



ELECTION COMMISSION FOR CITY OF BUCHANAN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 05, 2026 – 8:00 AM

BUCHANAN CITY HALL | 302 N RED BUD TRAIL

AGENDA

THE ElectionCOMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN, in compliance with Michigan's Open Meetings Act, hereby gives notice of a regular meeting of the Buchanan City Commission to be held in the Chamber of City Hall.

* Those who are unable to appear during a meeting but who still wish to share public comment may submit such comments in written form to the City Clerk at least 4 hours in advance of the meeting.

* Individuals with disabilities may request necessary reasonable accommodations by submitting requests to the City Clerk, preferably at least 24 hours in advance.

* Written requests and comments may be submitted to the City Clerk either in person or via mail to Buchanan City Hall, 302 N. Redbud Trail, Buchanan, MI 49107, or via email to clerk@cityofbuchanan.com

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

IV. Approve Agenda

V. Approve of Minutes

[A.](#) Consider the Election Commission Meeting Minutes from June 24th, 2026.

VI. Public Comment - Agenda Items Only (3-minute limit)

VII. New Business

[A.](#) 1) **Appointments:** Consider approving the Election Inspector appointments for November 3rd, 2026, Primary Election Chairs, Co-Chairs, Election Inspectors, Receiving Board Members, and allow the city clerk to appoint alternates that may be needed on Election Day.

2) **Public Accuracy Test:** Consider approving the Public Accuracy Test to be on October 19th, 2026 at 1:00 P.M. at 302 N. Redbud Trail, City Hall, in the City Commission Chambers.

3) **Attorney Designee:** Consider appointing Emma Lysy, Deputy Clerk, in place of the Attorney Designee for the Public Accuracy Test.

4) **Election Precinct Consolidation:** Consider a resolution supporting the consolidation of the City of Buchanan's two election precincts into one citywide precinct and recommending that the City Commission amend the applicable ordinance following the November 3, 2026 General Election.

VIII. Public Comment - Non-Agenda Items Only (3-minute limit)

IX. Adjourn



ELECTION COMMISSION OF THE BUCHANAN CITY
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026 – 8:00 AM
CHAMBER OF BUCHANAN CITY HALL - 302 N REDBUD TRAIL, BUCHANAN MI

MINUTES

THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN, in compliance with Michigan's Open Meetings Act, hereby gives notice of a regular meeting of the Buchanan City Commission to be held in the Chamber of City Hall.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Clerk Langston- Weiss at 8:00 a.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Roll Call

Clerk Langston-Weiss, Mayor Mark Weedon, City Attorney Matt Derby

IV. Approve Agenda

Motion made by Weedon, supported by Derby, to approve the agenda as presented. Voice vote carried unanimously.

V. Approve of Minutes

A. Consider the Election Commission Meeting Minutes from September 29, 2025.

Motion made by Weedon, supported by Derby, to approve the minutes as presented. Voice vote carried unanimously.

VI. Public Comment - Agenda Items Only (3-minute limit)

VII. New Business

A. 1) Consider approving the Election Inspector appointments for August 4th, 2026, Primary Election Chairs, Co-Chairs, Election Inspectors, Receiving Board Members, and allow the city clerk to appoint alternates that may be needed on election day.

Motion made by Weedon, supported by Derby, to approve the appointments for the August 4th, 2026 Primary Election, as presented. Voice vote carried unanimously.

2) Consider approving the Public Accuracy Test to be on July 10th at 8:00 A.M. at 302 N. Redbud Trail, City Hall, in the City Commission Chambers.

Motion made by Weedon, supported by Derby, to approve the Public Accuracy Test for July 10th at 8:00 AM, as presented. Voice vote carried unanimously.

3) Consider appointing Courtney Baham, City Bookkeeper and Receiving Board Chair, in place of the Attorney Designee for the Public Accuracy Test.

Motion made by Weedon, supported by Derby, to approve the appointment of Courtney Baham in place of the Attorney Designee for the Public Accuracy Test for the August 4th, 2026 Primary Election. Voice vote carried unanimously.

4) Consider authorizing Clerk Langston to establish an Absent Voter Counting Board for the November 3rd General Election.

Motion made by Weedon, supported by Derby, to approve the establishment of an AVCB for the 2026 General Election, as presented. Voice vote carried unanimously.

VIII. Adjourn

Motion made by Weedon, supported by Derby to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 AM. Voice vote carried unanimously.

