BARAGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
Monday, November 9, 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 – October 13, 2026

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS- Agenda Items Only**

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

6. **APPROVAL OF BILLS**
   a. BCMH Trustee Per Diem- $1,120.00 (October 2026)
   b. Approval of County Commissioner and Dept. Bills, $
   c. Approval of Prepaid Accounts, $
   d. Approval of Sheriff Dept. Checking Account, $6,421.44

7. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
   a. Personnel Handbook, addition of holiday

8. **ACTION ITEMS**
   a. Courthouse & Grounds, snow removal bids
   b. Baraga County Road Commission, appointment
   c. State Disaster Assistance Program, Notice of Award
   d. Baraga County DHHS, appointment

9. **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

10. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
    a. BCMH Board of Trustees, Minutes

11. **RESOLUTIONS**

12. **COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

13. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

18341 US Hwy 41 L'Anse, MI 49946

906-524-3300 www.bcmh.org

Board of Trustee Meeting Attendance - October 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 10-15-2026:

Shirley Younggren	$30.00
Jim Loman *(online)*	$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

Regular Board Meeting of 10-20-2026:

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

Checks Written 10/1/2026 to 10/31/2026

Printed 11/4/2026 11:48:37 AM

Number	Date	ID	Comment	Amount
2956	10/1/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	$300.00
2957	10/2/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	$300.00
2958	10/6/2026		Pepsi Cola of Houghton	$908.80
2959	10/6/2026		Pats Foods	$74.97
2960	10/7/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	$300.00
2961	10/8/2026	6470	Home Confinement	$201.50
2962	10/11/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	$300.00
2963	10/13/2026		USPS	$473.25
2964	10/16/2026		Stellar Services	$579.66
2965	10/16/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	$300.00
2966	10/16/2026	3415	Nate Turpeinen	$300.00
2967	10/26/2026		Stellar Services	$592.98
2968	10/29/2026		97th District Court Baraga County	$300.00
2969	10/29/2026	3415	Nate Turpeinen	$100.00
2970	10/30/2026		Stellar Services	$191.27
2971	10/30/2026		Baraga County Treasurer	$54.31
2972	10/30/2026		Baraga County Treasurer	$1105.16
2973	10/30/2026	4867	DAVINA ELIZABETH DENOMIE	$39.54
2974	10/30/2026		LOST OR DAMAGED CHECK	$0.00
				$6421.44

14051 Section 16 Road
Covington, Michigan 49919

November 3, 2026

Board of County Commissioners of Baraga County
755 East Broad Street
L'Anse, Michigan 49946

Dear Commissioners:

I am seeking re-appointment to the Road Commission for a new term beginning January 1, 2027. Your past support has been appreciated and I thank you for allowing me to serve. Being a part of the road commission through the years has been challenging, but also very rewarding. Our entire team at the road commission is lean, but dedicated and capable of responding to what is needed, such as the winter of 2025/2026 or the 2025 flash flood. I am proud to be part of BCRC team and contribute toward its success by serving on the Board.

The future looks bright as 2025 brought forth a new statewide road funding package. When fully implemented, this package will provide significant dollars to all the counties, including Baraga. Our road commission dedicated a great deal of time on a regional and statewide basis to assure that the UP and rural counties received their fair share.

Some recent highlights - On a federal level, we are thankful for the support of our congressman in advancing over 11 million dollars in special Federal earmarks to our County for the repaving on the Skanee Road. Half of the project was completed this year, the other half is scheduled for next year, a total of 18 miles of new blacktop. Federal assistance has been received and more is pending approval for the flooding related disaster declarations in 2023 ($5.1 million approved for 22 sites) and 2025 (over $7 million for 20 sites is approved and awaiting congressional appropriation). The state legislature has also assisted in recent flooding with over $455,000 in Section 19 funding and a state earmark of $682,000 in the state budget. This amount of help is huge for our small county!

On a local level - the 2-mill county wide millage was renewed by voters by a large margin in the August primary election. I remain committed to taking the lead on continuing the successful working relationship with KBIC on many other opportunities that are available. Township support is also very important and necessary to leverage our funds for state and federal grants. Spurr Township has an additional two mills and Arvon Township has one mill for roads. I continue to advocate for bringing growth to our local area and increasing our tax base. The tax base is needed to help fund roads and good roads are also needed for an improved local area economy.

Your support for my re-appointment to the Board term which expires in December would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Harold J. Miron

Harold J. Miron

cc: Wendy Goodreau, Clerk

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

November 3, 2026

BARAGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
c/o Brad Dakota, Chair
755 East Broad Street
L'Anse, Michigan 49946

Dear Board Members:

At a regular meeting of the Road Commission held on October 8, 2026, the expiring term of Commissioner Harry Miron was discussed. Mr. Miron's term expires on December 31, 2026.

