



BUCHANAN AREA RECREATION BOARD (B.A.R.B.)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026 – 6:00 PM

BUCHANAN CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL - 15235 MAIN ST, BUCHANAN, MI
49107

AGENDA

THE BUCHANAN AREA RECREATION BOARD (B.A.R.B.) OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN in compliance with Michigan's Open Meetings Act, hereby gives notice of a regular meeting.

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

IV. Approve Agenda

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

VI. Approve Minutes

[A.](#) Consider approving the meeting minutes from March 18, 2026

VII. Unfinished Business

A. The Common/Pears Mill - Wendi Heyliger

Harger Park - Wendi Heyliger

Kathryn Park - Katie Heyliger

McCoy Creek Recreation Area (McCoy Creek Trail, Field of Dreams Dog Park, Centennial Park) -
Jeanne Harris

Veteran's Memorial Park - Raquell George

Ravish Park - Jennifer Popielski

Redbud Riverfront Park -

Victory Park/Tot Lot - Jeanne Harris

Mud Lake Bog - Katie Heyliger

Madron Lake Boat Launch - Emily Koziel

Walton Bridge Park - Emily Koziel

B. Fundraiser Updates

C. Kathryn Park Play Equipment - Sinclair Recreation Introduction & Color Discussion

D. Pickleball - Location & Prioritization Discussion

E. Park Clean Up Day Discussion

VIII. New Business

[A.](#) Consider BARB Member Application - Brian Kill

B. Board Training with Buchanan City Clerk

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

X. Executive Comments

[A.](#) Communication - McCoy Creek Trail Board Report

XI. Adjourn

- I. Call to Order 4/18/25 @ 6:00pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
 - a. Present: Wendi Heyliger, Emily Koziel, Raquelle George, Katie Heyliger, Jeanne Harris, Jennifer Popeilski
 - b. Absent

IV. Approve Agenda

Motion made by Emily Koziel, second by Raquelle George to approve the agenda as amended.

Yes:

No:

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

VI. Approve Minutes

Motion made by Jeanne Harris, second by Emily Koziel to approve the minutes from February 18 ,2026

Yes:

No:

Unanimous

VII. Unfinished Business

A.The Common/Pears Mill- Wendi Heyliger

Harger Park- Wendi Heyliger

Kathryn Park- Katie Heyliger

McCoy Creek Recreation Are (McCoy Creek Trail, Field of Dreams Dog Park,
Jeanne Harris

Centennial Park)-

Veterans Park- Raquell George

Ravish Park- Jennifer Popielski

Redbud Riverfront Park-

Victory Park/Tot Lot- Jeanne Harris

Mud Lake Bog- Katie Heyliger

Madron Lake Boat Launch- Emily Koziel

Walton Bridge Park- Emily Koziel

B. Recreation Survey Question Work Session

C. Discussion of Annual Park Spring Clean Up- Planning

D. Fundraiser Updates

VIII. New business

A. Proposed Tree Planting Locations

Jennifer Popeilski motions to approve the proposed tree planting placement, Emily Koziel second.

Yes:

No:

Unanimous

B. Discussion on Tot Lot & Harger Park Status

Wendi Heyliger recommends to the City Commission to remove Tot lot and Harger park from the park inventory, second by Raquelle George.

Yes:

No:

Unanimous

C. Consider Kathryn Park Play Equipment Options

Emily Koziel motion play group equipment: Sinclair #1 to be placed at Kathryn Park pending color choices, second Katie Heyliger

Yes:

No:

Unanimous

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

X. Executive Comments

XI. Adjourn @ 8:00

motion made by Wendi Heyliger, second by Raquelle George to adjourn the meeting at

Yes:

No:

Barb
Common
Library
One Buchanan



302 Redbud Trail North
Buchanan, MI 49107
Tel: (269) 695-3844
Fax: (269) 695-4330

Application for Board, Commission, Committee or Council Appointment

Please note that all information provided on this application is public information and potentially subject to disclosure pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, please do not list confidential information. Applications are kept on file for three calendar years.