Kalla Langston-Weiss, City Clerk

November 3 rd , 2026 ELECTION WORKERS PCT 1		
Chair	Debra Lotsbaich	R
Co-Chair	Simona Davis	D
Inspector	Sarah Flanagan	R
Inspector	Douglas Flanagan	L
Inspector	Karin Falkenstein	D
Inspector	Beverly Archer	D
PCT 2		
Chair	Kathryn Klemesrud	D
Co-Chair	Char Langston	R
Inspector	Cathy Will	R
Inspector	Mary Lysy	D
Inspector	Kathy Sadler	D
RECEIVING BOARD		
	Courtney Baham	D
	Jill Mondschein	R
AVCB		
Chair	George Lutz	D
Inspector	Mary Clair Collins	D
Inspector	Laura Kuhn	R
Inspector	Nancy Sain	R
ALTERNATES		
	Emma Lysy	D
	Pat Moore	D
	Beth Murphy	D
	Kellie Welch	R



Date: August 18, 2026
To: Election Commission
From: Kalla Langston-Weiss, City Clerk
Subject: Proposed Permanent Consolidation of City Election Precincts

The City of Buchanan is currently divided into two election precincts. The City's existing ordinance establishes Precinct No. 1 and Precinct No. 2 and divides the precincts generally along the centerline of Front Street. doc00467420260910094302

Michigan Election Law permits a city with no more than 4,999 active registered electors to abolish existing precinct divisions and operate as a single election precinct. MCL 168.658 also provides that, in a city, this action may be taken by the election commission or by other officials charged with that duty under the city charter. The statute further provides that a consolidation may not be made later than 120 days before a primary or election.

Because the City Charter requires Buchanan's precinct structure to be established by ordinance, the City Commission will ultimately need to amend the existing ordinance before the City can permanently move from two precincts to one. The purpose of the proposed Election Commission resolution is therefore to formally support the consolidation and recommend that the City Commission begin the ordinance amendment process following the November 3, 2026 General Election.

No change is proposed for the November 3, 2026 General Election. Precinct No. 1 and Precinct No. 2 would remain in place for that election under the City's current ordinance.

Following the November General Election, staff would bring an ordinance amendment before the City Commission to establish one election precinct encompassing the entire corporate limits of the City of Buchanan. After the ordinance is adopted and effective, the City would complete the required election-administration steps, including coordination with the Berrien County Clerk and the Michigan Bureau of Elections, updating precinct information in the Qualified Voter File, and providing any required voter notices. Michigan Bureau of Elections guidance states that permanent precinct changes and precinct renumbering require updated voter identification cards to be generated in QVF and mailed to affected voters.

The polling place for the new single precinct would be designated separately by the appropriate City authority. Staff currently anticipates recommending Buchanan City Hall as the polling place so that all City voters would vote at one location on Election Day.

Memorandum

Recommended Action:

Adopt the accompanying resolution supporting the permanent consolidation of the City of Buchanan's two existing election precincts into one citywide election precinct and recommending that the City Commission consider the necessary ordinance amendment following the November 3, 2026 General Election.



**CITY OF BUCHANAN
ELECTION COMMISSION
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN'S TWO
ELECTION PRECINCTS INTO ONE ELECTION PRECINCT**

WHEREAS, the City of Buchanan currently consists of one ward divided into two election precincts, Precinct No. 1 and Precinct No. 2; and

WHEREAS, the City's existing ordinance establishes the two precincts and divides them generally along the centerline of Front Street;

WHEREAS, MCL 168.658 provides that when a city divided into two or more election precincts has not more than 4,999 active registered electors, the election commission, or other officials charged with that duty by the city charter, may abolish the precinct divisions and establish the city as a single election precinct; and

WHEREAS, the Buchanan City Election Commission has reviewed the current precinct structure and believes that consolidating the City's two existing election precincts into a single citywide election precinct would promote the efficient administration of elections; and

WHEREAS, the Buchanan City Charter requires the City's precinct structure to be established by ordinance of the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Election Commission intends that the existing precinct structure remain unchanged for the November 3, 2026 General Election and that any permanent consolidation occur only after completion of that election and compliance with all applicable requirements of the Michigan Election Law and City Charter;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Buchanan Election Commission hereby supports and recommends the permanent consolidation of Precinct No. 1 and Precinct No. 2 into one election precinct encompassing the entire corporate limits of the City of Buchanan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Election Commission recommends that the Buchanan City Commission, following completion of the November 3, 2026 General Election, consider an ordinance amending the City's existing precinct ordinance to establish one citywide election precinct.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution is an expression of support and recommendation and shall not alter the precinct structure for the November 3, 2026 General Election.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that implementation of the consolidation shall occur only after adoption and effectiveness of the required ordinance and completion of all applicable statutory notifications and election-administration requirements.

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSENT: _____

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Dated: _____, 2026

Kalla Langston-Weiss, City Clerk
Chair, City of Buchanan Election Commission