COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

August 5, 2026

C. – MINUTES

July 29, 2026

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, July 29, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
Hearing Room 704, Guardian Building, 500 Griswold, Detroit, MI 48226. and via Zoom

A. Roll Call: 10:03 a.m.

Jonathan C. Kinloch (Chair)	-	Present
Sam Baydoun (Vice-Chair)	-	Present
Glenn S. Anderson	-	Present
Cara A. Clemente	-	Present
Terry Marecki	-	Present
Monique Baker McCormick	-	Present
Martha G. Scott	-	Present

Commissioners Peterson-Mayberry and Wilson were also present.

B. Chairman's Remarks

C. Anderson/Clemente — **Approved.** Minutes from the July 21, 2026 meeting. Motion carried.

Yeas -- Commissioners Kinloch, Baydoun, Anderson, Clemente, Marecki, Baker McCormick, Scott -- 7

At this point in the proceedings, the Committee moved to Item E.

E. New Business

Item Nos. 1 and 2 were considered under one motion.

1. Baydoun/Anderson — **Approved.** A proposed amendment to the 2025-2026 Appropriations Ordinance (Enrolled Ordinance No.2025-659) in accordance with Budget Adjustment No. 2026-35-029 reallocating expenditures in the amount of $1,282,833 and decertifying revenue in the amount of $1,543,714 in the Law Enforcement Fund (266); the Executive's Office advises that the budget adjustment submitted on behalf of the Sheriff's Office serves to decertify funds in the Justice Assistance Grants for Fiscal Year 2021 through Fiscal Year 2024. (2026-35-029) Motion Carried.

Jerome Pokomey provided an overview of the item.

2. Baydoun/Anderson

Forwarded to Receive and File. A amendment to the 2025-2026 Appropriations Ordinance (Enrolled Ordinance No. 2025-659) in accordance with Budget Adjustment No. 2026-35-015 certifying revenue in the amount of $383,383 and reallocating expenditures in the amount of $569,710 in the General Fund (101); the Executive's Office advises that the budget adjustment submitted on behalf of the Sheriff's Office serves to align the adopted budget with the actual amount awarded by the Michigan State Police for the Secondary Roads Unit. (2026-35-015) Motion Carried.

Jerome Pokomey provided an overview of the item.

Yeas -- Commissioners Kinloch, Baydoun, Anderson, Clemente, Marecki, Baker McCormick, Scott -- 7

At this point in the proceedings, the Committee moved to Item D.

D. Unfinished Business

1. Clemente/Anderson

Passed for the Day. The recommended two-year Comprehensive Executive Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Years 2026-2027 and 2027-2028, including the operating budget plans for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the Projected Budget for Fiscal Year 2027-2028. (2026-31-030) Motion Carried.

Yeas -- Commissioners Kinloch, Baydoun, Anderson, Clemente, Marecki, Baker McCormick, Scott -- 7

At this point in the proceedings, the Committee returned to Item E.

3. Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget presentations
   - Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan
   - Homeland Security and Emergency Management
   - Corporation Counsel
   - Personnel/Human Resources

Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan

Edward Ewell Jr., Chief Judge, Frank Hardester, Executive Court Administrator, and Mia Guillier, Chief Financial Officer, discussed the Third Judicial Circuit's proposed budget, staffing, security, facilities and juvenile court needs.

Chief Judge Ewell highlighted court improvements, including expanded community outreach, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) devices in all 97 courtrooms and hearing rooms, Zoom recording technology and digital courtroom monitors.

Court officials expressed concern about low compensation and the declining number of attorneys handling juvenile abuse-and-neglect cases. Approximately $2.1 million is needed to address the shortfall because new state legislation only covers juvenile delinquency cases.

Court officials also requested additional sheriff's deputies and surveillance systems due to threats against judges and staff. Officials discussed the poor condition of Lincoln Hall of Justice and ongoing plans for the C3 courthouse project and the "one family, one court" initiative. Commissioners requested continued involvement in those discussions.

The court currently has 59 judges, 422 employees and 88 vacancies and is seeking six additional judges, potentially beginning in 2028. Officials also discussed virtual hearings, jury participation and the impact of reduced funding on specialty and diversion programs.

Homeland Security and Emergency Management

John Serda, Deputy Director, Brian Herman, Lead Planner, and Ahmad Nasser, Finance Manager, discussed the proposed budget and operations.

Mr. Serda stated that the recommended budget is sufficient. The department supports all 43 Wayne County communities during emergencies, disasters and security threats, including recently distributing more than 150,000 masks during poor air-quality conditions.

The department emphasized the need for a modern Emergency Operations Center to coordinate countywide emergencies and upcoming radiological drills. The department is reviewing county-owned facilities and pursuing grants and capital funding.

Approximately 50% to 60% of the department's budget is grant-funded**,** primarily through the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Grant funds also support emergency equipment, radio upgrades and free active-shooter training.

Commissioners also discussed the $1 million Western Wayne County Special Operations Group allocation**,** the $3 million traffic-signal program, community resiliency hubs and the Everbridge emergency-alert system. The department

agreed to provide additional information to communities regarding funding and emergency-alert enrollment.

Corporation Counsel

Sue Hammoud, Deputy Corporation Counsel, reported that the department provides legal services to Wayne County's executive departments, elected officials and offices, while the Human Relations/Business Inclusion Division certifies businesses and contractor employment practices.

The department handled more than 25,000 legal matters, including over 200 litigation cases, nearly 1,500 mental health hearings, 1,400 contracts, 4,100 Freedom of Information Act requests and 7,500 legal consultations. It also supported jail (ADA) compliance, the transit millage proposal, surplus-proceeds claims and efforts to prevent toxic waste from entering the County.

The Human Relations/Business Inclusion Division certified more than 1,700 businesses, over half of which are located in Wayne County. Ms. Hammoud stated that the proposed budget will allow the department to continue meeting its growing legal-service demands.

Personnel/Human Resources

Mike Makki, Human Resources Transformation Chief, presented the Personnel/Human Resources budget, which focuses on recruiting, developing and retaining the County's workforce.

Mr. Makki highlighted continued improvements through Oracle Fusion, including electronic recruiting, automated approvals, improved reporting and reduced paperwork. Personnel/Human Resources is also updating job descriptions, creating employee career paths, expanding leadership development and considering a scholarship program for employees and residents.

Donna Wilson, Director of Special Projects, explained that the requested $92,000 would support a new software system to manage employee leaves of absence, time and attendance, document collection and communication as an add-on to Oracle.

Commissioners also discussed overtime tracking, exit interviews and delays in responding to job applicants. Mr. Makki stated that P/HR plans to use Oracle automation and an HR business-partner model to improve communication, accountability and applicant follow-up.

The department is also expanding recruitment through job fairs, social media, LinkedIn and community-based advertising while increasing its focus on employee retention.

F. Such other matters as may be properly submitted before the Committee - None

G. Public Comments –

Comments were offered by Tobias Amadeas Brevik

At this time in the proceedings, the Committee conducted the public hearing, which had been properly noticed in accordance with applicable law.

Marecki/Clemente	**Approved.** To open the Public Hearing. Motion Carried. Yeas -- Commissioners Kinloch, Baydoun, Anderson, Clemente, Marecki, Baker McCormick, Scott -- 7
Marecki/Baydoun	**Approved.** To close the Public Hearing. Motion Carried. Yeas -- Commissioners Kinloch, Baydoun, Anderson, Clemente, Marecki, Baker McCormick, Scott -- 7

H. Adjournment

Baydoun/Anderson
The Committee adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Octavia Hunter
Legislative Research Assistant