

**BARAGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, April 14, 2026-5:00 P.M.

16 N. Third Street, L'Anse, MI 49946

**PROPOSED AGENDA**

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- 1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL**  
Commissioner Niemela, Commissioner Dakota, Commissioner Kent, Commissioner Menge, and Commissioner DeLeon
  - 2. APPROVE AGENDA**
  - 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
Regular Meeting – March 9, 2026
  - 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS- Agenda Items Only**
  - 5. TREASURER'S REPORT- INFORMATION ONLY – NO MOTION REQUIRED**
    - a. Budget Amendment – SPECIAL REVENUES #02-2026
  - 6. APPROVAL OF BILLS**
    - a. BCMH Trustee Per Diem- \$1,120.00 (March 2026)
    - b. Approval of County Commissioner and Dept. Bills, \$
    - c. Approval of Prepaid Accounts, \$
    - d. Approval of Sheriff Dept. Commissary Checking Account, \$6,342.18
  - 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
    - a. 911 Director/EM Manager Position
  - 8. ACTION ITEMS**
    - a. Equalization Director, 2026 Equalization Report
    - b. Baraga County Road Commission, road millage request
    - c. Baraga County Lake Trout Festival, Advertisement
  - 9. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**
  - 10. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
    - BCMH Board of Trustees, Minutes
  - 11. RESOLUTIONS**
    - a. Supporting State Legislative Action for Fiscal Accountability and Local Zoning Authority
  - 12. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**
  - 13. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
  - 14. ADJOURNMENT**

**BARAGA COUNTY**  
**BUDGET AMENDMENTS**  
 For the Fiscal Year Ending 09/30/2026

BA # 02-2026  
 DATE: 03/24/2026

Account Name	Account Number	Revenue Increase - (Decrease)	Expense - Increase- (Decrease)
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**SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS - REVENUES**

**SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS - EXPENDITURES**

CCF Basic Contractual	292-662-805.00	\$	(24,615.00)
CCF Salary and Wages	292-662-703.00	\$	23,000.00
CCF SS and Medicare	292-662-715.00	\$	1,615.00

**JOURNAL TOTALS**

\$	-	\$	-
\$	-	\$	-

**EXPLANATION: To record adjustments to the Special Revenue budget for FY 09/30/2026**  
**Per Board Approval**

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Checks Written 3/1/2026 to 3/31/2026

Printed 4/1/2026 11:26:10 AM

Number	Date	ID	Comment	Amount
2845	3/2/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	\$300.00
2846	3/2/2026		Stellar Services	\$391.98
2847	3/4/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	\$300.00
2848	3/4/2026		12th Circuit Court	\$400.00
2849	3/6/2026		Stellar Services	\$1042.82
2850	3/10/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	\$300.00
2851	3/13/2026		Baraga County Treasurer	\$137.79
2852	3/14/2026		12th Circuit Court	\$500.00
2853	3/14/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	\$300.00
2854	3/18/2026	5475	STEVEN WAYNE GRAY	\$96.53
2855	3/19/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	\$300.00
2856	3/23/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	\$300.00
2857	3/30/2026		BARAGA COUNTY TREASURER	\$1473.06
2858	3/30/2026	5067	KBIC Court	\$100.00
2859	3/31/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	\$100.00
2860	3/31/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	\$300.00
				\$6342.18



18341 US Hwy 41 L'Anse, MI 49946

906-524-3300 www.bcmh.org

**Board of Trustee Meeting Attendance - March 2026**

**Monthly Stipend:**

Shirley Younggren	\$100.00
Jim Loman	\$100.00
Carole LaPointe	\$100.00
Cathy Wadaga	\$100.00
Jayne Walbridge	\$100.00
Kate Beer	\$100.00
Burt Mason	\$100.00

**Board Briefing of 03-12-2026:**

Shirley Younggren	\$30.00
Jim Loman	\$30.00
Carole LaPointe	\$30.00
Cathy Wadaga	\$30.00
Jayne Walbridge	\$30.00
Kate Beer	\$30.00
Burt Mason	\$30.00

**Med Control Authority Mtg: none**

Shirley Younggren	\$ 0.00
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**Regular Board Meeting of 03-17-2026:**

