

**IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MARCH 25, 2025 – 3:00 P.M.
101 WEST MAIN STREET
IONIA, MICHIGAN**

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN PERSON AND ZOOM

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Invocation**
- IV. Approval of Agenda**
 - A. Consideration of additional items
- V. Public Comment** (Three-minute time limit per-speaker – please state name/organization)
- VI. Action on Consent Calendar**
 - A. Approve minutes of the previous meeting (s)
 - B. Approve per diem and mileage
 - C. Approve payments of Common Cash and General Fund Payroll for the month of February 2025- \$ 2,154,294.31
 - D. Approve payments of Health Department payroll and accounts payable for the month of February 2025-\$ 170,927.84
 - E. Approve payments of Road Department payroll and accounts payable for the month of February 2025-\$ 1,060,214.25
 - F. Approval of payments from Trust and Agency for the month of February 2025-\$300,427.48
- VII. Unfinished Business**
 - A.
- VIII. New Business**
 - A. Reappointment to Community Mental Health Services Board:
 - Mary Barker- Three year term
 - Mariah Lab – Three Year Term
 - Nancy Patera – Three Year Term
 - Linda Purcey- Three Year Term
 - Ron Thomas - Three Year Term
 - B. Reappointment to Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan Advisory Council
 - Norma Kilpatrick - Three Year Term

- C. Request Board Chair signature on FY 2026 Continuation of Funding Request to AAAWM- Carol Hanulcik
- D. Commission on Aging Budget Amendment – Carol Hanulcik
- E. 25-04 Street Sweeping Contract – Linda Pigue / Cody Waite
- F. 25-22 Roadside Mowing Blacktop Roads Contract- Linda Pigue / Cody Waite
- G. 25-55 As Needed Construction Services Contract – Linda Pigue / Cody Waite
- H. Request Rental of Broce Broom- Cody Waite
- I. Act 51 Annual Bridge Resolution Certifying County Road System Mileage – Linda Pigue/ Cody Waite
- J. Annual Bridge Funding Application Resolution- Linda Pigue / Cody Waite
- K. Request Approval of Agreement for Sheriff’s Office Services Between the Village of Clarksville and the County of Ionia – Sheriff Noll
- L. Request to Accept Bid for District Court Probation Remodel – Scott DeRuischer
- M. Request to Purchase Maintenance Management Software – Scott DeRuischer
- N. Request to Renew Dispatch Chair Lease agreement with Shelby Products, LLC – Lance Langdon

IX. Department Reports

- A. Register of Deeds-Written Only
- B. Public Defender
- C. MSU Extension

X. Reports of Officers, Boards, and Standing Committees

- A. Chairperson
- B. Board of Commissioners
- C. County Administrator

XI. Reports of Special or Ad Hoc Committees

XII. Public Comment (3-minute time limit per speaker)

XIII. Closed Session

- A. NONE

XIV. Adjournment

Board and/or Commission Vacancies

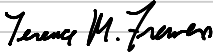
- **Community Corrections Advisory Board-Ionia Community Mental Health Representative**

Appointments for consideration in the month of March 2025:

- **Community Mental Health Services Board**

Appointments for consideration in the month of April 2025:

- **Area Agency of Aging of Wester Michigan Advisory Council**
- **Economic Development Corporation/ Brownfield Redevelopment Authority**
- **Jury Board**
- **Land Bank Authority**

County of Ionia							
Request for Per Diem and Mileage							
Commissioner Frewen							
February, 2025							
Board/Commission	Date	Hours	Per Diem	Miles	Mileage		
Commissioners Afternoon Meeting	02/11/2025	2	\$50.00	38.6	\$27.02		
Commissioners Afternoon Meeting	02/25/25	2	\$50.00	38.6	\$27.02		
					\$0.00		
					\$0.00		
ICEA Meeting	02/27/2025	1	\$50.00	0	\$0.00		
Parks Advisory Board	02/12/2025	cancelled		0	\$0.00		
DHHS Board Meeting	02/02/25	absent			\$0.00		
					\$0.00		
Road Dept Meeting	02/17/2025	1.5	\$50.00	36	\$25.20		
Road Dept Meeting	02/03/25	absent			\$0.00		
Facilities Committee	02/18/25	1	\$50.00	0	\$0.00		
Finance meeting	02/18/25	1.5	\$50.00	38.6	\$27.02		
Other:					\$0.00		
admin interview	2/27/2025	1.5	\$50.00	38.6	\$27.02		
Finance adhoc mtg	02/28/25	1	\$50.00	38.6	\$27.02		
					\$0.00		
				190.4			375.6
Total Per Diem Requested:			\$400.00				
Total Per Diem Requested:			\$400.00				
Total Mileage Requested:					\$160.30		\$262.92
			Total	\$560.30			
				03/03/25			
Signed Terence M. Frewen				Date			
Per Diem Rates: \$50 for meetings up to three hours; \$75 for meetings more than three hours							
Mileage for 2024 is 67 cents							

County of Ionia Request for Per Diem and Mileage

Commissioner Hesche

Feb

2025

Board/Commission	Date	Hours	Per Diem	Miles	Mileage
Commissioners Meeting	11-Feb		50		24
Commissioners Meeting	25 Feb	3	50		24
Special Board Meeting					
Grievance Hearing Committee					
Personnel Committee	20-Feb		50		24
Lake Board-Morrison Lake	27-Feb		50		82
Mid-West Trail Authority					
Road Department Meeting	10-Feb		50		24
	24 Feb		50		24
Other <i>Specil meet</i>	27-Feb		50		0
					200

Total Per Diem Requested: \$350

Total Mileage Requested: \$ 141.40

Signed *[Signature]*

Date 28-Feb 25

Per Diem Rates: \$50 for meetings up to three hours; \$75 for meetings more than three hours
Mileage for 2025 is .70 cents per mile.

County of Ionia Request for Per Diem and Mileage

Commissioner Hodges

Jan 2025

Board/Commission	Date	Hours	Per Diem	Miles	Mileage
Commissioners Meeting	1-14		50.00	38	
Commissioners Meeting					
Special Board Meeting					
Audit Committee					
Facilities Committee					
Finance Committee					
Airport Board	1-14		50.00	0	
Community Mental Health	1-13		50.00	38	
Park Advisory Board					
West Michigan Regional Planning Comm					
Other: OTISCO TOWNSHIP	1-14		50.00	0	

Total Per Diem Requested: \$200.00

Total Mileage Requested: \$53.20


Signed

1-31-25
Date

Per Diem Rates: \$50 for meetings up to three hours; \$75 for meetings more than three hours
Mileage for 2025 is .70 cents per mile.

County of Ionia Request for Per Diem and Mileage

Commissioner Hodges

March

2025

Board/Commission	Date	Hours	Per Diem	Miles	Mileage
Commissioners Meeting	3-11		50.00	38	
Commissioners Meeting					
Special Board Meeting					
Audit Committee					
Facilities Committee					
Finance Committee					
Airport Board	3-11		50.00	0	
Community Mental Health					
Park Advisory Board					
West Michigan Regional Planning Comm					
Other: Otisco Township	3-11		50.00	0	

Total Per Diem Requested: \$150.00

Total Mileage Requested: \$26.60

David R. Hodges
Signed

3-14-25
Date

Per Diem Rates: \$50 for meetings up to three hours; \$75 for meetings more than three hours

Mileage for 2025 is .70 cents per mile.

County of Ionia Request for Per Diem and Mileage

Commissioner Kelley

Feb

2025

Board/Commission	Date	Hours	Per Diem	Miles	Mileage
Commissioners Meeting	2/11	2	50		
Commissioners Meeting	2/25	2	50		
Special Board Meeting	2/27	1 1-1/2	50		
Facilities Committee	2/18	1-1/2	50		
Personnel Committee	2/20	1-1/2	50		
Bargaining Committee					
Brownfield Redevelopment Authority					
Commission on Aging Board	2/20	1-1/2	50		
Eight-CAP Governing Board					
Mid-West Trail Authority	2/27	1	50		
Road Department Advisory	2/3	1-1/2	50		
Road Department Advisory	2/17	1-1/2	50		
SMART					
West Michigan Regional Planning Comm					
Other:					
ADMIN SEARCH	2/10	1	50		
Finance Director Search	2/28	1	50		

Total Per Diem Requested: 550⁰⁰

Total Mileage Requested: 0

Signed



Date

2/28/25

Per Diem Rates: \$50 for meetings up to three hours; \$75 for meetings more than three hours

Mileage for 2025 is .70 cents per mile.

County of Ionia Request for Per Diem and Mileage

Commissioner Chair Shattuck

Feb.

2025

Board/Commission	Date	Hours	Per Diem	Miles	Mileage
Commissioners Meeting	2-11		50 ⁰⁰		12 ⁰⁰
Commissioners Meeting	2-25		50 ⁰⁰		12 ⁰⁰
Special Board Meeting <i>adm. apps.</i>	2-10		50 ⁰⁰		12 ⁰⁰
Grievance Hearing Committee					
Airport Board	2-11		50 ⁰⁰		0
Airport Zoning Board	2-11		50 ⁰⁰		0
Emergency Management Advisory Council					
Lake Board-Jordan Lake	2-26		50 ⁰⁰		22 ⁰⁰
MAC Workers' Comp Board					
Materials Mangement	2-27		50 ⁰⁰		12 ⁰⁰
MSU Extensions Council					
Other:					
<i>admin</i>	2-27		50 ⁰⁰		12 ⁰⁰

Total Per Diem Requested: 400.⁰⁰

Total Mileage Requested: 32.⁰⁰

Signed Jack Shattuck

Date 3/11/25

Per Diem Rates: \$50 for meetings up to three hours; \$75 for meetings more than three hours

Mileage for 2025 is .70 cents per mile.