Please return the completed form to the City Clerk's Office or clerk@cityofbuchanan.com

Applicant Information

Name of Applicant: Brian Kill

Mailing Address: 107 Maple Ct.

City: Buchanan State: MI Zip Code: 49107

Telephone Number: (269) 369-9646 Second Phone Number: N/A

E-mail Address: bkill07@gmail.com

Name of Employer: Berrien County Office of the County Clerk

General Question

Are you a registered voter within the City of Buchanan? Yes: No:

Do you own property within the City of Buchanan? Yes: No:

Do you own a business located within the City of Buchanan? Yes: No:

Please explain why you are interested in being appointed to a board.

I care about bringin people together, strengthening connections, and helping create something meaningful that lasts.

I value learning from different perspectives, supporting thoughtful ideas, and contributing my time and energy in ways

to make the community more inclusive, engaged, and forward-looking. I'd like the opportunity to be part of a group that does real work.

Please describe your background, ability, skills or special qualifications that would strengthen the board you are interested in.

I bring public service experience, strong communication skills, and a collaborative approach that would support the work of

a community board. I am organized, detail-oriented, and understand the value of strengthening community life.

I would contribute thoughtful input focused on accessibility, engagement, and long-term community benefit.

Originally applied in Feb. 2025 asked to complete new application form if there was still interest in Feb. 2026 KJ

www.cityofbuchanan.com

Please explain your professional experience and background:

My professional background includes experience in compliance, public safety, security, management, scheduling, inventory control, and communications.

As a former firefighter and first responder, I developed the ability to stay calm under pressure, respond quickly to challenges, and work effectively in service of the community.

Across these roles, I have built strong organizational, problem-solving, and leadership skills that would allow me to contribute responsibly and thoughtfully in a board setting.

Please explain any organizations or community groups you have been involved with:

I used to volunteer for a Half-Day program for Elementary aged kids. We would meet at a church and keep them entertained with activities, trips, guest speakers, etc.

Have you attended a meeting, reviewed an agenda packet, visited the city's website, or talked with others to better understand the board you are requesting appointment to?


I have spoken with Kalla Langston about several board opportunities, including this one.

Do you have other information or thoughts you would like to share that should be considered when the application is reviewed?

What is your availability: Morning Afternoon Evening
 Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

If appointed do you agree to the following:

Attend at least 75% of all applicable meetings? Yes: No:
Attend any joint meetings or training provided by the City? Yes: No:
Abide by the City's Ethics Policy? Yes: No:
Abide by the applicable adopted Bylaws? Yes: No:

Signature: 

Date: 4/1/26

Appointed Board, Commission, Committee and Council Opportunities

The City has many boards, commissions, committees and councils that work best when composed of diverse individuals with relevant qualifications. Please visit the city's website www.cityofbuchanan.com to learn more about the different opportunities. In most cases, the board, commission, committee or council has a rolling membership with members appointed in the summer to a three-year term. Please review the boards, commissions, committees and councils listed below and check the one(s) you are interested in joining. If interested in more than one board, please provide preference order.

Please also identify your related experience, and feel free to apply even if you do not have the suggested experience or professional background. The City needs citizens with diverse backgrounds on its boards and commissions, and we appreciate your application!

Board of Review

- Banking/Finance Property Appraisal/Assessing
- Real Estate/Development/Law (no agents or brokers)
- Other _____

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

- Construction Real Estate/Development/Law
- Environmental Regulations Banking/Finance
- Other _____

X *Buchanan Area Recreation Board (B.A.R.B.)*

- Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations Forestry/Landscape Architecture
- Finance or Property Maintenance/Leasing Fitness/Recreation/Sports/Coaching
- Other _____

Buchanan Fine Arts Council

- Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations Finance/Budgeting
- Performing Arts _____ Event Planning
- Other _____

