

OAKLAND COUNTY ART INSTITUTE AUTHORITY

1200 NORTH TELEGRAPH ROAD, PONTIAC, MICHIGAN 48341-0470
Telephone: (248) 858-0100 FAX: (248) 858-1572

Dr. Swarn Rajpal, *Chair*
April 28, 2026

Barbara Whittaker
Vice Chair

Jenny Brown
James Cristbrook

Jen Miller
Secretary

Chair Rajpal called the meeting of the Oakland County Art Institute Authority to order at 9:01 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners' Pernick-Aaron Conference Room at 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Bldg. 12E, Pontiac, Michigan.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jenny Brown, James Cristbrook, Jen Miller, Dr. Swarn Rajpal, Barbara Whittaker (5)

MEMBERS ABSENT WITH NOTICE:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Miller moved approval of the minutes of January 27, 2026, as presented. Seconded by Cristbrook.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Miller moved approval of the agenda, as presented. Seconded by Cristbrook.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMUNICATIONS

The attached Communications were received by the Authority.

CHAIR'S REPORT – CHAIR RAJPAL

Chair Rajpal reported that he presented to the Legislative Affairs and Government Operations Committee of the Board of Commissioners on February 10, 2026, to report on current activities of the Oakland County Art Institute Authority.

Chair Rajpal reported that at the meeting of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners held on April 8, 2026, the term of office for the three Authority Members appointed by the Oakland

County Board of Commissioners was changed from two years to four years. This change has been carried forward as an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of Oakland County Art Institute Authority.

Chair Rajpal led the group in a discussion about an informal succession plan of Authority Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary).

DIA BOARD REPORT – BO CHENG & DAVE FLYNN

Bo Cheng and Dave Flynn, Oakland County Appointees to the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) Board of Directors, reported DIA activities. Dave Flynn reported that the DIA budget is in a positive position, including an increase in Membership and Development for the current Fiscal Year leading to an anticipated surplus in the DIA budget. By the end of December 2025, the DIA's endowment was at \$495 million of unrestricted funds. The American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) and DIA employees will enter union bargaining. Dave Flynn discussed ongoing issues with DIA parking and construction. The DIA Board of Directors will reconvene on May 20, 2026.

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS (DIA) – REVIEW OF 2025 YEAR END REPORT – JULIE MCFARLAND

Julie McFarland, Executive Director of Public Affairs and Community Engagement, provided a review of the 2025 Year End Report.

Under the current Millage, the DIA offers free General Admission, K-12 Field Trips with free transportation, Senior Programming with free transportation, and Community Partnership Programs to the residents of Oakland County.

The DIA Community Engagement team is currently overseeing the installation of the 2026 Inside|Out artwork within partnering communities. The target completion date for all installations is Memorial Day. The Community Partners for the 2026 season are: Auburn Hills, Lathrup Village, Groveland Township, Oxford, Oakland University, Lyon Township, Walled Lake, Oakland Township, Lawrence Tech, Farmington, Oakland Community College, Oakland County Parks, and Oakland County Senior Centers. Applications for the 2027 season opens in early June.

The Partners in Public Art Mural Program partners for 2026 are Oak Park, Wolverine Lake Village, and Waterford Township. Applications are currently open for the 2027 season and communities are encouraged to apply.

The DIA will be collecting 31 pieces of art from the *Contemporary Anishinaabe Art: A Continuation* exhibition to join the permanent collection.

The Modern and Contemporary galleries are under construction and reinstallation. The galleries are expected to reopen in fall of 2026.

Georgia O'Keefe: Architecture opens on September 13, 2026, and will run until January 3, 2027. This will be a ticketed exhibition, and a 30% discount will be available for Oakland County Residents.

Whittaker moved to receive and file the 2025 Year End Report, as presented. Seconded by Cristbrook.

Motion carried.

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS (DIA) – PLANTE MORAN 2025 AGREED UPON PROCEDURES – JULIE MCFARLAND

Julie McFarland gave a brief overview of the Plante Moran 2025 Agreed Upon Procedures.

Cristbrook moved to receive and file the Plante Moran 2025 Agreed Upon Procedures, as presented. Seconded by Miller.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION AND COLLECTION OF THE 2026 MILLAGE – CHAIR RAJPAL

Miller moved to adopt the Resolution for the Levy and Collection of the 2026 Millage and approve the accompanying 2026 Tax Rate Request (Form L-4029). Seconded by Whittaker.

Motion carried on a roll call vote:

Yeas: Brown, Cristbrook, Miller, Rajpal, Whittaker (5)

Nays: (0)

TREASURER'S REPORT – AMY CARTER

Amy Carter, Accountant, Oakland County Treasurer's Office, and Robert Wittenberg, Oakland County Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report.

Amy Carter reported that the previously discussed funds paid out to Plante Moran for DIA Auditing Services have been reimbursed to the Oakland County Art Institute Authority, as reflected within the budget submitted by the Treasurer's Office.

Miller moved to receive and file the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Cristbrook.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Jen Miller thanked the Authority Chair and Vice Chair for their accomplishments and leadership.

Whittaker moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Cristbrook.

Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

Susie Corker Cobb, Committee Coordinator

Jen Miller, Secretary

NOTE: The foregoing minutes are subject to Authority approval.