

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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month. Discussion took place over holding only one meeting in December, moving it to the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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	Requires 1 commissioner	1:00pm	Quarterly - 2nd Wednesday	Alexander
Advancement Committee	Requires 1 commissioner	2:00pm	Quarterly - 2nd Wednesday	Petersen
Community Corrections Advisory Board	Requires 1 commissioner	12:00pm	Quarterly - Mar/Jun/Sept/Dec	Mahar
Eight-Cap Governing Board	Requires 1 commissioner; can designate Jeremy Miller	9:30am	4th Friday of Odd Months	Murray
Materials Management Planning Committee	Requires 1 commissioner appointment	2:00pm	4th Thursday of Month	Johnston
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 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of even Months in Lansing	Mahar
Montcalm Care Network	No more than 4 commissioners/co unty residents	6:30pm	4th Tuesday of Month	Johnston

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
Murray	Indianhead Lake Lake Montcalm Little Bass Lake
Johnson	Baldwin Lake
Petersen	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**

Chuck Hazekamp 12/31/2026

**Building Board of Appeals**

Troy Alexander 12/31/2027  
Ryan Huntley 12/31/2027  
Gary Tissue 12/31/2027  
Donald Wilson 12/31/2027  
Jerald Brown 12/31/2027

**Community Advancement Committee**

Sarah Dailey 12/31/2028  
Dave Bee 12/31/2028

**Community Corrections Advisory Board**

David Hancock 10/31/2027  
Matthew Nave 10/31/2027  
Abbigail Stalker 10/31/2027  
Duane Stanton 10/31/2027  
Elisabeth Waldon 10/31/2027

**Montcalm Care Network**

Pam Hilier 3/31/2029  
Kathy Lobert 3/31/2029  
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