The current BCRC Board functions in an efficient, productive manner. Each member has a diverse and different background and all board members are very active in our local community. Mr. Miron is very respected in our community, and always committed to integrity. He will speak his mind on any issue and is well known for the main theme he always stresses, which is *"Common Sense"*. He has developed many relationships with local, state and federal officials, which are of extreme value to the BCRC. Through his years of experience on the Board, he has gained a keen knowledge of the mission and statutory obligations of the Road Commission. Developing a working knowledge of the Road Commission operations takes a great deal of time and commitment and Mr. Miron has dedicated many years gaining the background and skills necessary to be a successful Road Commissioner and part of the BCRC team.

There are many projects and programs in mid-stream and continuity on the board is needed to carry them forward to completion. Examples are the Skanee Road, flood repair projects from 2023 & 2025, and facility improvements. The new 2025 statewide funding package is still being sorted out and will bring new opportunities for BCRC. Mr. Miron's leadership and continued participation working on all of the issues facing the road commission is needed at this time. Mr. Miron has been active in the County Road Association groups, including the U.P. Road Builder's Association and Great Lakes Council. He attends other local meetings at the county and township level. He was the leader in establishing the ORV trail system. He is a strong supporter of improving the local economy, bringing in more good paying jobs and attracting families back to live and work in our area.

Mr. Miron has indicated to us that he is very interested in serving another term, and we wish to strongly encourage his re-appointment for another term beginning January 1, 2027. We are confident he will bring high energy to this position in a professional manner and will represent our county very well.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,
BARAGA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Steve Koski
Chair

Nick Lindemann
Vice Chair

cc: Wendy Goodreau, Clerk

State of Michigan
Notice of Award
State Disaster Assistance Program,
Public Act 390 of 1976, as amended

May 2025 Severe Storms, Flooding, and Tornadoes

This State Disaster Assistance Program Notice of Award and Funding Agreement is hereby entered into between the Michigan Department of State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) (hereinafter called the Recipient), and

Baraga County
(hereinafter called the Subrecipient)

I. Purpose

The Michigan Emergency Management Act, Public Act 390 of 1976, is an act to provide for the planning, mitigation, response and recovery from natural and human-made disasters within and outside the State of Michigan. Section 30.419 (referenced further as Section 19) specifically outlines the use of the Disaster and Emergency Contingency Fund (DECF) to reimburse applicants for eligible state disaster related costs when federal funding is not available.

Statutory Authority

The Subrecipient agrees to comply with all program requirements for the State Disaster Assistance Grant Program, and any other state laws, statutes, and regulations, including, but not limited to, the following, as applicable:

A. Public Act 390 of 1976, as amended.
B. Section 30.419 of PA 390 of 1976, as amended (Section 19).
C. Administrative Rules R 30.51 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code.
D. Any other applicable state statutes and regulations, including but not limited to those listed in this notice.

II. Award Amount and Restrictions

The MSP/EMHSD determines program eligibility and grant amounts. State disaster assistance will be made available, within the limits of funds available from legislative appropriations for such purposes, in accordance with Section 30.418 of PA 390 of 1976, as amended.

Reimbursement amounts will be based on approved costs submitted to the MSP/EMHSD utilizing form EMHSD-019, Application for State Disaster Assistance. Approved awards under Section 19 with unforeseen cost overruns may submit a formal request to the Commander of MSP/EMHSD, by and through the Risk Reduction and Recovery Section Manager, for an adjustment to the approved award amount. The formal request must clearly identify the specific reason for a cost overrun on the already approved work and documentation to support the amount for consideration. The MSP/EMHSD will only consider extraordinary circumstances for already approved work identified in the EMHSD-019.

The Subrecipient shall comply with all applicable state and local ordinances, laws, regulations, and building codes and standards. Prior to the start of any construction activity, the Subrecipient shall obtain all applicable state, and local permits and clearances, and comply with any required environmental laws and executive orders that apply. Any activities that have been initiated without the necessary permits will be considered non-compliant and ineligible for state disaster assistance funding.

All awards will have a performance period of 24 months from the date of award. If extenuating circumstances or unusual project conditions exist, a time extension may be requested by completing and submitting the MSP/EMHSD Time Extension Request Form by email identified on the form.

