

MONTCALM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 26, 2026
4:00 PM

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Carr at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Blake Jones from Rock Lake Christian Assembly in Vestaburg offered invocation.

Members present at roll call: Commissioners Alexander, Johnston, Petersen, Johnson, Carr and Murray.
Members absent: Commissioner Mahar.

Others present: Kristen Millard, Brenda Taeter, Michelle Becker, Eric Smith, Deb Ballard, Gordon Gorby, Jeff Scoby and Elisabeth Waldon.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Murray to approve the agenda with the addition of timed agenda item at 4:05 p.m. entitled *Gordon Gorby Address Change Appeal* and moving the 4:05p.m. timed agenda for Doug Gietzen to 4:20 p.m. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johnston, supported by Commissioner Alexander to approve the January 12, 2026, regular meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered. None were given.

At 4:05 p.m. Gordon Gorby was in attendance to request a variance to the Address Ordinance to keep his address from changing from 7098 to 7198 W. Stanton Road, Stanton. Mr. Gorby stated that he has had this address for 27 years and it is only being changed because a new home is being built next to him which puts his house number out of order. He asked for an exception to the Ordinance and he be allowed to keep his address as 7098.

Deb Ballard, Equalization Director, was also in attendance and explained that the Addressing Ordinance requires that the house numbers be sequential, therefore his house number had to be renumbered due to the new address being issued next to him. She informed the Board that the Addressing Ordinance does not have an appeal process and literally states that no appeals will be heard in cases where the aggrieved party's address is out of sequence with surrounding addresses.

Chairman Carr explained that Ms. Ballard is doing exactly what the Addressing Ordinance requires of her, however someone who has had this address for 27 years should not have to change their address and go through all of the hassles associated with that change. He stated that allowing the Gorby's to keep their address is not going to prevent first responders from responding to their address. Chairman Carr also stated that the Address Ordinance does not have an appeal process built into it, but it is his opinion that the Gorby's are being asked to do something that is unreasonable.

Ms. Ballard stated that if the Board is going to allow the Gorby's to keep their address then the 7114 address to the east would need to be renumbered so that the addresses are sequential and in compliance with the Address Ordinance.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Johnston to allow the Gorby's to keep their address as 7098 W. Stanton Road and ask the Equalization Department to re-issue a new address number to the property to the east of the Gorby's. Motion carried.

discussion took place on Doug Gietzen's, Director of Building and Grounds, the Administration Building flooring recommendation for flooring bids. Mr. Giezen provided the Board with the Administration Building Flooring bids. Bids were received from Trist Creek, Millard's Furniture, Greenville Flooring, River City Flooring, Gilberts Flooring and Cotter Stone. Mr. Gietzen is recommending accepting the bid from Millard's Furniture in the amount of \$32,163.51.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson, supported by Commissioner Alexander to hire Millard's Furniture to replace the flooring in the Administration Building county offices, except for MSUE offices, for the amount of \$32,163.51. Motion carried.

Brenda Taeter, Controller/Administrator, provided the Board with the 2026 Upgraded Park Rules & Registration Form for Krampe Park, McCarthy Park and Camp Ford Lincoln Park for the Board's review and discussion. She is not looking for a motion for approval, but instead for input from the Board members. Commissioner Alexander informed the Board that it was his understanding that the newly created Parks Rules Committee would review the rules prior to the Board adopting them.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Johnston to send the 2026 Updated Park Rules & Registration Form to the newly created Ad Hoc Parks Rules Committee for their review and recommendations. Motion carried.

Michelle Becker, Controller's Office, provided the Board with the Community Advancement Committee's recommendation to appoint Jamie Rye, Director of West Michigan Regional Planning Commission to the CAC with a term to expire on December 31, 2028.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Murray to approve the appointment of Jamie Rye to the Community Advancement Committee with a term to expire on 12/31/2028. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Johnston to approve warrant report numbers:

01152026 in the amount of \$200,508.18
01222026 in the amount of \$374,146.44
01262026 in the amount of \$381,109.81

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Alexander to approve consent agenda items 6 through 12 and move stated action:

Controller	Canteen Food Service Amendment	Place on file
Controller	Reynolds Township Police Contract	Place on file
Controller	ME Report	Place on file
Controller	COA Report	Place on file
Controller	Dodge Report	Place on file
Controller	EMS Report	Place on file
Controller	Animal Control Quarterly Report	Place on file

Motion carried.

Brenda Taeter, Controller/Administrator, informed the Board that the Address Ordinance, the Private Road Ordinance and the Hazardous Waste Removal Ordinance are in the process of being updated. They are the last Ordinances to be updated and she will present them to the Board at a later date.

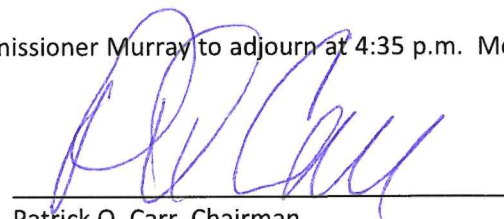
Brenda Taeter, Controller/Administrator, provided the Board with a revised draft copy of the Montcalm County Parks Ordinance. All of the suggested changes made at the last board meeting are in the new draft copy. Commissioner Murray suggested sending the County Parks Ordinance to the Ad Hoc Parks Rules Committee for their review also, specifically for cancellation timelines so they are in tune with the park rules.

Commissioner Petersen stated that the Public Hearing for the County Parks Ordinance must be set for the second meeting in February since reservations go live March 1st, therefore the Ad Hoc Parks Rules Committee must do all of their work before then.

Public comments were offered. None were given.

Moved by Commissioner Petersen, supported by Commissioner Murray to adjourn at 4:35 p.m. Motion carried.



Kristen Millard, County Clerk

Patrick Q. Carr, Chairman

