took place over holding only one meeting in December, moving it to the 3rd Monday of the month.

2026 Board of Commissioners Meeting Dates

2nd Monday of the Month Board Meetings:

Monday, January 12
Monday, February 9
Monday, March 9
Monday, April 13
Monday, May 11
Monday, June 8
Monday, July 13
Monday, August 10
Monday, September 14
Monday, October 12
Monday, November 9
Monday, December 14 (3rd Monday, one meeting in December)

4th Monday of the Month Board Meetings:

Monday, January 26
Monday, February 23
Monday, March 23
Monday, April 27
Tuesday, May 26
Monday, June 22
Monday, July 27
Monday, August 24
Monday, September 28
Monday, October 26
Monday, November 23

Meeting Time: 4:00 p.m.

Moved by Commissioner Johnston, supported by Commissioner Petersen to accept the meeting date schedule with one meeting in the month of December to be held on December 14th. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Johnston to keep the Collective Bargaining Committee members the same as 2025 and appoint the following commissioners to the Collective Bargaining Committee for 2026:

- Adam Petersen, Chair (required to serve on the committee by position as Board Vice Chairman)
- Chris Johnston, Vice Chair
- Patrick Q. Carr, Member (required to serve on the committee by position as Board Chairman)
- Nate Alexander, Alternate
- Matt Murray, Alternate

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Alexander, supported by Commissioner Murray to approve the 2026 Committee Assignments for the Board of Commissioners as amended:

Board or Committee	Bylaws or Membership Requirement	Mtg Time	Meeting Day	2026 Appointee
911 Authority Board	Requires 3 representatives from Montcalm County	1:00pm	1st Tuesday of Odd Months	Carr/Taeter/ Smith
ACSET - Michigan Works	Requires 1 commissioner or representative	8:30am	4th Monday of Even Months	Alexander
AAAWM	Requires 1 elected official/1 consumer of services 60+	1:30pm	4th Monday of Month	Johnson
Brownfield Authority Community Advancement Committee	Requires 1 commissioner	1:00pm	Quarterly - 2nd Wednesday	Alexander
Community Corrections Advisory Board	Requires 1 commissioner	2:00pm	Quarterly - 2nd Wednesday	Petersen
Eight-Cap Governing Board	Requires 1 commissioner; can designate Jeremy Miller	12:00pm	Quarterly - Mar/Jun/Sept/Dec	Mahar
Materials Management Planning Committee	Requires 1 appointment	9:30am	4th Friday of Odd Months	Murray
Mid-Michigan District Health Dept	Requires 2 commissioners	9:00am	4th Wednesday of Month	Petersen/ Murray
Mid-State Health Network Substance Use Disorder Oversight Policy Board	Requires 1 commissioner – appointed as the alternate	4:00 pm	3 rd Wednesday of even Months in Lansing	Mahar
Montcalm Care Network	No more than 4 commissioners/co unty residents	6:30pm	4th Tuesday of Month	Johnson

Montcalm Conservation District	No requirement, but would like 1 commissioner Participation based on membership	8:30am	2nd Tuesday of Month	Johnston
Northern Michigan Counties Association		9:30am	3rd Monday of Month	Taeter
Veteran's Advisory Board	Requires 1 commissioner	1:00pm	2nd Thursday of Month	Johnson

Lake Boards:

Commissioner	Lake Board
Carr	Cowden Lake
	Muskellunge Lake
	Rainbow/Middle Lake
	Tamarack Lake
	Townline Lake
	Winfield Lake
Johnston	Duck Lake
	Indianhead Lake
	Lake Montcalm
	Little Bass Lake
Johnson Petersen	Baldwin Lake
	Clifford Lake
	Dickerson Lake
	Perch Lake
	Turk Lake

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Johnston to adopt the Committee Appointments for 2026 as presented:

Area Agency of Aging of Western Michigan		Community Corrections Advisory Board	
Chuck Hazekamp	12/31/2026	David Hancock	10/31/2027
Building Board of Appeals		Matthew Nave	10/31/2027
Troy Alexander	12/31/2027	Abbigail Stalker	10/31/2027
Ryan Huntley	12/31/2027	Duane Stanton	10/31/2027
Gary Tissue	12/31/2027	Elisabeth Waldon	10/31/2027
Donald Wilson	12/31/2027		
Jerald Brown	12/31/2027	Montcalm Care Network	
Community Advancement Committee		Pam Hilier	3/31/2029
Sarah Dailey	12/31/2028	Kathy Lobert	3/31/2029
Dave Bee	12/31/2028	Diane Moore	3/31/2029
		Amanda Shaffer	3/31/2029

Montcalm Emergency Food & Shelter Program

John Johansen 12/31/2026

Montcalm Housing Commission

Tom Linderman	2/15/2029
Mike Scott	2/15/2029
Paul Rehfus	2/15/2029
Christine Poprowski	2/15/2029

Peer Group

Kristine Saia	12/31/2026
Mark VanRaemdonck	12/31/2026
John Rauser	12/31/2026

Substance Use Disorder Advisory Council

Michelle Seigo	12/31/2028
Jessica Morgan	12/31/2028
Charlie Mahar	12/31/2028

Veterans Advisory Board

Kathleen Lofts	12/31/2028
Jerry Geldersma	12/31/2028

West Michigan Regional Medical Control Authority

Eric Smith	12/31/2026
------------	------------

West Michigan Regional Planning Commission

Mike Scott	12/31/2026
Lisa Lund	12/31/2026
Brenda Taeter	12/31/2026

WMRPC-Comprehensive Economic Development

Strategy	
Mike Scott	12/31/2026
Darin Dood	12/31/2026

Motion carried.

Brenda Taeter, Controller/Administrator, presented the Board with proposed changes to the By-Laws and outlined the minor changes that were made. Moved by Commissioner Alexander, supported by Johnson to approve the Montcalm County Board of Commissioners By-Laws and Rules of Procedure as presented. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered. None were given.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Alexander to adjourn 9:07 a.m. Motion carried.


Kristen Millard, County Clerk
Patrick Q. Carr, Chairman