

ERIE COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

DATE: February 4, 2026

	Present:	Alternate Name:
Richard Jeffrey, Erie County Auditor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kevin Baxter, Erie County Prosecutor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Caleb Stidham, Erie County Treasurer	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
John Rogers, Chief Deputy Auditor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Others: Brenda Hurst, Chief Fiscal Officer and Janice Baum, Fiscal Officer, E.C. Auditor's Office, Kathy Herchler, E.C. Treasurer's Office, Melissa Price, ErieMetroParks, William Rutger and Craig Davis, Sandusky Library, James Tolbert and Sharon MacNichol, Milan-Berlin Library District and Jozlyn Heckel, Monroeville Library.		

Mr. Jeffrey called the meeting to order at 1:32PM.

On motion of Mr. Baxter and seconded by Mr. Stidham, to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2025 and December 17, 2025 meeting.

	AYE	NAY
Richard Jeffrey	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kevin Baxter	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Caleb Stidham	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

Approval/Address Certificates

Amended 2025 Year

For Entities: City of Vermilion, Village of Berlin Heights, City of Huron, City of Sandusky, Milan Township, and the Erie County Health Department

Original 2026 Year

For Entities: Erie County, Erie MetroParks, Erie County Health Department, Village of Castalia, Village of Berlin Heights, Village of Bay View, City of Huron, City of Sandusky, Berlin Township, Florence Township, Groton Township, Huron Township, Milan Township, Margaretta Township, Oxford Township, Vermilion Township, Village of Kelleys Island, Milan-Berlin Library District, Huron Library, Sandusky Library and Vermilion (Ritter) Library.

On motion of Mr. Stidham and seconded by Mr. Baxter, to approve the final 2025 amended certificates and the original 2026 certificates .

	AYE	NAY
Richard Jeffrey	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kevin Baxter	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Caleb Stidham	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

Set 2026 Meeting Schedule and approve notice to the newspaper

On motion of Mr. Stidham and seconded by Mr. Baxter , to approve holding the 2026 Budget Commission meetings on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 1:30PM, with the exception of November and December's meetings being held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month (2/25/26, 3/25/26, 4/22/26, 5/27/26, 6/24/26, 7/22/26, 8/26/26, 9/23/26, 10/28/26, 11/18/26 and 12/16/26 .

	AYE	NAY
Richard Jeffrey	X	
Kevin Baxter	X	
Caleb Stidham	X	

Discuss H.B. 309 and H.B. 186 and how the Budget Commission can address it

Board members discussed the impact and agreed to meeting with each individual school district after February. March 20th is the deadline for Mr. Jeffrey to provide the figures to the State of Ohio, which will determine budget needs of each district.

Audience Questions/Discussion

Ms. Melissa Price inquired on where the meeting dates will be published. It was discussed the predetermined dates would published on the Auditor's website, along with annual advertismnt in the Sandusky Register.

Mr. James Tolbert, Director of the Milan-Berlin Library District, wanted to follow-up on what would be an appropriate carryover balance that was previously discussed. Mr. Stidham answered that it depends on the entity and what their needs are.

Ms. Sharon MacNicol, Board Member of the Milan-Berlin Library District, spoke and said that she received her tax bill and is only paying \$28 towards the Library. She believes she is receiving great services that are worth more than the price she is paying and does not agree with cutting the Library's funding.

On motion of Mr. Jeffrey and seconded by Mr. Baxter , the meeting was adjourned at 2:04PM .

	AYE	NAY
Richard Jeffrey	X	
Kevin Baxter	X	
Caleb Stidham	X	