Shirley Younggren	\$30.00
Jim Loman	\$30.00
Carole LaPointe	\$30.00
Cathy Wadaga	\$30.00
Kate Beer	\$30.00
Jayne Walbridge	\$30.00
Burt Mason	\$30.00

700  
210  
210  
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1120

**BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS  
of  
BARAGA COUNTY**

18139 U.S. 41 • P.O. BOX 217  
L'ANSE, MI 49946  
(906) 524-7270 • FAX: (906) 524-7268

COMMISSIONERS:  
Steven R. Koski  
Nicholas D. Lindemann  
Harold J. Miron

Douglas J. Mills, P.E.  
*Engineer/Manager*  
Mary R. Bedner  
*Clerk/Office Manager*

January 30, 2026

Baraga County Board of Commissioners  
c/o Wendy Goodreau, County Clerk  
2 South Main Street  
L'Anse, MI 49946

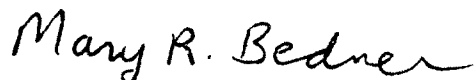
Dear Commissioners:

At a regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of Baraga held on January 8, 2026, the county-wide road millage was discussed. The present two (2) mill levy expires in 2026.

A motion was made, supported and unanimously passed that the "Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of Baraga submit a formal request to the Baraga County Board of County Commissioners asking them to consider a resolution for a road millage renewal proposal to be included with the August 4, 2026, election. Said proposal to be a renewal of the tax levy of two (2) mills for five (5) years for the purpose of construction and improvements to roads and streets within the County".

Thank you, and we appreciate your support. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,



Mary R. Bedner  
Clerk/Office Manager

Enc.

January 8, 2026, continued

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Clerk presented financial data through the end of December 2025.

### **ENGINEER/MANAGER'S REPORT**

The Engineer/Manager reported on issues and activities related to organizational operations.

### **2026 GRANT WRITING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - MICHIGAN INFRASTRUCTURE OFFICE - TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER**

It was moved by Commissioner Lindemann and seconded by Commissioner Miron approving an application to the Michigan Infrastructure Office - Technical Assistance Center for Grant Writing technical assistance and match for the US Department of Transportation's FY 2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program. Motion unanimously carried.

### **2026 QUAD COUNTY WEIGHMASTER SERVICES**

It was moved by Commissioner Miron and seconded by Commissioner Lindemann designating Thomas (T.J.) Clisch, Scott Swanson and individuals to be assigned by the Houghton County Road Commission, including Tom Hyrkas and Nate Kinnunen, as weighmasters for the Baraga County Road Commission. In addition, the Baraga County Road Commission will participate in the co-operative weighmaster services program with Houghton, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon Counties. Motion unanimously carried.

### **SEASONAL WEIGHT RESTRICTION PERIOD/TRANSPORTATION PERMITS**

A motion was made by Commissioner Lindemann and seconded by Commissioner Miron to allow staff to place seasonal weight restrictions on the county road system when appropriate and to allow engineering staff to issue transportation permits during the 2026 seasonal load restriction period for milk haulers, agricultural farmers and utility companies operating in Baraga County in accordance with Section 722, Public Act 300 of 1949, as amended. Motion unanimously carried.



### **MILLAGE RENEWAL LETTER**

It was moved by Commissioner Lindemann and seconded by Commissioner Miron to submit a formal request to the Baraga County Board of County Commissioners asking them to consider a resolution for a road millage renewal proposal to be included with the August 4, 2026, election. Motion unanimously carried.

### **STAFF MEETING ATTENDANCE**

It was moved by Commissioner Lindemann and seconded by Commissioner Miron authorizing attendance at the following meeting:

- Engineer/Manager Mills and/or Assistant Engineer Swanson – CRA Highway Conference in Lansing, March 24-26, 2026.

Motion unanimously carried.

### **NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 3 p.m. local time.



March 25, 2026

Dear County of Baraga,

We are happy to be back planning the [Baraga County Lake Trout Festival](#). The L'Anse Fire Department is ready to see everyone for the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival to be held on [June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026](#). Because of your generous donations we are able to keep this a FREE family festival.

A few highlights of things to do at the festival are

- Kids Carnival Bouncy Houses
- Beach Volleyball Tournament
- L'Anse Fire Dept Run/Walk
- Coloring contest
- Fishing pond

Let's not forget about the vendors that will be there selling a wide variety of items.