Award Information

Award Amount:	$250,000
Date of Award:	October 1, 2026
Performance Period End Date:	September 30, 2028

III. Responsibilities of the Subrecipient

A. State disaster assistance grant funds must be used for the purpose stated in the EMHSD-019, Application for State Disaster Assistance and not used for a purpose not reviewed by the MSP/EMHSD and determined to be eligible under Section 19.
B. The Subrecipient shall not use state disaster assistance funding to generate program income.
C. **Sign and return this Notice of Award to MSP/EMHSD**.
D. Comply with the requirements of Section 19, and the Administrative Rules R 30.51 et seq of the Michigan Administrative Code.
E. Participate in state audit activities as requested by the MSP/EMHSD as it relates to this award, if applicable.
F. Maintain all pertinent records for three years from the date of award.

IV. Responsibilities of the Recipient

The Recipient will:

A. Provide direction and technical assistance to the Subrecipient.
B. Provide the Subrecipient with any special report forms and reporting formats (templates) required for administration of the program.
C. Reimburse the Subrecipient, in accordance with Section 19, **subject to availability of funding in the DECF as appropriated by the state legislature,** and compliant with the terms identified in this Notice of Award.
D. At its discretion, independently, or in conjunction with the Michigan Office of the Auditor General, conduct on-site reviews and/or audits of Subrecipient(s).

V. Payment Procedures

Once all work has been completed and all payments to vendors/contractors have been made, applicant may submit for reimbursement to close out the award. Only one reimbursement will be processed for each applicant. Reimbursements are limited to the award amount of the approved EMHSD-019 and listed above in this Notice of Award.

Reimbursements are based on actual expenditures made by the applicant, regardless of the award amount that may have been based wholly or partly on cost estimates.

Request for reimbursement form should be completed and signed and sent to MSP/EMHSD with the following supporting documentation, as applicable. This is not an exhaustive list due to each applicant having their own response and recovery cost categories:

A. Copies of paid invoices, contracts, or other documents for goods or services claimed for reimbursement.
B. Receipts for the purchase of goods or services (fuel, materials, etc.).
C. Payroll reports to support the amount claimed for overtime costs:
    a. Name of employees performing eligible work.
    b. Dates worked.
    c. Hourly rate of pay.
    d. Amount of Fringe Benefits, if included.
    e. Total to support reimbursement request.
    f. Other documents that will substantiate claims for reimbursement not listed.
D. Proof of payment to show the outlay of applicant funds is required before reimbursement is issued. This includes cancelled check copies or copies of paid credit card bills.

VI. Acceptance of Award

For the Subrecipient

The individual signing this Notice of Award certifies that they are the designated applicant agent and authorized to represent the applicant in this matter. The Subrecipient agrees to complete all requirements identified in Section 19 and identified in this notice.

Baraga County

Name of Subrecipient (Applicant Organization)

Subrecipient's SIGMA Vendor (CV) #

Subrecipient's Address Code (if known)

Printed Name of Applicant Agent

Title

Signature

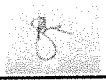
Date

For the Recipient

Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division

Penny Burger
Printed Name

Risk Reduction and Recovery Section Manager
Title



Digitally signed by Penny Burger
Date: 2026.10.07 12:01:37 -04'00'

Signature

10/7/2026
Date

[redacted]

MICHIGAN STATE POLICE
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY DIVISION

STATE DISASTER ASSISTANCE REIMBURSEMENT FORM - SECTION 19

Applicant Name:	Date of Disaster: 5/15/25

Expenditure Category	**Reimbursement Request**
Overtime for police department	
Overtime for fire department	
Overtime for public works department	
Overtime for county road commission	
Overtime for emergency medical services	
Overtime for other employees	
Contracts with other jurisdictions	
Fuel for equipment used	
Shelter supplies for disaster	
Equipment repair costs for disaster	
Volunteer costs	
Costs to repair damage to public facilities or road systems caused by disaster	
Other costs not listed above	
Total	$ 0.00

Applicant Agent _____ Date _____

Approval - MSP/EMHSD _____ Date _____

MINUTES:

BARAGA COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday, September 15th, 2026, 5:00 PM - BCMH Main Conference Room (ABCD)

Present: Cathy Wadaga, Jayne Walbridge, Shirley Younggren, Carole LaPointe, Kate Beer, Jim Loman (online)

Admin/Guests: Gail Jestila, Rob Stowe, Emily Dault, Todd Peltola, Tom Van Ess, Gregg Fisher, Sue Ingram

1. **Call to Order** – Beer

   Ms. Beer called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

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

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

3. **Approval of Minutes**

   a. Board Briefing of August 13th , 2026*
   b. Closed Session of August 13th, 2026*
   c. Board of Trustees Meeting of August 18th, 2026*

4. **Medical Staff** –Beer

   a. Medical-Dental Staff Meeting Minutes of August 12th, 2026**

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

   b. Medical-Dental Staff Executive & Credentials Committee

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

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

5. **Winkler Building Update** - Stowe

   Stowe shared a draft letter approved by the CDC outlining the stipulations for transferring ownership of the Winkler Building. The CDC has agreed to all stipulations.