**IONIA COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION**

Ionia County Commission on Aging requests Board Chair Jack Shattuck's signature on our FY
2026 Continuation of Funding Request to AAAWM
March 25, 2025

CONTACT:

Carol Hanulcik, Director

DESCRIPTION:

Older Americans Act (OAA) Funding, received from the Area Agency on Aging of West Michigan, is second only to the Ionia County Senior Millage in helping ICCOA provide core services including: Meals on Wheels, Congregate Meals, Respite Services, Homemaker Services, Assisted Transportation, Healthy Aging/Disease Prevention programming and Senior Center Staffing.

This proposal, which follows, is our annual request for continuation of funding, for the contract period FY 2023-FY 2026. The amounts requested do not include additional NSIP funding.

A signature from the Board of Commissioners is required on this request as AAAWM funding requires a small "local match." Board Chair Jack Shattuck is currently authorized to sign our contracts with AAAWM.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES AFFECTED:

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS:

Funding from the Area Agency on Aging of West Michigan is crucial to our budget and for delivering core agency services.

LEGAL REVIEW:

none

DEADLINE:

Continuation of Funding Proposals for FY 2026 are due by 5pm on Friday, March 28, 2025.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED (PROPOSED BOARD MOTION):

I move to approve the request of the Commission on Aging Director, to have Board Chair Jack Shattuck sign their FY 2026 Continuation of Funding request to the AAAWM.

DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend signature of the Continuation of Funding request with AAAWM.

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

County Administrator recommends approval of this request.



Due Date: Friday, March 28, 2025 Time: 5:00 PM
Email completed form to Proposal@aaawm.org

Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan
FY 2026 Older Americans Act
Continuation of Funding Request
(October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026)

Part 1

Service Partner: Ionia County Commission on Aging
Address: 101 W. Main Street
City, State, Zip: Ionia, MI 48846

Board Chair: Jack Shattuck **Phone:** (517) 256-2870

Address: 101 W Main St, Ionia MI 48846

Email: Frmjck77@gmail.com

Contact Person for this Continuation of Funding Form: Carol Hanulcik

Phone: (616) 527-5366 **Email:** chanulcik@ioniacounty.org

Signature of Authorized Individual

Date

Jack Shattuck
Name of Authorized Individual

Chairperson
Title of Authorized Individual

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Part 2

Complete the **FY 2026 Proposed** column in the table below, based on the following: actual service costs, demand for service and organizational capacity for growth.

NOTE: Figures listed in the FY 2024 Actual column reflects what was reported to us by your organization. If edits are needed, please reach out to your Contract Administrator. DO NOT make any changes yourself.

DP/HP - OVERALL	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 CONTRACTED	FY 2026 PROPOSED
Total Funding:	\$16,928	\$15,876	15,878
Total Spending:	\$16,928		
Total Units:	495	335	450
Clients:	468	172	250
Program Income:	\$5,811.55	\$4,500	5,500

- a. **What percentage of this service is projected to be funded by OAA dollars?** (Note: No service should be funded 100% by the Older American Act)

We project total units, as requested below, are about 75% of what we project to deliver. Our current unit rates also do not include all additional costs associated with service delivery. Additional expenses and units will be provided with Senior Millage dollars, along with client donations and fundraising.

- b. **(If applicable) If you collected \$0 in cost share &/or program income for this service in FY24, please explain why:**

FY26 DP/HP Requests	Funding	Clients	Units	Unit Rate
A Matter of Balance	\$1,000	12	1	1,000
Active Living Every Day				
Arthritis Aquatics				
Arthritis Exercise Program	\$3,140	60	98	\$32.04
EnhanceFitness	\$7,706	100	238	\$32.38
Tai Chi for Arthritis	\$4,032	50	96	\$42.00
Other EBHP:				

- c. **Define the unit of service:** For all classes, except A Matter of Balance, a unit of service is one class. A unit for A Matter of Balance consist of a 16 hour course.

- d. **Explain any proposed changes in funding or unit rate for the above service:**

We are requesting a 3% unit rate increase for Arthritis Exercise and EnhanceFitness classes. The increase reflects the increased costs for wages/benefits and increased mileage costs (with several classes scheduled outside the city of Ionia). The total funding request is only increased by \$2.

(continued page 3)

CONGREGATE MEALS	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 CONTRACTED	FY 2026 PROPOSED
Total Funding:	\$61,583	\$61,583	\$61,583
Total Spending:	\$59,453		
Total Units*:	9,437	9,489	9,219
Unit Rate:	\$6.30	\$6.49	\$6.68
Clients:	452	500	500
Program Income:	\$16,852.94	\$18,550	\$18,550
Cost Share:			

*does not include NSIP units

a. Define the unit of service: One congregate meal.

b. Explain any proposed changes in funding or unit rate for the above service:

We are requesting a 3% increase in the unit rate to help cover increased food, delivery and staff costs. Our total funding request in dollars remains unchanged.

c. What percentage of this service is projected to be funded by OAA dollars? (Note: No service should be funded 100% by the Older American Act)

Only a portion of overhead costs is included in our unit rate and costs have continued to rise. We estimate Senior Millage funds and client contributions fund at least half of the costs of the program.

d. (If applicable) If you collected \$0 in cost share &/or program income for this service in FY24, please explain why: n/a.

(continued page 4)

HOME DELIVERED MEALS	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 CONTRACTED	FY 2026 PROPOSED
Total Funding:	\$276,986	\$270,003	\$278,201
Total Spending:	\$276,983		
Total Units*:	52,735	51,234	51,234
Unit Rate:	\$5.12	\$5.27	\$5.43
Clients:	459	525	
Program Income:	\$71,739.42	\$65,000	\$72,250
Cost Share:			

*does not include NSIP units

Define the unit of service: one meal

a. Explain any proposed changes in funding or unit rate for the above service:

We are requesting a 3% increase in the unit rate to help cover the increased cost of a meal, in particular for increased food costs. We also continue to see increased need. For this reason, we are asking for funding for the same number of meals as FY 2025, so the total funding request is increased as well.

b. What percentage of this service is projected to be funded by OAA dollars? (Note: No service should be funded 100% by the Older American Act)

OAA funding, combined with NSIP, combines to fund no more than half of the Home Delivered Meals our agency delivers. The balance is funded with Senior Millage dollars, billed services, fundraising, contributions and other grants/donations. We can't overstate how important OAA dollars are to providing this service in our county.

c. (If applicable) If you collected \$0 in cost share &/or program income for this service in FY24, please explain why: n/a

(continued page 5)

HOMEMAKER	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 CONTRACTED	FY 2026 PROPOSED
Total Funding:	\$63,079	\$60,000	60,000
Total Spending:	\$63,079		
Total Units:	3,885.25	2,990	2,990
Unit Rate:	\$20.07	\$20.07	\$20.07
Clients:	173	200	200
Program Income:	\$11,486.80	\$11,000	\$12,500
Cost Share:			

a. **Define the unit of service:** One hour of allowable homemaking activities.

b. **Explain any proposed changes in funding or unit rate for the above service:**

No changes requested.

c. **What percentage of this service is projected to be funded by OAA dollars?** (Note: No service should be funded 100% by the Older American Act)

In FY 2024 thanks to additional funding, 3,885 units were reimbursed with OAA funding, out of 5,037 units delivered, or about 75% of units. The unit rate does not include the full cost of delivery however. Over half of the cost of delivering Homemaker Services is funded with Senior Millage dollars, contributions and donations. The need for Homemaker services also continues to increase.

d. **(If applicable) If you collected \$0 in cost share &/or program income for this service in FY24, please explain why:** n/a

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RESPITE	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 CONTRACTED	FY 2026 PROPOSED
Total Funding:	\$35,375	\$35,000	\$40,000
Total Spending:	\$35,375		
Total Units:	2,613.75	1,744	1,933
Unit Rate:	\$20.07	\$20.07	\$20.07
Clients:	43	55	55
Program Income:	\$300.50	\$350	\$350
Cost Share:	\$5,936.54	\$3,500	\$8,000

a. **Define the unit of service:** one hour of Respite services.

b. **Explain any proposed changes in funding or unit rate for the above service:**

We are requesting an additional \$5,000 to help fund an additional 249 units in FY 2026. We delivered over 1,000 additional Respite units in FY 2024 over FY 2023.

c. **What percentage of this service is projected to be funded by OAA dollars?** (Note: No service should be funded 100% by the Older American Act)

We project we will deliver more than 2,600 respite units in FY 2026, which means, at minimum, 25% of units delivered will be funded with Senior Millage dollars along with client contributions, donations and other funding. The unit rate also does not include the full cost of delivery. Roughly half the cost of delivering Respite Services is funded with Senior Millage dollars, cost share, contributions and donations. OAA funding is a crucial part of our ability to fund these services.

d. **(If applicable) If you collected \$0 in cost share &/or program income for this service in FY24, please explain why:** n/a

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SENIOR CENTER STAFFING	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 CONTRACTED	FY 2026 PROPOSED
Total Funding:	\$10,000	\$11,719	11,719
Total Spending:	\$10,000		
Total Units:	982.75	761	761
Unit Rate:	\$15.39	\$15.39	\$15.39
Clients:			
Program Income:			
Cost Share:			

- a. Define the unit of service:** 1 hour of staff time worked
- b. Explain any proposed changes in funding or unit rate for the above service:**
- No changes requested.
- c. What percentage of this service is projected to be funded by OAA dollars?** (Note: No service should be funded 100% by the Older American Act)
- We estimate OAA funds support 50% of activities in this area.
- d. (If applicable) If you collected \$0 in cost share &/or program income for this service in FY24, please explain why:** n/a

(continued page 8)

TRANSPORTATION (ASSISTED)	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 CONTRACTED	FY 2026 PROPOSED
Total Funding:	\$30,004	\$35,000	\$40,000
Total Spending:	\$30,004		
Total Units:	1,473	1,278	1,460
Unit Rate:	\$26.60	\$27.39	\$27.39
Clients:	36	60	60
Program Income:	\$748.00	\$1,500	\$1,500
Cost Share:			

a. **Define the unit of service:** a one way trip

b. **Explain any proposed changes in funding or unit rate for the above service:**

We are requesting an additional \$5,000 in funding to provide an additional 182 trips, but leaving the unit rate unchanged.

c. **What percentage of this service is projected to be funded by OAA dollars?** (Note: No service should be funded 100% by the Older American Act)

Our Senior Millage funds roughly half of operations cost for transportation services, with OAA dollars funding approximately 13%. Other funding sources include MDOT funding, billed services, client fares or donations and other grant funding. OAA dollars are instrumental in providing this service, especially for those with very low income as these trips are donation based. Only a fraction of clients served are submitted for OAA reimbursement.

d. **(If applicable) If you collected \$0 in cost share &/or program income for this service in FY24, please explain why:** n/a

Please attach your **FY 2024 Achieved Program Outcomes** to this Continuation of Funding Request.



