



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1200 N. Telegraph Road, Bldg. 12 East, Pontiac, MI 48341

Democratic Caucus Minutes

September 5, 2025 at 3:00 PM

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Angela Powell called the meeting of the Democratic Caucus to order at 3:22 PM in Committee Room A 1200 N. Telegraph Road, 12E, Pontiac, MI 48341.

2. Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ann Erickson Gault, Marcia Gershenson, Penny Luebs, Gwen Markham, Angela Powell, Yolanda Smith Charles, Linnie Taylor, David Woodward (8)

MEMBERS ABSENT WITH NOTICE: Brendan Johnson, William Miller III (2)

3. Public Comment

No one addressed the Caucus during Public Comment #1.

4. Discussion Items

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to discuss the purpose of the meeting and have a discussion of budget priorities.

Commissioner Markham addressed the Caucus to review the Finance Committee's budget review process.

Michael Keys, Board of Commissioners staff, addressed the Caucus to describe the three types of budget amendments.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to discuss a potential budget amendment to provide funding for Visting Judge in 52-4 District Court.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to discuss a potential budget amendment to provide funding for vital records digitization for public access and preservation.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to discuss a potential budget amendment to provide funding for Oakland County Public Spaces Community Places Initiative.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to discuss a potential budget

amendment to provide funding for student debt reduction and assistance.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Gershenson addressed the Caucus to discuss a potential budget amendment to provide funding for expansion of the weekly beach sampling program.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to discuss a potential budget amendment to provide funding for the Oakland County Housing Trust Fund.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to discuss a potential budget amendment to provide funding for the Housing Repair Program.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to discuss a potential budget amendment to provide funding to create the Oakland Connects Housing Coordinator position as well as a potential budget amendment to provide funding for emergency housing and shelter.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to discuss a potential budget amendment to provide funding for the OCSO Crisis Response Unit (CRU).

Gaia Piir with OCSO and Undersheriff Timothy Wills addressed the Caucus to discuss a potential budget amendment to provide funding for the Crisis Response Unit (CRU).

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Erickson Gault addressed the Caucus to discuss a potential budget amendment to provide funding for the Co-Responder Program in Madison Heights, Hazel Park, Ferndale, and Royal Oak.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to discuss a potential budget amendment to provide funding for an OCSO Sergeant position for the Human Trafficking Task Force.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to discuss a potential budget amendment to provide funding for the OCSO Safety Enhancement Fund.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Woodward addressed the Caucus to discuss next steps in the budget

process and some outstanding budget items.

Discussion followed.

Chair Powell addressed the Caucus to share announcements.

5. Public Comment

No one addressed the Caucus during Public Comment #2.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 PM.