   Motion: Mason moved to approve the transfer of ownership of the Winkler Building to the CDC under the outlined stipulations. Wadaga seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

6. **Mobile Unit Update** - Stowe

   a. Mobile Unit Storage - Peltola

   Stowe shared that the updated timeline for the mobile unit is looking like January. Rodney Loonsfoot is serving on the Mobile Unit Steering Committee. Stowe also spoke with Dr. Calderon about ways the mobile unit could benefit the tribal community.

   Peltola reported that a second meeting was held to review drawings for the mobile unit storage building. A quote for in-floor heating has also been requested. Once the final cost of the structure is available, options can be evaluated to determine what makes the most sense.

   The project is being moved forward as quickly as possible, with the goal of completing the building before winter. Total costs are expected within the next week. An update will be provided at next month's Board Briefing.

7. **Financial Update** - Jestila

Jestila reported August gross revenue of $6,002,000, a record month for BCMH, compared to $4.8 million last year. Inpatient revenue was up 50%, Swing Bed 37%, Outpatient 35%, ER 9%, and Home Services 7%. Year-to-date, Inpatient is flat, Swing Bed is up 4%, Outpatient 22%, and ER 11%. Total gross revenue through the first 11 months of the fiscal year is $58.8 million compared to $51.15 million last year, an increase of approximately 15%.

Lab, Surgery, Acute Care, Physician Group, and Rehab Services all had their best month of the year.

BCMH received $275,000 from WPS for the interim rate request. This is a portion of what is owed to BCMH for the settlement period beginning October 1.

August cash was just under $6.9 million, before receiving the additional $275,000. Stowe also shared that BCMH received the funding check from Copper Shores for the Safe Room.

Jestila shared that she spoke with Lument, the hospital's mortgage holder, to make sure they have the necessary paperwork to complete the ACH transfer. Once that is in place, approximately $2.3 million will be released from the mortgage reserve fund.

July expenses were approximately $3.4 million compared to $2.48 million last year. Year-to-date expenses are $32.8 million compared to $27.2 million last year, an increase of approximately $5.6 million. July gross revenue was $5.88 million, with a net loss of approximately $209,000, bringing the year-to-date loss to approximately $1.8 million.

Motion: Wadaga moved to approve the July financials. Walbridge seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

8. **Bayside Update** - Dault

Jestila reviewed Bayside Village's August financials along with the revised July financials. Between the two months, Bayside had a loss of approximately $10,000. Cash is at $1.54 million.

Jestila also shared that the Bayside Village Board approved its budget, which will be brought to the BCMH Board for approval next month.

Motion: Mason moved to approve the revised July and August financials. Wadaga seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Dault shared that the census is currently at 57, with an average of 56 for the month out of 59 beds. They are expecting a hospice admission sometime this week. Staffing continues to be a challenge, and they are still using travel staff to cover night shifts, which continues to affect the finances.

9. **Wound Care Update/Canal View** - Van Ess

Van Ess shared that Canal View has expressed interest in receiving services from the BCMH Wound Care team. They are currently looking at different options for how this could work.

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

Van Ess shared that Dr. Tuma is working her first week as a hospitalist this week. Dr. Ingram will provide hospitalist coverage one week, with Atwood covering alternating weeks. Physician training for Oracle began this week, along with physician concierge sessions to help providers set up their favorites and make the system easier to use. Schedules will be reduced during the Go-Live period. End-user training remains on track. The Physician Group will begin transferring future appointments into the new system.

11. **Oracle Update** - Van Ess

12. **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, Wound Clinic

    e. Director of Ancillary Services Report*: Imaging, Laboratory, Therapies

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

i. Fiscal 2025 Provider Peer Reviews - Peltola

1. (Active Staff, Clinic Staff, ER, ER-Innova)

13. Other

14. Public Comment

15. Next Meeting: October 20th, 2026, 5:00pm –BCMH Main Conference Room

16. Adjournment –Beer

Ms. Beer adjourned the meeting at 5:44 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Carole LaPointe, Secretary *CL/lmb*

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: *PREACT- Patients First, Respect, Excellence, Accountability, Compassion, Teamwork*

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