Achieved Program Outcomes FY 2024

The goal of the Ionia County Commission on Aging is to strengthen the well-being of all Ionia County Senior Citizens and to be the cornerstone of support services for their continued independence.

Services we provide are delivered in client homes, at satellite sites located throughout the county and at our Senior Center in downtown Ionia.

Annually we poll clients to learn how we might improve current services and how we might develop new services or resources to address needs in our community. Each year this feedback is crucial in developing plans for the new year. And each year polling gives results that both challenge and inspire us to best serve Ionia County.

Completing renovations on our facility in FY 2025 remains a key deliverable for our clients and for our agency. Feedback on the renovations completed in 2022 were universally applauded. Our goal in completing renovations is to provide a solid foundation for our agency for decades to come.

Our vision for the future is encapsulated in our Senior Center in downtown Ionia. To respect our past, and plan for the future, our facility is a welcoming destination for social interaction, enriching programming and a hub for information, where seniors have a voice and a hand in both content and community.

Specific polling results and our analysis follow. Thank you for your support of our efforts, and of our seniors, in Ionia County!

The Ionia County Commission on Aging
November 2024

Supportive Services Programming

In Home Services, Respite and Homemaker

Homemaker Survey Results:

- 97% of responses indicated that Ionia County Commission on Aging (ICCOA) Homemakers performed all the tasks assigned (146 of 150 replies).
- 99% of replies indicated that they would recommend ICCOA Homemaker Services to others (146 of 148 replies).
- 99% of responses received indicated that ICCOA direct care workers providing homemaker services are respectful and communicate effectively (149 of 150 replies).

Respite Survey Results:

- 95% of respondents indicated services helped them accomplish the things they wanted to do (answering *yes* or *somewhat*, 19 of 20 replies received).
- 65% of caregivers reported relief as a result of receiving services (13 of 20 responses, indicating 6 or higher on a 10 point scale with 10 being *extremely relieved*, with 20% of these respondents indicating they were *extremely relieved*). An additional 25% or all respondents indicated a 5 (out of a total of 20 responses).
- 82% of caregivers who receive Respite Services indicated a positive personal health score, comparing their health to the same period last year (indicating 5 or lower on a 10 point scale where 1 is *very healthy*, 28 of 34 replies).
- For those clients who completed 2 surveys in the fiscal year (16 total), 31% indicated no change in their personal health score, 13% indicated improvement and 56% indicated decline.

Analysis: Our agency met or exceeded the targets set in all three standardized outcomes for Homemaker Services. Respite surveys indicated how important these services are and that they are needed now perhaps more than ever.

FY 2024 built on the success of FY 2023, delivering more Direct Care Worker service hours¹ than any prior year going back to FY 2015. We also served more individual clients with these services² than in any year going back to when these records are available, FY 2013. To both grow service hours, and maintain a high degree of client satisfaction, is a goal which we believe we are achieving.

¹ Including Homemaker, Respite and Home Health Aide (personal care) Services, funded through Older Americans Act, Ionia County Senior Millage, contributions and donations, etc.

² Again, including all funding sources.

We also saw a significant shift in services: Homemaker Hours decreased from 2023 to 2024, from 5,503 hours to 5,037. And Respite Hours grew, from 1,581 in 2023 to 2,616 in 2024, achieving a key goal for FY 2024.

We also noted that while Homemaker responses indicate near perfect numbers for client satisfaction, Respite feedback is more nuanced, indicating to us both greater need and the need for additional help.

For example, 25% of respondents answered 5 when indicating their relief level from receiving Respite Services, on a scale of 1 to 10, perhaps indicating that help is more about maintaining health and mental health while their duties as caregiver may be increasing in complexity. Additional resources may also be needed.

Our strategy to help address increased needs is to supplement services in the home with our Memory Café and Respite Certificates. We are also working to launch our own Adult Day Program in FY 2025. Additional help is available through our Caregiver Support Group, caregiver training/programming, our Alzheimer's/dementia lending libraries and info & referral.

Some additional takeaways:

- We continue to survey Homemaker clients twice per year, at each of their bi-annual assessments. We feel this helps to maintain open lines of communication between client and agency and more quickly respond to changing needs. The most recent survey received is included in tabulating the results.*
- We continue to feel that the DCW premium has been instrumental in building and retaining a strong team of Direct Care Workers. Less turnover = more highly trained staff. More highly trained staff deliver better care to Ionia County Seniors, plain and simple.*

Assisted Transportation

- 97% of respondents indicated they were better able to maintain their health – through medical appointments and/or community connections – thanks to transportation provided by the Ionia County Commission on Aging Assisted Transportation (58 of 60 responses).
- 100% of responses indicated clients were able to get to their scheduled appointment(s) on time when using transportation provided by the Ionia County Commission on Aging Assisted Transportation Program (60 of 60 responses).
- 100% of respondents said their experience with Ionia County Commission on Aging Transportation Services was positive (60 of 60 responses).
- 100% of responses indicated Ionia County COA Transportation has reduced their stress and helped them maintain their independence (60 of 60 responses).

Analysis: All standardized outcomes for Transportation were achieved.

Showing just how important this program is to clients, more than half of respondents (33 of 60 surveys returned) added a note about how much they appreciated the service and/or how impressed they are with our drivers/coordinator. One sample message: “Your services are of great value to our community. My experiences have been top notch! Thank you very much.”

As OAA funded transportation is now provided by both staff drivers and volunteers, survey results include all transportation surveys returned, under all funding sources.

Our volunteers continue to use agency fleet vehicles for transportation, not their private vehicles. We believe this has helped us retain volunteers, given insurance cost for using personal vehicles, and has helped professionalize volunteer drivers to stand shoulder to shoulder with our staff drivers.

Our goal for the new year is to continue to grow our numbers, through increased efficiencies with scheduling and by adding more volunteer drivers. In the past year we did retain one additional vehicle, which is also wheelchair accessible, which can be used by volunteers.

Disease Prevention/Health Promotion

Including Arthritis Exercise, EnhanceFitness™, A Matter of Balance and Tai Chi.

DP/HP is a core service at our agency. We offer a robust class schedule at our Senior Center in Ionia along with in-person classes at various “satellite locations” located throughout the county.

We also offer EnhanceFitness, Tai Chi, and now also Arthritis Exercise, via Zoom. We’re excited to give clients this option especially as we move into the colder months, when ice and snow can make leaving the house perilous at times. 45% of survey respondents indicated they had taken a class via Zoom this year.

Surveys were distributed at our Ionia Senior Center and mailed out to those who took classes at other sites in our county in FY 2024: Lake Odessa, Belding and Saranac.

Polling showed a high level of satisfaction from clients:

- 95% of respondents indicated that they would take the class again (36 of 38).
- 100% indicated they would recommend the class to others (38 of 38).
- 97% felt that their balance and stability had improved due to the class (37 answering yes, 1 maybe).
- 97% said their overall fitness level had improved because of the class (37 answered yes, 1 maybe).
- 100% said they felt the class was fun and a good social experience (38 of 38).

Additional comments and analysis:

Each year we look to grow our program and to try new approaches to encourage more seniors to join DP/HP (or Wellness) classes.

We feel it's important to offer a selection of choices to satisfy clients at all fitness levels. One way we do this is to sketch out an annual plan at the start of the year to make sure we do our best to serve our whole community. That strong foundation also allows us to try new things – different times, locations, classes - based on client feedback and to do outreach/promotion to reach as many clients as possible.

We continue to see high satisfaction levels, but needs can change over time and as we welcome new participants. Bringing back Arthritis Exercise has been a real success. And we are seeing more participants join EnhanceFitness at all fitness levels.

In FY 2025 we are rolling out new equipment - including a new mixer, microphone and fitness headsets - to enhance instruction in-person and online. Our wellness specialist will also present at several Lunch and Learns again this year about how to join DP/HP using their smartphones or tablets on Zoom. We're also adding an additional EnhanceFitness Instructor!

Our plan is to host in-person classes in Lake Odessa, Belding, Saranac and Portland, in addition to Ionia, in FY 2025.

Senior Center Activities

Our Senior Center in Ionia hosts recurring and unique activities, programming and services. It is also a hub for information where seniors can learn more about our services or get info and referral for other resources in our county.

The goal of polling is to make sure our staff have the resources they need to help clients, as well as to inform our plans for programming that best serves our community in the new year.

Results showed:

- 100% indicated ICCOA staff were courteous and helpful (31 of 31 responses)
- 90% replied that staff *always* helped them gain access to appropriate services (28 of 31 responses), up from 79% last year.
- 93% indicated they were *very* satisfied with our agency's range of services (27 of 29 responses)
- 90% indicated they found the information in our newsletter helpful *always* or *usually* (27 of 30 responses)
- 100% indicated they would recommend our agency to a friend (32 of 32 responses)

- Of 30 replies, 18 indicated they felt they had a voice in activities or services our COA offers, 8 said they were unsure and 4 respondents indicated they did not feel they had a voice.

