Gratiot County Board of Commissioners

Dave Owens, Chair
George Bailey Jan Bunting
Tim Gay Steven Sopocy

Tim Dolehanty, County Administrator
Angie Thompson, Clerk
214 E. Center Street, Ithaca, MI 48847
989-875-5215 (Clerk)

A Regular Full Board Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Gratiot County was held Tuesday, October 20, 2026, beginning at 4:30 PM in the Gratiot County Courthouse Commissioners Room.

A. Call to Order by Chair Owens at 4:30 p.m.
B. Roll Call of Commissioners, Present: George Bailey, Jan Bunting, Tim Gay, Steve Sopocy, and Dave Owens. Absent: None. Also present: Administrator Tim Dolehanty and Clerk Angie Thompson.
C. Invocation by Commissioner Bailey.
D. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
E. Additions/Deletions to Agenda and approval.
    1. Resolution 26-468 B for Animal Control New Business K2.

    Board Action: Motion by Sopocy, second by Bailey to approve the amended agenda. Motion Carried 5-0.
F. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest.
G. Brief public comment on agenda items.

    The Board welcomes all public input and appreciates adherence to the time limits established. Each period shall be limited to one 3-minute comment per period.

    Stacey Jenkins would like the Commissioners to approve the Resolution 26-467 regarding Soil Conversation.
H. Consideration of Consent Calendar: Board Minutes, Communications and recommendations from committees.
    1. Commissioner's Minutes from October 6, 2026.
    2. Communications.
        a. Gratiot County State of Emergency Declaration from April 2026.
        b. Gratiot County Road Commission Minutes from August 13, 2026.
        c. Gratiot County Drain Notices.
    3. Department Reports.

    Board Action: Motion by Bailey, second by Gay to approve the minutes and accept the communication. Motion carried 5-0.
I. Administrator's Report.

    Tim attended a Conference on Local Government- how to move Michigan forward. Tour of a Data Center in Grand Rapids. Tim doesn't feel that Gratiot County would be looked at to get a

Data Center—they need to be Population centers, and we don't have the Power to supply them. November Steve Curriery from MAC will attend our meeting. November 3, 2026, Tim will not be at the meeting, and Shiela will be in attendance. Tim's review will be due in November. He is looking at having Tax Capture on the agenda for November.

J. Commissioner Committee Reports.

Commissioner Bailey: Hamilton Township talking about Audit issues. North Star short meeting for Farming. Lafayette Township Hall is coming along. Wheeler Township normal business. Airport meeting—report by Dennis. Breckenridge had a meeting and Mr. Baldwin Resigned.
Commissioner Owens: Had a meeting at the Alma Library for Pine River talking about the Brownfield Plan. Greater Gratiot Meeting.
Commissioner Bunting: Bethany Township, they are dealing with Homeless people and talked about the Garbage Pickup. Planning Commission and Conservation District Meeting.
Commissioner Gay: Mental Health meeting. City of Alma Meeting, the mayor was absent-Washington Ave. replacing Sewer lines.
Commissioner Sopocy: Steve has been on a Combine

K. Consideration of New Business.

1. Consideration to approve Resolution 26-467 to Approve an agreement for Services provided by the Gratiot Conservation District, Kevin Craig.

   Board Action: Motion by Bunting, second by Bailey to take this Resolution 26-467 off the table. Motion carried 5-0.

   Board Action: Motion by Bunting, second by Sopocy to approve Resolution 26-467 to approve an agreement for Services provided by the Gratiot Conservation District as Presented. Roll Call: Yes: Sopocy and Bunting. No: Bailey, Gay and Owens. Motion failed 3-2.

   Board Action: Motion by Sopocy second by Bunting to amend the Resolution 26-467 not to exceed 90,000.00. Roll Call: Yes: Sopocy, Bunting and Owens. No: Bailey and Gay. Motion carried 3-2.

2. Consideration to approve Resolution 26-468 B to clarify Animal Control Officer Responsibilities. Two Resolutions were presented, one to keep Animal Control under the Sheriff and the Sheriff would rescind the ability to carry weapons and respond to law enforcement calls. The second is to put Animal control back under Administration and rescind the ability to carry weapons while on duty and they will not respond to law enforcement calls, so our workers' compensation insurance coverage premium will go down.

   Board Action: Motion by Bunting, second by Bailey to approve Resolution 26-468 B to clarify Animal Control Officer Responsibilities. Putting Animal Control back under the Administrator giving him authorization to rescind the ability to carry weapons and they will not respond to law enforcement calls to take effect on October 21, 2026 to avoid the Higher Premium. Roll Call: Yes: Sopocy, Bailey, Bunting, Gay and Owens. No: None. Motion carried 5-0.

L. Consideration of Unfinished Business.

M. Discussion and Report on Finance and Budget Matters.

1. Treasurer's Report.
2. Consideration of Claims.

Board Action: Motion by Gay, second by Sopocy to pay the expenditures. Motion carried 5-0

Board Action: Motion by Bailey, second by Gay to accept the Revenue and Expense Report, Cash Balances, and Check Register and place on file. Motion carried 5-0.

N. Consideration to enter the Airport Meeting.

Board Action: Motion by Gay, second by Bailey to go into the Airport meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

Enter the Airport meeting at 5:38 p.m.

Regular Meeting reconvened at 5:50 p.m.

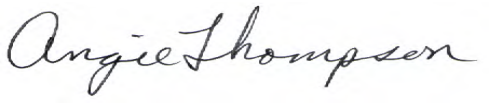
O. Additional public comment.

Sheila -They are at the end of the Public Comment for Heartland MMP Project. This Friday the Public Meeting will be held at Clare.

Diandra – with the Conservation District tire event—was able to see how we helped our community.

P. Adjournment.

With out objection the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.



Angie Thompson, Gratiot County Clerk

Approved