

The regular meeting of the Oceana County Planning Commission was called to order by Chairperson McKeen on Thursday, August 7, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. in the Oceana County Board of Commissioners Room, 100 S. State St, Hart, Michigan 49420.

September 4, 2025, Meeting Cancelled by Chair.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair McKeen led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Garry McKeen, Secretary John Stivers, Bryan Broderick, Paul Cutter, Joel McCormick. and David Spitler.

Excused Absent: Phil Morse, and Scott Rumsey.

Resignation: Pete Roskam

Guest: Sheriff Craig Mast

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

June 5, 2025, Minutes of the Oceana County Planning Commission meeting:

Motion to approval made by Spitler with second by Broderick. Motion was approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions: None

Motion to approve agenda as it by Broderick with second by McCormick. Motion was approved by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public comments.

FINANCE REVIEW

Report for month ending July 31, 2025, was included in the commissioners' packet. No activity reported for July.

CORRESPONDENCE

A. Golden Township, working on Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

- B. Trileaf Engineers concerning construction of a tower on Winston Road within Claybanks Township.
- C. Claybanks Township, Second Master Plan Notice received from Sara Bizon, zoning administrator. Discussion followed concerning Open lands and land splits. Land preservation is a power of townships, not of counties.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- A. Attended County Commissioners meetings and Oceana County Road Commission.
- B. Riparian rights along Lake Michigan shoreline has become an issue at Cedar Point County Park. The Chair provided an article by attorney Clifford Bloom who had provided an overview of the topic for the Michigan Lakes and Streams Association. Michigan courts indicate non-property owners have the right to cross between the water line and high-water mark, but the court's rulings does not cover if stopping becomes trespassing.
- C. Chair McKeen reported that the Oceana Conservation District had removed 3000 tires from the county. The County Transfer Station is still accepting tires.
- D. Chair McKeen reported on attending one of several West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) sponsored input sessions to identify projects for grants from the National Coastal Resilience Fund, which is a partnership that includes National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. At the Hart, Michigan meeting, Big Sandy Bend on the South Branch Pentwater River was proposed as a project. In the discussion, mention was made of retired DNR biologist Pete Kailing, and of funding from Conservation Resource Alliance.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

- A. Open land preservation was suggested as a possible future topic for Commission discussion.
- B. Consideration was given to having Mary Reilly, MSU Extension, conduct the "Communicating Through Conflict" workshop. An online version is available.
- C. Broderick reported that Weare Township has hired a consultant to help in the development of a solar ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2026 Planning Commission Budget was discussed. It will be similar to 2025. Chair will submit with it including the County's WMSRDC annual membership of \$8,500, and a proposed \$1,200 for training.

Motion to submit to the County Commission the Planning Commission Budget as discussed was made by the Chair with second from Spitler. A roll-call vote was taken with all voting to approve.

- B. Chair McKeen extended an invitation to the ribbon cutting of the Marshville Dam Park, scheduled for August 28th, 3:00 pm. Among the speakers will be John Wyns, historian of the park who prepared the informational signage.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

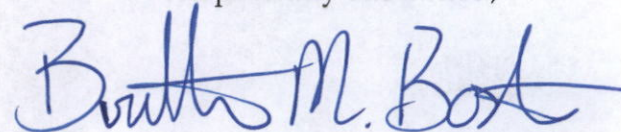
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion from Broderick with second from Spitler, Chair McKeen adjourned the meeting at 2:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Stivers, Secretary, Oceana County Planning Commission

Respectfully submitted,



Brittany M. Bostrom

On behalf of Mr. Stivers, Secretary, Oceana County Planning Commission