Analysis + goals for the new year:

Our goal for the new year is to continue to develop the resources and services our clients need and to offer activities and programming that clients enjoy and that offers real benefits.

With that in mind, in FY 2024 our agency also conducted a “Listening Tour” at multiple satellite sites, before or after Congregate Meals or DPHP Programming. Observations and feedback from these sessions led to a number of changes for the new year.

For example, based on our Listening Tour and other feedback:

- *New yard signs were developed for Congregate Meals sites, to reach more participants.*
- *We made our popular Tech Savvy Senior Workshop a recurring, quarterly event.*
- *We’re providing MMAP counseling at 7 satellite sites during open enrollment this year.*
- *We will deliver 4 lunch and learns, at all our meal sites, in FY 2025, the first being Healthy Living for Brain and Body in partnership with the Alzheimer’s Association.*
- *We launched a new, weekly Yarn Circle in Ionia.*
- *We continued our Meal and Movie Night series in Ionia.*
- *We adjusted the hours for our Coffee Klatch group and Caregiver Support Group.*
- *In FY 2025 we plan to launch a supplemental PERs program, to help additional seniors obtain this important service and get off the waiting list.*

Another new program we launched this year is our Memory Café. Hosted by Direct Care Staff (In-Home Aides), this program provides an opportunity for caregivers + care recipients to socialize together in an inclusive environment. A meal is offered along with activities. We hope Memory Café attendees might join our Blue Skies Adult Day Program once this is launched in FY 2025.

Another service launched in FY 2024 is our new Brief Bank. While a donation-based program had existed in the past, Brief Bank expanded on this with supplies received through community partners and the State of MI, which also gave us the framework for the program (clients qualify at up to 200% of FPL). This gave us an opportunity to identify, and meet the needs, of many more seniors.

Notes on Congregate and Home Delivered Meal Survey Results

For Home Delivered Meals, all standardized outcomes were achieved save one, 78% of clients reported that the meals helped them remain in their home, shy of the target of 85%.

On this question, we felt clients may not have seen a direct line between food and housing, and how the one affects the other. As an agency we're aware how the two issues are interconnected. In fact, for FY 2024 Meals on Wheels recipients at our agency, we show the average client comes in at just 143.8% of the federal poverty level. This shows us how needed the support is. Data from Meals on Wheels America also tells us that older Americans are living longer with less money.

For congregate meals, we saw high satisfaction numbers on meals and also that clients very much appreciate the activities and socialization the meals provide.

Our plan is to continue to offer special meals throughout the year and at all sites – Belding, Clarksville, Ionia, Lake Odessa, Portland and Saranac. And we'll continue with a series of Lunch and Learns throughout the new year.

Survey results for Congregate and Home Delivered Meals also follow.

This report covers outcomes for Older Americans Act services including: Homemaker and Respite Services, Assisted Transportation, Senior Center Services and Healthy Aging/Disease Prevention. Funding for these services includes Older Americans Act funding, MDOT funding and importantly, Ionia County Senior Millage Funds.

Congregate Meal FY 24 Outcomes

Instructions: Enter number of responses in the appropriate box. Percentages will automatically calculate.

	#	%
1. In general, I like the taste of the meals.		
Yes	135	96%
No	6	4%

2. The meals are a good value for the suggested donation?		
Yes	139	99%
No	2	1%

3. Overall, my basic food needs are met?		
Yes	137	97%
No	4	3%

left no name to contact

4. Why do you attend the meal site?		
Total people who answered	141	
Activities	89	63%
Socializing with friends	112	79%
The Food	75	53%
Other	21	15%

Eucre, site hostess, SERA, volunteer
get out of house, donation amount
information/presentations

HDM FY 24 Outcomes

Instructions: Enter number of responses in the appropriate box. Percentages will automatically calculate.

	#	%
1. Is the meal we deliver your main meal for the day?		
Yes	137	80%
No	35	20%

2. In general, the food tastes good?		
Yes	168	98%
No	4	2%

3. The meal I receive is a good value for the suggested donation?		
Yes	170	99%
No	2	1%

4. Since receiving MOW, I eat more fruits and vegetables.		
Yes	154	90%
No	18	10%

5. Overall, my basic food needs are met/I have enough food to eat at home.		
Yes	162	94%
No	10	6%

	#	%
6. Before you began receiving MOW services, did you ever go to bed hungry?		
Yes	50	29%
No	122	71%

Do you ever go to bed hungry now?		
Yes	14	8%
No	158	92%

7. Since receiving the meals, my health has stayed the same or improved?		
Yes	159	94%
No	11	6%

8. The meals I receive are one of the reasons I can stay in my home?		
Agree	133	78%
Disagree	38	22%

Standardized Outcomes	Achieved %	Outcome Achieved (Yes/No)
90% of clients will like the taste of their meals. (Q2)	98%	Yes
70% of clients will report eating more fruits and vegetables. (Q4)	90%	Yes
90% of clients will report having enough food to eat. (Q5)	94%	Yes
70% of clients will report their health has stayed the same or improved since receiving the meals. (Q7)	94%	Yes
85% of clients will report that the meals help them remain in their home. (Q8)	78%	No

Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan
Older Americans Act (OAA) Funding Distribution
Contract Period: October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025

Funding as of: March 1, 2025

Partner: Ionia County Commission on Aging

Service:	Funding Source	CFDA	Award Amount	Change in Funding	Adjusted Award
1. Congregate Meals	IIIC-1	93.045	\$61,583		\$61,583
2. Home Delivered Meals	IIIC-2	93.045	\$190,003		\$190,003
	SHDM	N/A	\$80,000		\$80,000
		Total for Service:	\$270,003	\$0	\$270,003
3. Congregate & Home Delivered NSIP	NSIP**	93.053	\$53,691		\$53,691
4. Disease Prevention/Health Promotion	IIID	93.043	\$15,876		\$15,876
5. Homemaker	IIIB	93.044	\$2,000		\$2,000
	SIH	N/A	\$58,000		\$58,000
		Total for Service:	\$60,000	\$0	\$60,000
6. Respite	IIIE	93.052	\$2,000	\$6,000	\$8,000
	SAC	N/A	\$8,000	(\$6,000)	\$2,000
	SRC	N/A	\$10,000		\$10,000
	Tobacco	N/A	\$15,000		\$15,000
		Total for Service:	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000
7. Senior Center Staffing	IIIB	93.044	\$11,719		\$11,719
8. Transportation - Assisted	IIIB	93.044	\$35,000		\$35,000
Total Funding:			\$542,872	\$0	\$542,872

**The NSIP amount is only an approximation. We do not expect NSIP funding to be finalized by the state until September of 2025.

**IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION**

Title: CONTRACT 25-04 STREET SWEEPING

Date: March 25, 2025

CONTACT: Cody Waite, Internal Coordinator

DESCRIPTION: The Road Department issued an RFP for Contract 25-04 Street Sweeping. We received 1 bid from SCA of MI, LLC before the Bid Opening's Deadline. This is a yearly contract with the option of 4 additional 1 year renewals with no change in prices or terms.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS: The cost of street sweeping is included in the Road Department's 2025 budget. Sweeping on state trunklines will be reimbursed through the Maintenance contract with the State of Michigan.

LEGAL REVIEW: Not applicable.

DEADLINE: March 25, 2025.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED (PROPOSED BOARD MOTION):

Request the Board award the contract to SCA of MI , LLC and authorize Managing Director, Linda Pigue, to sign the contract.

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

Administrator recommends approval.

IONIA COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT
CONTRACT # 25-04 Street Sweeping
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025 @ 10:30 A.M.

TABULATION

	SCA of MI, LLC							
	1 Sweep/year	2 Sweeps/year	1 Sweep/year	2 Sweeps/year	1 Sweep/year	2 Sweeps/year	1 Sweep/year	2 Sweeps/year
Price per Mile Trunkline	\$ 464.00	\$ 464.00						
Price per Mile Primary Curb Locations	\$ 464.00	\$ 464.00						
Price per Mile Bridge Deck; Primamry and Local	\$ 110.00	\$ 110.00						
Price per Hour Non-Curb Sweeping ; Parking Lot, Garage, Etc.	\$ 139.00							
Price per Hour Emergency Call-Out Sweeping	\$ 139.00							

Board Action 3/25/2025: Award to lowest bidder

**IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION**

Title: CONTRACT 25-22 Roadside Mowing Primary Blacktop Roads
Date: March 25, 2025

CONTACT: Cody Waite, Internal Coordinator

DESCRIPTION: The Road Department issued an RFP for Contract 25-22 Roadside Mowing Primary Blacktop Roads. We received 4 bids before the Bid Opening's Deadline from J. Jablonski & Son's, Quick Mow INC, Snow Systems, and Wolf Creek. Quick Mow was the lowest bidder for a 8' mow. This is a yearly contract with the option of 4 additional yearly renewals with no change in prices or terms.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS: The cost of Roadside mowing approx. \$36,000 is included in the Road Department's 2025 budget.

LEGAL REVIEW: Not applicable.

DEADLINE: March 25, 2025.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED (PROPOSED BOARD MOTION):

Request the Board award the contract to Quick Mow INC. and authorize Managing Director, Linda Pigue, to sign the contract.

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

Administrator recommends approval.

IONIA COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT
CONTRACT # 25-22 Roadside Mowing Primary Blacktop Roads
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025 @ 10:30 A.M.