Please help us continue the festival with your support. In return for your donation, you will be highlighted on our website, [www.laketroutfestival.com](http://www.laketroutfestival.com), our Facebook page and radio promotion during the festival.

Your donation to continue this festival is greatly appreciated.

The Baraga County Lake Trout Festival Committee

2025 Donation was \$200

----- ✂ ----- Please retain this letter as your receipt ----- ✂ -----

2026 Donation/Advertising \$ 200.00

Send to:  
L'Anse Fire Department  
101 N. Main Street, L'Anse MI 49946  
906-201-2659  
[www.laketroutfestival.com](http://www.laketroutfestival.com)

# MINUTES:

## BARAGA COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

*Tuesday, February 17th, 2026, 5:00 PM - BCMH Main Conference Room (ABCD)*

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**Present:** Cathy Wadaga, Jayne Walbridge, Shirley Younggren, Burt Mason, Jim Loman, Kate Beer, Carole LaPointe

**Admin/Guests:** Kelly Engle, Emily Dault, Rob Stowe, Tom VanEss, Gail Jestila

### 1. Call to Order – Beer

Ms. Beer called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

### 2. Approval of Consent Agenda \*\* - All

Motion: Loman, Second: Mason - All in favor, motion carried.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

- a. Board Briefing of January 15th , 2026\*
- b. Closed Session of January 15th, 2026\*
- c. Board of Trustees Meeting of January 20th, 2026\*

### 4. Medical Staff –Beer

- a. Medical-Dental Staff Meeting Minutes of January 14th, 2026\*\*

Motion: Loman, Second: Younggren - All in favor, motion carried.

- b. Medical-Dental Staff Executive & Credentials Committee

- i. Medical Staff Appointments, Reappointments, and Deletions of February 2026\*\* - Belpedio

Motion: Loman, Second: Younggren - All in favor, motion carried.

### 5. Financial Update - Stowe

Total cash on hand as of January 31st was \$8.993 million. January gross revenue was \$5.3 million, compared to a budget of \$4.8 million. Expenses for the month were \$3.16 million, compared to \$2.77 million last year and a budget of \$3.2 million. The hospital broke even for the month, reporting a positive margin of \$881. Year-to-date, the net loss is \$384,000. Year-to-date revenue totals \$20.9 million, compared to a budget of \$22.7 million and \$18.4 million at this time last year. Year-to-date expenses are \$12.49 million, compared to a budget of just under \$13 million and \$10.7 million last year.

Motion: Mason, Second: Wadaga - All in favor, and the motion carried.

Stowe shared that he had a meeting with MHA regarding funding from the “Big Beautiful Bill,” which includes \$173 million statewide, with \$50 million designated for hospitals. DHHS will decide who gets the money in the coming weeks. We had a good

*Consent Agenda Item \**

*Action Item \*\**

*To be distributed at meeting \*\*\**

conversation with MHA leadership today. BCMH plans to submit a request for potential reimbursement of \$4 million in EHR implementation costs and \$400,000 for monitor integration. MHA will review the request and go to DHHS on our behalf.

**6. Bayside Update - Stowe/Dault**

Current census is 57 of 59 beds. With near-capacity occupancy, the team is able to review referrals carefully to ensure appropriate placement. At this time, there is one male bed and one female bed available. Operations continue to go well.

**7. Wound Care Update - Stowe**

The current hyperbaric chamber patient experienced a fall and is unable to continue treatments at this time. Staff are completing prior authorization for a second patient. Stowe also provided a surgery update, sharing that another robotic procedure was completed today. In addition, KBOCC students were onsite for rotation and observed three different surgeries performed by three different surgeons.

**8. Strategic Acquisition Update - Stowe**

Stowe reported that he attended the Sheriff's Sale and submitted the highest bid on the property. The property is now in the six-month reclamation period, unless the process is expedited. Stowe thanked the Board for their support through this process.

**9. Physician Group Update - Van Ess**

Dr. Loukusa will be leaving at the end of April. He is currently on paternity leave through early April as he and his wife are expecting twins. During his absence, Shannon Dufek and Payton Holma will be splitting the hospitalist role.