Buchanan Tree Friends

- Horticulture/Landscape Architecture Forestry
- Fundraising/Budgeting Advertising/Marketing
- Other _____

X

Common Committee

- Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations
- Performing Arts
- Other _____
- Finance/Budgeting
- Event Planning

Compensation Committee

- Budgeting and Finance
- Policy Making
- Other _____
- Public Sector Compensation

Construction Board of Appeals

- Architecture/Design
- Building/Construction/Trades
- Other _____
- Engineering
- Law

Downtown Design Review Committee

- Architecture/Design
- Finance or Property Maintenance/Leasing
- Other _____
- Construction/Development
- Historic Preservation/History

X

District Library Board

- Policy Making
- Strategic Planning/Grants and Endowments
- Other _____
- Budgeting/Finance/Fundraising
- Knowledge of Libraries

Buchanan Farmers' Market (subcommittee of the Common Committee)

- Advertising/Marketing
- Finance/Budgeting
- Other _____
- Event Planning
- Entrepreneurial

Friends of McCoy's Creek Trail (subcommittee of the B.A.R.B.)

- Bicycling/Walking/Walking
- Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations
- Other _____
- Environment
- Parks and Recreation

____ **Friends of Oakridge Cemetery**

- Funeral Professional
- Horticulture/Landscape Architecture
- Other _____
- History
- Law

____ **Joint Water Sewer Board**

- Engineering
- Other _____
- Banking/Finance
- Public Health

X **One Buchanan**

- Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations
- Event Planning
- Other _____
- Social Services
- Budgeting/Finance

____ **Planning Commission**

- Architecture or Landscape Architecture
- Urban Planning/Land Use/Zoning
- Land or Real Estate Development
- Other _____
- Banking/Finance
- Building/Construction
- Civil Engineering

____ **Zoning Board of Appeals**

- Architecture or Landscape Architecture
- Building/Construction or Engineering
- Other _____
- Urban Planning/Land Use/Zoning
- Land or Real Estate Development

March 2026

Mar 23, 2026

Hello Everyone,

As the year comes to an end, I want to take a moment and reflect on the 2025 accomplishments made by the Trail Board and our members.

2025 had its fair share of challenges, but the year also was filled with progress, growth and some really great moments. None of this would have been possible without the effort, teamwork and positive energy each Trail member brought to the success of our projects.

The Trail extension is a reality and is 95% completed. The extension is from the Schirmer Parkway parking lot to River Saint Joe, located at Flatwater Farms. The next extension will join the Niles Trail (I&M River Valley Trail) to McCoy Creek Trail.

In April, a high wind straight line storm blew over approximately 40 large trees across the Trail. The DPW cut up the downed trees and cleared the Trail within a matter of days. The Buchanan Scout Troop # 541 assisted in the final clean up.

Tom Wrasse donated 6 more American Chestnut trees to the trail. The Buchanan Tree Friends planted these trees along the Trail. The total number of American Chestnut trees planted over the last 5 years is 30.

Trek-n-Treat was a beautiful day with 656 children participating and 637 adults accompanying the children. Thank you to Clark Lab and Edgewater Automation for allowing us to use their parking areas, The Buchanan Lions Club assisted with parking and made safety a priority for all. With the rising cost of candy, several local businesses made large monetary donations for purchasing candy. Trek-n-Treat on the Trail is an event for our community and continues to be supported by many volunteers.

Shawn and Mary Ann Ward planned, organized, and managed our new venture, the Salmon Scramble. The original goal for participants was 50, but we had 101 runners. There were many positive comments and ideas for the 2026 Salmon Scramble. Please put on your 2026 calendar October 24th for the Salmon Scramble and October 31st for Trek-n-Treat.

This Fall the McCoy Creek Trail Board was approached regarding the merge of Live Buchanan with the Trail. Because Live Buchanan has non-profit status, donors to the Trail will now be able to receive tax credits.

Beginning with the new year, our Trail Board will report to BARB (Buchanan Area Recreation Board).