TABULATION

	2025	Unit	J.JABLONSKI & SONS INC.		QUICK MOW INC.		SNOW SYSTEMS		WOLF CREEK	
	EST. QTY		10' wide cut	8' wide cut	10' wide cut	8' wide cut	10' wide cut	8' wide cut	10' wide cut	8' wide cut
1st Mowing (Includes 34 clear vision areas, various sizes)	358.43	per/mile	\$ 110.00	\$ 57.80	\$ 140.00	\$ 49.81	\$ 160.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 67.00	\$ 59.00
2nd Mowing (Includes 34 clear vision areas, various sizes)	358.43	per/mile	\$ 110.00	\$ 57.80	\$ 140.00	\$ 49.81	\$ 140.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 67.00	\$ 59.00

Board Action 3/25/2025: Award to lowest bidder 8' cut

**IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION**

Title: CONTRACT 25-55 As- Needed Construction Services

Date: March 25, 2025

CONTACT: Cody Waite, Internal Coordinator

DESCRIPTION: The Road Department issued an RFP for Contract 25-55 As- Needed Construction Services. We received 3 bids before the Bid Opening's Deadline from Grand River Excavation, TBD Construction, and Buck Garland Excavation. Buck Garland was the lowest bidder. This is a yearly contract with the option of 4 additional yearly renewals with no change in prices or terms.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS: The cost for As-Needed Construction Services is included in the Road Department's 2025 budget. Work contracted with townships will be reimbursed to the Road Department

LEGAL REVIEW: Not applicable.

DEADLINE: March 25, 2025.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED (PROPOSED BOARD MOTION):

Request the Board award the contract to Buck Garland LLC. and authorize Managing Director, Linda Pigue, to sign the contract.

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

Administrator recommends approval.

IONIA COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT
 CONTRACT # 25-55 As- Needed Construction Services
 MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025 @ 10:30 A.M.

TABULATION

	Grand River Excavation		BUCK GARLAND EXC.		TBD CONSTRUCTION		
	Units	\$Hourly Per Unit	Units	\$Hourly Per Unit	Units	\$Hourly Per Unit	
Dozer	2	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 80.00	1	\$ 195.00	4 hour minimun
Excavator	5	\$ 90-170	1	\$ 125.00	1	\$ 200.00	4 hour minimun
Skid Steer	2	\$ 85.00	1	\$ 75.00	1	\$ 175.00	4 hour minimun
Drum Roller	1	\$ 85.00	1	\$ 80.00	1	\$ 140.00	4 hour minimun
Plate Compactor	1	\$ 45.00			1	\$ 50.00	4 hour minimun
Dump Truck	2	\$ 115.00			1	\$ 140.00	4 hour minimun
Leads	2	\$ 125.00			1	\$ 165.00	4 hour minimun
Train	1	\$ 160.00					
Short Double	1	\$ 160.00					
Loader					1	\$ 170.00	4 hour minimun
Grader					1	\$ 375.00	4 hour minimun
7' Mill					1	\$3500 + \$680/hour after 4 hours	

Board Action 3/25/2025: Award to lowest bidder

**IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION**

Title: Rental – Broce Broom

Date: March 25, 2025

CONTACT: Cody Waite, Internal Coordinator

DESCRIPTION:

The State of Michigan, Department of Technology, Management & Budget, Procurement Services offers the MIDEAL Program to all Michigan municipalities. Goods and services listed on the MIDEAL website were selected through the State's competitive bid process. The Road Department annually rents a street sweeper/broom. We would like to rent a Broce Broom from a MIDEAL approved vendor, AIS-Contractors Rental.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES AFFECTED:

None

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS:

The monthly rental is \$2,800. The monthly rental is included in the Departments' budget. We rent on a month-to-month basis. We usually rent for 7 months and MDOT reimburses us for 50% of the monthly rental.

LEGAL REVIEW:

None

DEADLINE:

March 25, 2025

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED (PROPOSED BOARD MOTION):

Request Board authorization to rent a street sweeper/broom for 7 months.

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

Administrator recommends approval.



LANSING
3600 N. Grand River Ave.
Lansing, MI 48906
(517) 321-8000

SAGINAW
4600 AIS Drive
P.O. Box 253
Bridgeport, MI 48722
(989) 777-0090

GRAND RAPIDS
600 AIS Drive S.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49548
(616) 538-2400

NORTHEAST DETROIT
85809 Gratiot Avenue
Lenox, MI 48050
(586) 727-7502

WEST DETROIT
56555 Pontiac Trail
New Hudson, MI 48165
(248) 437-8121

TRAVERSE CITY
8300 M-72 East
P.O. Box 190
Williamsburg, MI 49690
(231) 267-5060

Ship To:

Invoice To: IONIA COUNTY ROAD COMM.
170 EAST RIVERSIDE DRIVE
IONIA MI 48846

Branch L1 - LANSING RENTAL*REPRINT*		
Date 11/11/2024	Time 11:14:00 (O)	Page 1
Account No 34	Phone No 6165271700	Inv No 364211
Ship Via		Purchase Order 32731
		38-6004857
		Salesperson CJK / CJK

DESCRIPTION

Description INVOICE #: 364211 For Contract #: 058392 Amount

Billing #: 10 Covering From 11/07/2024 to 12/04/2024

IT IS THE CUSTOMER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO PERFORM ALL DAILY MAINTENANCE, INCLUDING FLUID LEVEL CHECKS AND GREASING. PLEASE RETURN UNITS CLEANED AND REFUELED TO AVOID ADDITIONAL CHARGES. ALL FUEL REQUIRED TO REFILL UNITS WILL BE BILLED AT \$7.50/GALLON. ALL RENTAL RATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE QUARTERLY!

MI-DEAL CONTRACT # 240000000158
MONTHLY RENTAL OF BROCE BROOM. RATE IS BASED ON 180 HOURS
OF USE PER MONTH. RESERVED BY WES SHAFER. THANK YOU FOR YOUR
BUSINESS!

RJT350 SWEEPER, BLADE Charge for usage of 1 MONTH 2882.00
Stock #: 412831 Serial #: 412831
Date Out: 03/28/2024 12:00 Expected return date: 12/05/2024 12:00

0918364364

Subtotal: 2882.00
TOTAL IBS CHARGE: 2882.00

REMIT PAYMENT TO:
INTERSTATE BILLING SERVICES, INC
P.O. BOX 2208
DECATUR, AL
35609-2208

*Per phone conversation
was had w/ vendor
price will be
\$2800/month
for ~ 6 to 7 months
JP
3/19/25*

By signing below, Lessee specifically acknowledges that it has read and agrees to the Agreement, including the "Master Equipment Rental Agreement" on the reverse side hereof.

X _____
Signature

X _____
Print Name and Title

By initialing below, Lessee acknowledges that it has read and understands the following sections of the "Terms and Conditions of Master Equipment Rental Agreement":
INITIAL

_____ Section 5 (relating to Equipment Training)

_____ Section 9 (relating to Damage Waiver)

_____ Section 22 (relating to Arbitration)

**IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION**

Title: Act 51 Annual Resolution Certifying County Road System Mileage
Date: March 25, 2025

CONTACT: Cody Waite, Internal Coordinator

DESCRIPTION: Act 51 requires an annual certification of mileage in the County Road System. The attached Resolution must be provided to MDOT before April 1, 2025.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES AFFECTED: None

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS: Failure to comply with Act 51 means the County would not qualify for Michigan Transportation Funds. This would mean a revenue loss to the Road Department of \$9,000,000 to \$10,000,000 per year.

LEGAL REVIEW: Not applicable.

DEADLINE: March 25, 2025.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED (PROPOSED BOARD MOTION): Request the Board adopt the attached Resolution and authorize the Chairman to sign the Mileage Certification.

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION: The Administrator recommends adoption of the Resolution and that the Chairman sign the Mileage Certification..

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF IONIA
RESOLUTION FOR ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO COUNTY ROAD SYSTEM
MADE PRIOR TO DECEMBER 31, 2024

Commissioner _____ moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Ionia County Road Department wishes to add or correct new roads and delete or change roads on its road system as part of the annual Act 51 Certification. Total changes include an increase of 24.45 miles in primary miles, a decrease in local miles of 29.87, with a decrease in local urban miles of 14.98, with an increase of 24.98 miles in primary urban mileage. Recommended changes are described as follows:

County Wide

Primary 414.03 2024 Mileage GIS Maps, Required ACUB Changes

Local 654.27 2024 Mileage GIS Maps, Required ACUB Changes

Urban

Primary 51.64 2024 Mileage GIS Maps, Required ACUB Changes

Local 24.94 2024 Mileage GIS Maps, Required ACUB Changes

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Managing Director shall be authorized to approve the addition and change of the above noted roads for the Ionia County Road Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that true copies of this resolution will be sent to the Michigan Department of Transportation.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and carried on a roll call vote:

Ayes, _____

Nays, _____

Absent, _____

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

CERTIFICATION

I, Greg Geiger, Clerk of the Board of Ionia County, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of an excerpt from the minutes of a meeting of said Board held on February 8th, A.D., 2023, as appears of record in the office of said Board; that I have compared the same with the original and it is a true transcript therefrom.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand at Ionia, Michigan, this ____ day
of _____ A.D., 2025.

Greg Geiger
Clerk of the Board

**IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION**

Title: Application for 2028 MDOT Local Bridge Funds

Date: March 25, 2025

CONTACT: Cody Waite, Internal Coordinator

DESCRIPTION: The Road Department wishes to submit applications for MDOT 2028 Local Bridge Funds. The package of applications includes Replacement of the Nickle Plate Rd Bridge culverts for the Maple River Flood Plain, Replacement of the Grand River Ave. Bridge over Libhart Creek and preventative maintenance on four other bridges. The application process requires a County Board of Commissioners' Resolution of Support.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES AFFECTED: None

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS: If the Department is awarded Local Bridge Funds, the Department will include matching funds in its 2028 budget.

LEGAL REVIEW: Not applicable.

DEADLINE: March 25, 2025.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED (PROPOSED BOARD MOTION): Request the Board adopt the Resolution of Support and authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution of Support.