Dr. Daya will begin on March 2nd, and a planning meeting will be held with the cardiology team. Dr. Abbott is scheduled to start on Monday, April 6th. Emily Dault has already had discussions with her regarding how she will be utilized at Bayside Village. Dr. Menge will begin the following Monday, April 13th. Her schedule is complete, and patients may begin being scheduled.

When Dr. Loukusa leaves, Jody Jinkerson, as well as some other providers, will be doing the CDL physicals.

**10. Management Update (attached)**

- a. CEO Report\*: Marketing, Employee Recognition, Home Care and Hospice, Corporate Compliance, Senior Life Solutions, Human Resources, Pharmacy
- b. CFO Report\*: Finance, Revenue Cycle, Purchasing, Information Technology, DME
- c. DON Report\*: Acute, Emergency, Surgical Services, Ambulatory, Social Services, Utilization Review/Infection Prevention, Education
- d. Director of Provider Services Report\*: Physician Group, Telemedicine, Specialty Clinic
- e. Director of Ancillary Services Report\*: Imaging, Laboratory, Therapies

- f. Director of Quality Management Report\*: Maintenance, Housekeeping, Dietary/Dietician, HIPAA/Risk

**11. Other -**

Had a great Lunch and Learn on slips, trips, and falls today with record attendance. The Jump Start program now has nine nurses so we will get nine graduating nurses who will be employed between BCMH and Bayside Village. An additional nurse/paramedic from Bemidji has also been hired. Mason asked for an update on the 911 position. Todd Peltola and Courtney Darcy will continue working to create a combined job description. The County is very supportive of this.

**12. Public Comment**

**13. Next Meeting: March 17th, 2026, 5:00pm –BCMH Main Conference Room**

**14. Adjournment –Beer**

Ms. Beer adjourned the meeting at 5:28 p.m.

Motion: Wadaga, Second: LaPointe - All in favor, motion carried.

**ABOUT BARAGA COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL:** BCMH is a 15 bed critical access hospital. Founded in 1952, BCMH is a thriving rural healthcare system focused on addressing the needs of community members of Baraga County. Employing over 200 people, BCMH houses a family medicine clinic, walk-in convenient care clinic, specialty clinics, surgical services, 24/7 emergency services, imaging, rehab, laboratory, and social services.

**MISSION:** BCMH partners with patients to educate, coordinate, treat, and manage the health of the community.

**VISION:** To improve the well-being of the community.

**CORE VALUES:** PRACT- Patients First, Respect, Excellence, Accountability, Compassion, Teamwork

**ROLE IN THE COMMUNITY:** BCMH educates the community, coordinates care, and treats and manages disease.

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STATE LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY  
AND LOCAL ZONING AUTHORITY

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MARCH 18, 2026

WHEREAS, State Representative Jimmie Wilson Jr. has introduced House Bill 5362 to rescinds a \$100 million state grant previously allocated to the University of Michigan for a high-performance computing facility in partnership with Los Alamos National Laboratory; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners recognizes that the University of Michigan is one of the wealthiest public institutions in the United States, and that taxpayer-funded site readiness grants should be prioritized for projects with clear, locally-negotiated community benefits rather than facilities exempt from local taxation; and

WHEREAS, serious concerns have been raised by residents and local officials in Ypsilanti Township regarding the transparency of the project's scale, its proximity to residential areas, and its massive projected energy demand of 110 megawatts, nearly four times the power used by all households in the Township; and

WHEREAS, the University's current constitutional independence allows it to bypass local zoning ordinances, leaving municipalities with no legal mechanism to ensure that large-scale industrial projects adhere to community standards for noise, safety, and environmental protection; and

WHEREAS, Representative Wilson has proposed a Michigan Constitutional Amendment that would require state universities to comply with local zoning and public planning processes for non-academic industrial developments;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners formally supports House Bill 5362 and the "clawback" of the \$100 million grant, urging that these funds be reallocated to urgent community infrastructure needs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners supports the proposed Constitutional Amendment to restore local planning authority, ensuring that large-scale university developments are subject to the same public scrutiny and zoning requirements as any other industrial developer;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Michigan, the Washtenaw County's state legislative delegation, and other Counties as a communication.