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September 8, 2026 meeting.

Attendees: Harry Redford, Tony and Linda Homolka, Dennis Happy, Bill Conner, Henry Hinojosa, Tom Ciacelli, Bill Schoenlein, Dave Harvey, Brian Watters, Doug Petee, Paul Burgard, Jim and Pam Pearch.

Our 50/50 winner today was Bill Schoenlein who graciously donated it back to the Treasury. Thanks, Bill!!

The Treasurer's report is: \$231.00.

Due to the Labor Day holiday, our meeting was moved to the second Tuesday. Good to see this good turn-out despite the change. Lots of members are enjoying a late summer vacation, including our president Harry. He will be camping near Glennie, MI in Alcona County.

Some of our newest retirees have questions about the transition to Medicare and the HRA with VIA benefits. Jim and Pam Pearch did some research and found the contact person at CMS is **Kendra Grob**, CPSP, PHR. She is manager of Benefits and retirement. Her email is Kendra.grob@cmsenergy.com. Kendra tells us she is working with VIA to create a FAQ (frequently asked questions) list for retirees that will hopefully reduce the frustration we feel at open enrollment time. I will be in contact with her to share this with you ASAP.

While I was looking through the CMS website, I saw this news release that may be of some interest:

Sep 3, 2026

Plan Includes All-Of-The-Above Mix of Solar, Wind, Natural Gas and Storage

JACKSON, Mich., Sept. 3, 2026 /PRNewswire/ -- Consumers Energy today is unveiling its Energy Supply Plan, a 20-year blueprint to deliver reliable and affordable energy for Michigan through an all-of-the-

above mix of natural gas, solar, wind, pumped and battery storage. This long-term strategy reinforces our commitment to transparency as we meet Michigan's energy needs and support the state's growth.

Consumers Energy is committed to putting forward the most affordable energy plan that both delivers reliable service and meets Michigan's clean energy law targets. This all-of-the-above plan keeps costs rising less than the rate of inflation of 3% while investing in the new resources Michigan needs.

"Michiganers count on us to power their lives 24/7/365. This plan takes an all-of-the-above approach that serves our state and customers today and ensures we have the energy supply for our state over the next two decades," said Chris Fultz, Consumers Energy's senior vice president of electric supply. "Our plan will help lower customers' bills while powering Michigan with affordable energy."

The Energy Supply Plan includes expanded renewable energy resources and two fast-starting natural gas plants to supply reliable power to our customers. In addition, we are announcing two contracts to purchase power from third-party sources – a clean resource contract to meet Michigan's clean energy standards and a new agreement to purchase power from a natural gas plant in Midland to support our customers' reliability needs.

Michigan customers will benefit from other aspects of the IRP:

- **New Power Sources:** The addition of over 19 gigawatts (GW) of solar, wind and battery storage resources by 2040 will meet customers' energy needs and targets in Michigan's 2023 energy law. Those will be supported by two new fast-starting natural gas plants, generating 1.4 GW, in Bay and Genesee counties that can serve Michigan at times of high energy demand.
- **Reliable, Efficient Generation:** The plan repurposes existing industrial sites at the Karn Energy Center and in Thetford Township, minimizing land impacts and replacing two retiring plants, delivering fast-starting power when customers need it. The plants will offer a solid reliability foundation that allows us to continue adding renewable energy. The Energy Supply Plan also includes a new long-term power purchase agreement with the Midland Cogeneration Venture to reliably power Michigan customers.
- **Community Investments:** This plan will strengthen the state's workforce by adding thousands of construction jobs and creating hundreds of permanent positions through our investments in natural gas, wind, solar and battery storage. In addition to the expanded workforce, the plan's investments in these local communities will enhance the tax base by billions of dollars.
- **Clean Energy and Customer Resources:** Our plan shows the company's continued commitment to clean energy options, such as solar, wind and battery storage to achieve targets set in the 2023 energy law. Consumers Energy also will continue to expand customer programs that have lowered customers' bills by \$8.5 billion since 2009 and are projected to save \$18 billion by 2050.

"It's important to see Consumers Energy make this commitment to skilled labor jobs here in Michigan," said Craig Wright, president of the Michigan State Utility Workers Council. "The company's plan to invest in our state will create good-paying, meaningful opportunities for people in our workforce who are ready to do the job and meet Michigan's energy needs now and for years to come."

The full Energy Supply Plan and supporting documents are being filed with the Michigan Public Service Commission today and are subject to approval in the next year.

Consumers Energy is Michigan's largest energy provider, providing natural gas and/or electricity to 6.8 million of the state's 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties. We are committed to delivering reliable and affordable energy to our customers 24/7.

The Forerunners held their annual golf outing and luncheon on September 9th at the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory corners, MI. The collection of beautiful classic cars is just astounding. Each vehicle has a story connected to it that educates and entertains the viewer. If you ever get a chance to go we highly recommend it.

Lunch was delightful, filled with folks reconnecting and sharing stories of past experiences at different CMS facilities. Several \$1,000.00 scholarships were awarded to grandchildren of retirees.

Our lunch speaker was Assistant Attorney General, Scott Teter who spoke of his work on the Elder Abuse Task Force. He gave a graphic and eye-opening talk regarding all the ways scam artists take money from us with their very believable approach. To learn more, go to www.Michigan.gov/AG/EATF. Once opened, go to the lines on the right side and click "Seniors".

AAG Teter strongly advised all to have Power of Attorney forms filled out as well. Unfortunately, seniors are often "scammed" by their own relatives and caretakers. See below for the pdf forms.

[Attorney General: AG Nessel Celebrates More Than 24,000 Downloads of Fillable Power of Attorney Forms \[michigan.gov\]](http://www.Michigan.gov/AG/EATF)





Our next meeting will be Monday, October 5, 2026. See you all then!

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Homolka

RETIREELINE

FALL/WINTER 2026

2026 Forerunners Renewal Membership Form

The Forerunners are again collecting dues from all Chapter Forerunners. Each Chapter will collect their dues from you directly. Your membership dues will renew your membership and stay connected with old friends.

RETIREE NAME (Print)

ADDRESS

CHAPTER NAME

2026 Membership Dues (\$10.00) _____

2027 Membership Dues (\$10.00) _____

For all of you who do not go south for the winter, we will meet again on **Monday, February 2nd** at the Monroe Grill. Think we will see a Groundhog?

Meeting starts at 9:00 but many members come early to get their breakfast order in!

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Homolka