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION: The Administrator recommends the Board adopt the Resolution and authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution of Support.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

LOCAL BRIDGE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

Replacement and Preventative Maintenance of Bridges in Ionia County

WHEREAS, there are bridges in Ionia County that are in need of repairs beyond that of general maintenance. All of which are applicable for federal and state funds through the Local Bridge Program; and

WHEREAS, these bridges are as follows:

<u>Road</u>	<u>Crossing</u>	<u>Treatment</u>	<u>Township</u>
Nickle Plate Rd	Maple River Flood	Replacement	Lyons
Grand River Ave	Libhart Creek	Replacement	Orange
Charlotte Highway	Grand River	Preventative Maintenance	Danby
Kent Street	Grand River	Preventative Maintenance	Danby
Hubbardston Rd	Stoney Creek	Preventative Maintenance	Lyons
Stout Rd	Fish Creek	Preventative Maintenance	North Plains

WHEREAS, if no repairs are performed, these bridges will deteriorate faster and eventually impair the movement of the general traffic, and the accomplishment of agricultural and other commercial activities; and

WHEREAS, Road Department staff has prepared applications for Local Bridge Program Funds for these structures; and

WHEREAS, this Board has considered the applications for Local Bridge Program Funds and authorizes the submission of the applications for the Local Bridge Program Funds for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ionia County Board of Commissioners does request affirmative consideration of our application for Local Bridge Program Funds and agrees to provide the necessary local funds for these projects if awarded.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF IONIA COUNTY, MICHIGAN

BY: _____

Jack Shattuck

BOARD CHAIRPERSON

DATE: _____

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

Agreement for Sheriff's Office Services Between
The Village of Clarksville
And the County of Iona
3/25/25

CONTACT:

Sheriff Charlie Noll

DESCRIPTION:

Renew agreement with the Village of Clarksville to provide contracted patrol within the Village; up to 12 hours per month starting April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES AFFECTED:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS:

The Village of Clarksville will be billed \$43.67 per hour for actual hours performed by the Sheriff's Office in the service of this agreement, up to 12 hours per month.

LEGAL REVIEW:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

DEADLINE:

0325/25 Board meeting

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED (PROPOSED BOARD MOTION):

Ionian County Board of Commissioners approve the agreement for Sheriff's Office Services between the Village of Clarksville and the County of Ionia.

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**AGREEMENT FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE SERVICES BETWEEN
THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSVILLE
AND THE COUNTY OF IONIA**

THIS AGREEMENT is made on this **1st day of April 2025 to March 31, 2026**, between the **Village of Clarksville** (Village) and the **COUNTY OF IONIA** (County), with reference to the following facts and circumstances.

1. DUTIES OF THE COUNTY. The County, through the Sheriff's Office, shall provide the Village with the following:

- A. A deputy with a fully equipped Sheriff's Office patrol vehicle will conduct policing activities within the village, which shall include, but not be limited to, vehicle patrol, foot patrol of downtown business area, and enforcement of ordinances of the Village of Clarksville and the laws of the State of Michigan, within the corporation limits of the village.
- B. The total hours scheduled for the Village in the performance of this Agreement, commencing April 1, 2025, shall be up to 12 hours per month.
- C. Deputies assigned to the Village in the performance of this Agreement shall remain in the village at all times (this includes lunch hours and breaks) with the exception of times when outside of the village working on a village generated incident including arrest transports. If the Deputy is removed from the village to respond to an emergency, the time outside the village would not be charged to the village.
- D. The deputy position will at all times be staffed by the County and the Sheriff's Office with staff that are qualified and trained in accordance with all requirements of an MCOLES certified police officer.

2. DUTIES OF THE VILLAGE - The village/township agrees to the following:

- A. The village will remit monthly payments for actual hours performed by the Sheriff's Office in the service of this Agreement, according to a monthly invoice submitted by the County in accordance with the hourly rates as follows:

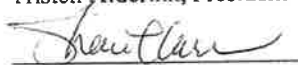
April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026

\$43.67

Rates are calculated with a 2% increase each year. However, the actual rate increases each year will be based on actual costs, but will be no more than the 2% increase, whichever is lower.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the County of Ionia has caused this Agreement to be executed by the Chairperson and the Clerk of the Board of Commissioners and the Sheriff of Ionia County and the Village of Clarksville has caused this Agreement to be executed by its President and Clerk.

VILLAGE OF CLARKSVILLE

By:  3/3/25
Tristen Alderink, President Date
By:  3/3/25
Shari Clark, Clerk Date

COUNTY OF IONIA

By: _____ Date
Jack Shattuck, Chairperson
County Board of Commissioners
By: _____ Date
Greg Geiger
County Clerk
By: _____ Date
Charlie Noll, Sheriff

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

District Court Probation Remodel
March 25, 2025

CONTACT:

Scott DeRuischer - Facilities Director
616-527-5345

DESCRIPTION:

After review of four contractor's bids and scopes of work, the Facilities Committee and I would like to contract with Smartcomm LLC in the amount of \$162,875.00. The project includes demolition of old offices, and re-construction of new offices per plans and specifications. Included in the project is a new waiting area, updated and upgraded new offices, additional storage space and a new heating and cooling system.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES AFFECTED:

None

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS:

Funding for this project will come from the General Fund Designated Capital Outlay \$150,000.00 the remaining amount of \$12,875.00 from Unbudgeted Committed Projects Fund.

LEGAL REVIEW:

N/A

DEADLINE:

As soon as possible so we can get on the contractors schedule for this spring

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED (PROPOSED BOARD MOTION):

I am seeking approval to contract with Smartcomm LCC for the amount of \$162,875.00 for the District Court Probation Remodel with \$150,000.00 from the General Fund Designated Capital Outlay and the remaining amount of \$12,875.00 from Unbudgeted Committed Project Funds

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

County Administrator recommends approval of this requests.

Ionia County District Court Probation Offices

Company Name	Bid Total	Addenda #1 - Data Rough-in	\$10,000.00 Panel Allowance Included	Total Contract with Addendum #1	Schedule
Smartcomm LLC	\$162,875.00	Did not recognize Addenda #1	Yes	\$162,875.00	12 Weeks
Shaw Construction & Management Co.	\$178,900.00	\$2,602.00	Yes	\$181,502	No Schedule Mentioned
Gordan Construction Services	\$205,000.00	10 Data Boxes Included	No mention of Panel Allowance	\$205,00.00	9 Weeks
Central Michigan Building Servies	\$226,600.00	\$2,800.00	Yes	\$229,400.00	12 + Weeks

**IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION**

Computerized Maintenance Management Software

CONTACT:

Scott DeRuischer - Facilities Director
616-527-5345

DESCRIPTION:

I am looking to implement Computerized Maintenance Management Software for the maintenance and janitorial departments to be better organized and have better accountability for the completion of requested and completed work. I have met with 3 different Computerized Maintenance Management vendors and have received demonstrations on all 3 systems. After doing some additional research and reviewing the pricing for each, I would like to contract with Limble CMMS for one year in the amount of \$1,788.48.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES AFFECTED:

All County Departments

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS:

Funding for this project will come from the I.T. Software budget.

LEGAL REVIEW:

N/A

DEADLINE:

As soon as possible

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED (PROPOSED BOARD MOTION):

I am seeking approval to contract with Limble Computerized Maintenance Management Software for one year in the amount of \$1,788.48 with the funds coming from the I.T. Software Budget

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

County Administrator recommends approval of this request.

Computerized Maintenance Management Software (CMMS) Cost Comparisons

Company Name	Cost per user per month	Cost per user per year	Total cost for 3 users per year	Software Implimentation, Training and Support Fee	Total for 1st year
Fiix (this is the software that we had 8 years ago)	\$63.75 15% discount if signed in the month of March	\$765.00	\$2,295.00	No fee because we would be a returning customer	\$2,295.00
Limble CMMS	\$49.68	\$596.16	\$1,788.48	Unlimited at no additional cost	\$1,788.48
MaintainX	\$49.00	\$588.00	\$1,764.00	Will not provide any implimentation or support for under 5 users	\$1,764.00
MaintainX (5 user agreement)	\$49.00	\$588.00	5 Users \$2,352.00 20% Discount	\$1,300.00	\$3,652.00

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

Renew Dispatch Chair Lease agreement with Shelby Products, LLC
For March 25, 2025, meeting

CONTACT:

Lance Langdon, ENP, Central Dispatch Director

DESCRIPTION:

In February of 2022 the BOC approved contracting for a leased chair program with Shelby Products, LLC. With this program our 24x7 rated dispatch chairs are leased rather than purchased. With this program the chairs are used for a year and then replaced with new or fully refurbished chairs. Staff has been extremely pleased with this program. Shelby has added several new chairs to their program, and we have reviewed samples that they brought to us. We selected a few different chairs to help fit the several different body types in the center.

Quotes were obtained for another 3-year agreement as well as 5 years to offset expected increases at the end of the next term in 2028, as we have seen with the renewal.

At the BOC March 11th meeting it was requested that I obtain additional quotes for the chairs to comply with the County Purchasing policy. This was done and is outlined on the attached spread sheet. I also did inquire as requested of the Crandal office furniture store in Greenville, who advised that they don't rate chairs as 24/7 that any chair can be 24/7.

In review of the costs the spread sheet compares purchase or lease. No other companies leasing these chairs were found to make a price comparison. The original vendor Thomas Shelby did provide purchase costs for the requested chairs, but the concept Seating chair is not available for purchase only lease through them. No single vendor was found that carries the 4 different chair models we had selected other than Thomas Shelby.

For the three brands Miller@work, Bodybilt, and Ultra Seat, Thomas Shelby and the individual manufacturers were the only two options for these chair models. Two other suppliers for Bodybilt are listed with similar but not the same models for comparison.

One Management employee chair is also requested to accommodate a medical condition, and a Doctors note has been provided. They did find a model, the Ultra Seat Supervisor chair, that met their needs. This would be a purchase as it would not be used 24/7 and not need yearly replacement. Thomas Shelby costs \$1600.00 if with lease chair delivery to avoid shipping costs. Ultra Seat costs with shipping, \$1902.58.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES AFFECTED:

None

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS:

Each year the chair program prices have increased and at the end of the three-year term, costs have increased. The 3-year one payment discounted cost in 2022 was \$9,631.44 for 6 chairs.

The increase in cost of the 3-year plan one payment discount cost is \$11,971.68 (\$12,216.00), the average yearly increase per chair is an additional \$130.01 per chair for each year.

An option to lock in current rates for 5 years brings the one payment discounted cost to \$19,952.80 (\$20,360.00). The discount is 2% for the one-time payment.

The renewal was budgeted with an estimated increase of 5% (\$481.57) for the three-year term. The additional cost for the 5-year term and additional increase would be taken from the centers fund balance.

The 5-year cost with New/Refurbished chairs each year, is the least expensive, as compared to an initial purchase and then replacing them at the 2 ½ to 3-year mark at today's costs.

				Pricing with Initial purchase immediately and second purchase to replace chairs at 2 1/2 Year point					
		Buy		First Year	Second Year	Third Year	Forth Year	5th Year	Total
Concept Seating 3142R Alt. Leather		2		Concept Seating 3142R Alt. Leather					
Thomas Shelby Only available to LEASE			612/yr	\$ 1,224.00	\$ 1,224.00	\$1,224.00	\$1,224.00	\$1,224.00	\$ 6,120.00
WorkSafe Products		\$2,073.20	inc ship	\$4,146.00	\$ -	\$4,146.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,292.00
Advanced Ergonomic Concepts inc		\$2,148.68	inc ship	\$4,297.00	\$ -	\$4,297.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,594.00
DBI		\$2,256.17	inc ship	\$4,512.34	\$ -	\$4,512.34	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,024.68
Husky seating		\$2,107.33	inc ship	\$4,214.66	\$ -	\$4,214.66	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,429.32
Bodybilt i2704HR alt leather		2	Bodybilt i2704HR alt leather						\$ -
Thomas Shelby Lease			712/year	\$1,424.00	\$ 1,424.00	\$1,424.00	\$1,424.00	\$1,424.00	\$ 7,120.00
Thomas Shelby		\$2,570.83	inc ship	\$5,140.00		\$5,140.00			\$10,280.00
Office Chairs Outlet		\$2,049.00	inc ship	\$4,298.00		\$4,298.00			\$ 8,596.00
Bodybilt store	Not HR model	\$1,949.00	inc ship	\$3,898.00		\$3,898.00			\$ 7,796.00
Human Solution	2407 no alt leather	\$2,419.00	inc ship	\$4,838.00		\$4,838.00			\$ 9,676.00
									\$ -
Miller@work 50799 in alt. leather		1	Miller@work 50799 in alt. leather						\$ -
Thomas Shelby Lease			712/yr	\$ 712.00	\$ 712.00	\$ 712.00	\$ 712.00	\$ 712.00	\$ 3,560.00
Thomas Shelby		\$2,500.00	260	\$2,760.00		\$2,760.00			\$ 5,520.00
millar@work.com		\$2,500.00	unk ship	\$2,500.00		\$2,500.00			\$ 5,000.00
									\$ -
Ultra Seat Commander II alt. leather		1	Ultra Seat Commander II alt. leather						\$ -
Thomas Shelby Lease			712/yr	\$ 712.00	\$ 712.00	\$ 712.00	\$ 712.00	\$ 712.00	\$ 3,560.00
Thomas Shelby		\$1,800.00	260	\$2,060.00		\$2,060.00			\$ 4,120.00
Ultra Seat Corp.		\$1,714.67	467.91	\$2,182.58		\$2,182.58			\$ 4,365.16

LEGAL REVIEW:

A new contract will need to be reviewed by the county attorney.

DEADLINE:

The current agreement ends April 7, 2025.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED (PROPOSED BOARD MOTION):

The BOC approves Central Dispatch to continue chair services, with a new contract between Ionia County (Central Dispatch) and Shelby Products. LLC, for six (6), 24x7 rates chairs for a five (5) year term at a one-time discounted cost of \$19,952.80. The BOC also approves a single chair purchase of \$1600.00 for a total of \$21552.80. The BOC authorizes the Director to sign the lease agreement on behalf of the county after approval by the county attorney.

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

REGISTER OF DEEDS ANNUAL REPORT
WRITTEN ONLY

03/25/2025

CONTACT:

Tammi Hewitt, Register of Deeds
616-527-5320
thewitt@ioniacounty.org

DESCRIPTION:

Annual Report – 2024 for Ionia County Register of Deeds

OTHER DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES AFFECTED:

N/A

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS:

N/A

LEGAL REVIEW:

N/A

DEADLINE:

None

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED (PROPOSED BOARD MOTION):

Review the narrative and annual report for 2024. Please contact Tami at (616)527-5320 or thewitt@ioniacounty.org with any questions pertaining to this report.

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

Narrative for 2024 Annual Report

For Ionia County Register of Deeds Office

February 28, 2025

Please find attached the 2024 Annual Report for the Ionia County Register of Deeds Office.

A. E-RECORDING/CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

1. E-recording processing continues to be beneficial as it provides the recording and return of the documents same day as opposed to mailing and risking the documents getting lost or delayed through the mail. The total number of documents recorded for 2024 was 9000 of which 4069 were electronically recorded which totals about 45% of our recordings. The grand total for recording fees for 2024 was \$2,309,009.40.

2. Payment of fees in our office is currently only payable by check or cash. It is our goal to implement a third method of payment for document recording and copy fees by means of credit card usage for walk-in customers. By switching to Fidor this would be automatically done through their system.

B. REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX AND TAX CERTIFICATE FEES

1. Real Estate sales continued to be steady even though the interest rates for 2024 were up. The County Transfer Tax collected was \$264,950.40. Transfer Tax collected for the State of Michigan was \$1,766,820.00.

2. The Register of Deeds office collected \$7035.00 in Tax Certification fees from the Ionia County Treasurer's office. There were 469 property Tax Foreclosure Certificates processed during the first week of March 2024 for delinquent property taxes.

C. REMONUMENTATION GRANT PROGRAM

1. The Remonumentation Grant from the State of Michigan to Ionia County was \$49,855.00 for 2024. Mulder and Associates Surveyors, Inc. surveyed and set 38 Land Corner Records for Ionia County during the year. Ionia County has had the privilege of working with Mulder and Associates throughout the entire Remonumentation Grant Project. They have been and continue to be an asset in our participation of the program thus far.

2. We have 932 corners that remain to be surveyed and reset under the Remonumentation Grant Project. Ionia County will remain in an active status in this grant program until all corners have been reset. Once all of the corners are complete we will begin and remain in a maintenance plan for the remainder of the Remonumentation Grant Program.

D. TOTAL GENERATED REVENUE

1. Our original budget was \$500,000.00. The total revenue generated was \$576,801.65.

E. PASSPORT PROCESSING

1. Our office began Passport Processing November 1, 2024. Our initial investment for the supplies was \$966.80. As of this date we have brought in \$2,269.00 for passport fees. We have spent \$182.91 in postage. After the expenses for the supplies and postage have been deducted our profit is \$1,119.29. We continue to get more calls weekly now that the word is getting out that we are processing them. Our revenue should continue to increase as more find out about our office processing them. So far we have had a positive feedback from the public for our services.

F. SOFTWARE CHANGES

1. Our office is looking forward to the switch with Fidar and the options that will be offered to the public to help protect against fraud. I am anticipating that with the advanced technology and search options we will be bringing in more revenue for the county.

G. CLOSING

The Register of Deeds office continues to be dedicated to excellent customer service and updating our records to benefit the community. Restoring our documents to archival status and preserving them for future generations remains our primary concern.

If there are any questions regarding this information, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,



Tammi Hewitt

Ionia County Register of Deeds

thewitt@ioniacounty.org

IONIA COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

INSTRUMENTS	NO. RECORDED	FEE
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RECORDED INSTRUMENTS

Includes all Deeds, Probate, Patents, Rights of Way,
Easements, Surveys, Powers of Attorney, Death Certificates,
Oil & Gas Leases; Mortgages, including Tax Liens,
Discharges, Judgments, Lis Pendens, Fixture Filings,
And Land Corner Recordation Certificates,
Plats

9000

\$193,796.00
0.00

MISCELLANEOUS

Copy Fees
Escrow on Deposit
Misc Fax Fees, etc.

\$65,227.00
(\$3,585.00)
\$5.00

ABSTRACT/MAPPING & DESCRIPTION

Tract Index Use

\$6,245.00

FEE TOTALS	\$261,688.00
TRANSFER TAX – COUNTY	\$264,950.40
MSSR - COUNTY	\$471.12
AUTOMATION FUND	\$45,000.00
AUTOMATION FUND INTEREST	\$ 4,175.13
TOTAL COUNTY REVENUE FOR 2024	\$576,284.65

TAX CERTIFICATE FEES COLLECTED FOR TREASURER	\$7,035.00
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MSSR FEES SENT TO STATE	\$30,936.88
STATE TRANSFER TAX SENT TO STATE	\$1,766,820.00

TOTAL GENERATED REVENUE	\$2,381,076.53
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Respectfully submitted,

Tammi Hewitt

Tammi Hewitt
Register of Deeds

IONIA COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE

Walt Downes, Chief Public Defender

Larry Lewis, Assistant Public Defender; Joshua Franklin, Assistant Public Defender; Matthew Peterson, Assistant Public Defender; Alison Stoken, Paralegal; Melony Bigger, Paralegal; and Alyssa Nurenberg, Social Worker.

Since our last report, we were visited by our new MIDC Regional Director to observe courtroom performance by our attorneys, and meet with our office on beginning the MIDC Grant process for FY26. Our grant submission is due by middle of April, so we will need to present and obtain approval of the grant next month to the Board of Commissioners, before submission to MIDC on the EGrAMS state system.

Walt Downes just returned from the Criminal Defense Attorneys of Michigan (CDAM) Spring Conference in Auburn Hills for a few days of training. He benefited greatly from some outstanding training and networking with other public defenders, and criminal defense attorneys from across the state.

Our social worker Alyssa Nurenberg just completed our staff training on de-escalation skills to ensure we all have the skills set to deal with our clients with mental health issues, who may have an episode in our office or the courthouse. We continue to work on providing in-house training as needed, in addition to the state provided trainings that we have access to regularly.

Our internship program continues to excel with participants who work with our paralegals and attorneys receiving a tremendous learning opportunity within our office. We host three interns in fall and winter semesters, and four during the summer. Our first open slots for an intern is for the Fall 2026 semester. We currently have two interns from Michigan State University, and one from Grand Valley State University. We fill all of our possible slots for interns 3-4 semesters in advance.

We have several cases headed to jury trial in the Circuit and District Courts in the coming months, so it continues to be a very busy time for us in the office. Jury Selections in Circuit Court will be held on April 17th and May 7th, with trials dates in the subsequent three months after selections.

IONIA COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT 2024

50 E Sprague Rd, Ionia, MI 48846 | (616)527-5357

- William V. Hendrian, District 8 Director
- Shawn Frisbie, 4-H Program Coordinator
- Katie Ockert, Natural Resources Educator
- Karen Balice-Gregory, Support Staff



Message from the District Director, Bill Hendrian

Ionia County MSU Extension provides Ionia County people with expertise, resources, and access to each of its broader institutes: Agriculture and Agrobusiness, Health and Nutrition, Community, Food, and the Environment, and Children and Youth (including 4-H). Staff located in Ionia, Montcalm, Gratiot, Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties all serve this area as a part of a statewide team of Extension professionals. People can come into any of our county offices and meet with local professionals or get connected to the appropriate regional expert, purchase soil test kits for their fields or gardens, find pesticide manuals critical for certification, have their pressure canner lid tested or ask questions. People contacted us via telephone, email, in person, or online. In fact, **29,264,562** contacts through social media, web activity, e-newsletters, and handouts were made with MSU Extension statewide in 2024.

Impact_____



Ionia County residents attended **222** programs (across the state).



40 questions were submitted, and answers were received by Ionia County residents to Ask Extension.



996 residents of Ionia County attended MSU Extension programs.



There were **146** volunteers from the local community.



There were **369** youth enrolled in 4-H for the 2023-2024 program year.



\$4,106.70, 4-H volunteer hour value

Overall Impact



9 community coalitions within the county that MSU Extension employees are members of



4 policy, systems, and environmental changes with those PSE sites.



996 participants from the county attending programs.



787 client consultations



222 programs (across the state) attended by participants from this county.



29,264,562 contacts through social media, web activity, e-newsletters and handouts.



261 participants in AABI programs
380 participants in CYI programs
150 participants in HNI programs
244 participants in CEFI programs



304,810 e-newsletters, and handouts dispersed in Ionia County

Economic Development, Environmental Conservation, and Agricultural Productivity



67,320 participants in community, food, and environment programs from across Michigan



470 virtual programs related to Financial Education, Food Systems, Water and Environmental Quality, Government and Businesses.



\$72,722 in sales and 2 new employees hired by entrepreneurs helped by the MSU Product Center



\$246.5 billion annual impact of food and agriculture on Michigan's economy



295 participants in county agriculture programs.



36 commercial and farm soil test samples processed
30 homeowner soil test samples processed

Public Health, Nutrition, and Youth Programming



788 youth participants in 4-H



\$4,106.70 dollar value for 4-H volunteer hour value



133,306 total youth participants statewide



12,861 total volunteers statewide



1 Nutrition and Physical Activity Policy System and Environmental sites receiving PSE education within the county.



86 nutrition and physical activity participants hosted in county.



150 county residents who participated in health and nutrition programs.



9,808 people participating in Food Safety programs including ServSafe®



4-H is growing strong! Five months and multiple meetings with Ionia Free Fair resulted in the approval of the full 4-H division.

*"I'm so happy to see this happen, this is good for the community."
– community member*



Healthy Choices

One of MSU Extension Community Nutrition Instructor (CNI) Joanna Urban's, favorite learning topics is beverage choices – learning what is in the stuff we are drinking. One member from the Ionia Great Start Parent Coalition said,

"I was drinking three or four cans of this soda each day. I had no idea how much sugar was in each can until we had that class about choosing healthy drinks. Then I counted the calories, and I was consuming about half of my daily calories just in the soda alone. I cut myself back to one can of soda a week, and my pants are already starting to fit better. Could we talk about what I think might be better alternatives?"



Healthy community goals

Residents of one housing community started container gardens for vegetables. Around this community, many plants began growing on patios and balconies, in pots, tubs and even in kiddie pools. Eventually, small produce began to appear on the leafy green plants. Some residents walked together or did aerobics and tracked their progress – a challenge to increase exercise and hold each other accountable. CNI Joanna Urban, started working with this community two years ago to help improve their lives through nutrition and physical activity education.

MSU Extension Provides Information and Guidance to Farms During HPAI Outbreak

Sharing information and providing guidance on herd health, disease management, and biosecurity is a priority of Michigan State University (MSU) Extension, from with Ionia County's Extension Educator Katie Ockert, playing a key role in the last year. Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) was identified in Michigan poultry in late 2023. Infected cattle were also confirmed in 2024. Believing the source to be wild migratory birds, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Drug Administration, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention encouraged farmers to increase biosecurity and to work with their veterinarian if their herd experienced signs of illness.

MSU Extension formed a team to address several topics including disease management and response, and biosecurity in cattle and poultry. Ockert was part of the team that worked together to create and share resources and information about current situations, signs of illness, biosecurity recommendations and additional pertinent information. The team responded to media and public inquiries about HPAI through interviews and direct contact with clientele. Additionally, educators hosted educational opportunities and on-farm training in multiple languages when needed. Strong partnerships, combined with the creation of solid, scientific-based recommendations, allowed for the team to fill a need for our MDARD partners who were busy addressing HPAI in cattle and poultry. Ockert contributed her expertise to the statewide team and also organized a local Ionia County program addressing "Backyard chicken biosecurity."



Natural Resources Educator, Katie Ockert also works with hunters and wildlife



Hunting game species - wildlife management

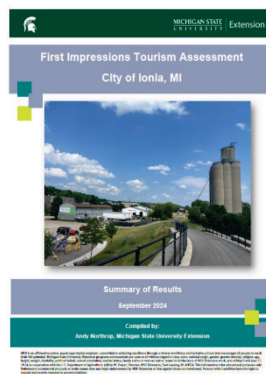
Educator Katie Ockert taught a course on hunting and conservation. Students explored the ethics of hunting, explored food insecurity, discussed opportunities and challenges of potentially utilizing deer in the state as a protein source and learned practical hunting skills. Three students who had limited to no hunting experience had the opportunity to participate in a Field to Fork program through the Michigan chapter of the National Deer Association.

One participant said, *"The class helped me to understand the importance of hunting and totally changed my view on hunting."*

First Impressions Tourism Assessment (FIT)-Ionia, MI (USA)

Compiled by Andy Northrop, MSU Extension

FIT is a comprehensive community assessment conducted by unannounced visitors in a host community. FIT involves developing leaders, assessing the host community, sharing results in a forum open to all and providing suggestions to advance community-driven tourism. Overall, FIT helps participating communities learn about their strengths and weaknesses through the eyes of first-time visitors.



Download the report at the link (<https://bit.ly/IoniaFITreport>)

The First Impressions (FI) program was developed in 1991 by the University of Wisconsin Extension to help communities learn about their existing strengths and weaknesses as seen through the eyes of first-time visitors. The FIT program has been used to help communities across the U.S. and Canada inform economic initiatives or further develop community goals and has been modified over the years by various Extension services based on different needs. Michigan State University (MSU) Extension adapted this program via a multi-state grant provided by the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development in 2014.

Strengths

- Community active gov and community
- Great/attractive downtown
- Community investments
- Growing food scene
- Hispanic Community
- Historical infrastructure
- Visitors Guide
- Robust web-presence
- Outdoor Rec amenities
- Placemaking
- Agritourism opportunities
- 2019 master Plan

Challenges

- Website Confusion
- Disconnect to Grand River
- Cycling infrastructure
- Inaccurate web information
- Poor communication
- Minimal Lodging options
- Downtown
- Short parking limits
- Accessible bathrooms
- Ionia Free Fair (Promo)

County Partnerships & Coalitions:

Hope Network/KMG Prestige

Saranac Elementary School

The Right Door

Ionia Great Start Parent Coalition

Ionia Great Start Readiness Parent Coalition

Belding High School

Belding Middle School

Ionia Free Fair Board of Directors

Ionia County 4-H Horse Leaders Committee

Ionia County Food Policy Council

Ionia County 4-H Dairy Goat Committee

Ionia County 4-H Small Animal Committee

Ionia County 4-Hstills Committee

Ionia County 4-Hfood Booth

Ionia County 4-H Large Animal Livestock Committee

Ionia County 4-H Dairy Cow Committee

Ionia County 4-H Advisory Council

Clarksville Research Center

The Clarksville Research Center (CRC), located at 9302 Portland Rd, Clarksville, hosts research on small fruits and tree fruits as well as potatoes, chestnuts and a variety of other crops.

Research at the 440-acre site includes variety development, fruit thinning and growth regulators, dwarf rootstocks for fruit trees, integrated pest management, organic production systems and new pruning practices to help make production more profitable, efficient and environmentally friendly.

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