Commissioners
Gail Patterson-Gladney, District 1
Kurt Doroh, District 2
Richard Godfrey, District 3
Mike Chappell, District 4
Randall Peat, District 5
Donald Hanson, District 6
Paul Schincariol, District 7

MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

May 10, 2022 1:30 PM

Committee of the Whole Meeting

1. Call to Order

   The Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order at 01:13 PM by Randall Peat, Chairman of the Board. Present: Patterson-Gladney, Doroh, Godfrey, Chappell, Peat, Hanson and Schincariol.

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

3. Approval of Agenda

   Motion to approve agenda as presented.
   Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

4. Approval of Minutes

   A. 4/26/2022 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

      Motion to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented.
      Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

5. Public Comment

6. Presentation

   A. PCAP Update

      Zach Morris and Sarah Snoeyink shared strategies for Post-Palisades Economic Recovery.

   B. Van Buren County 2021 Audit

      Maner Costerisan CPA, Aaron Stevens, gave the audit presentation for the year ending September 30, 2021.

7. Administrative Affairs

   A. Community Corrections Advisory Board Appointments

      Asiah Gardner, Specialty Courts Administrator, is requesting the appointment of Lindsay Marshall and Kate Hosier to the Community Corrections Advisory Board.

      Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of

Commissioners, the appointment of Lindsay Marshall and Kate Hosier to the Community Corrections Advisory Board for a two-year term ending 5-31-2024.
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

B. Appointment to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission - Rick Catherman

A recommendation has been made to appoint Rick Catherman to fill a vacancy on the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission.
Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Rick Catherman to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for a term that expires December 31, 2023.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

C. Appointment to the Economic Development Corporation - Robert Smith

A recommendation has been made to appoint Robert Smith to fill a vacancy on the Economic Development Corporation Board.
Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Robert Smith to the Economic Development Board for a term ending February 13, 2028.
Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

D. Appointments to the Van Buren County Planning Commission - Tom Motyka and William Pugsley

A recommendation has been made to appoint Tom Motyka and William Pugsley to fill vacancies on the Van Buren County Planning Commission.
Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Tom Motyka and William Pugsley to the Van Buren County Planning Commission for a term ending April 1, 2025.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

E. Reclassification of Research Attorney Position / Creation of Law Clerk Position

Judge Brickley presented the request to reclassify the Research Attorney Position and to create an additional Law Clerk Position.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the request to reclassify the Research Attorney Position from R27 to R30 and create a full-time, 2-year Law Clerk position at R26.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

F. Ottawa County Juvenile Detention Center Bed Rental Agreement

Family Court Administrator Natalie Dean is requesting an annual agreement with Ottawa County Juvenile Detention Center for occasional housing of juveniles in delinquent status.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Ottawa County Juvenile Detention Center Bed Rental Agreement in the amount of $250 per night, per youth.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

8. Finance

A. Claims

Monthly claims were reviewed and discussed.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Claims in the amount of $2,480,034.04.
Motion by Donald Hanson, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

B. Budget Adjustments

Motion to approve monthly budget adjustments as presented by Ryan Post to maintain a balanced budget.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

C. Monthly Financial Statement

The monthly financial statement was not attached and will be reviewed next month.

D. FY 22/23 Personnel Budgeting

The Finance Department is seeking guidance from the Board for budgeting of personnel costs for the FY 22/23 budget due to upcoming negotiations. Discussion that previous negotiation years were budgeted at 0% increase/decrease and amendments were made after negotiations were completed.

E. 2022 PC Refresh

Charles Norton is requesting the annual PC refresh purchase for 2022 in the amount of $54,360.91.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the annual PC refresh purchase from MNJ Technologies in the amount of $54,360.91.
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

F. Child Care Fund Financial Update

Ryan Post provided a financial update of the Child Care Fund which may utilize most of its remaining fund balance in the current year. The fund is projected to possibly have $300-350K still remaining at the end of the fiscal year.

G. OCC Grant Application and Budget Approval

Approval of the Office of Community Corrections Funding Grant application is required for funds to be dispersed.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Office of Community Corrections Grant application and authorize the Board Chair to sign any related documents.
Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

H. VBC Children's Advocacy Center

Lori Antkoviak, Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center, presented the request for $350,000 in funding from the County for one-time startup costs of creating a satellite Children's Advocacy Center within Van Buren County. The request also includes rent free use of space in the DHHS building. Prosecutor Zuiderveen and MSP F/Lt. Scott Ernstes were present and support the request.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the requested $350,000 funding from Van Buren County for startup costs for a satellite Children's Advocacy Center and directing the Finance Department to provide a list of funding sources available.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

I. Foster Swift Invoice # 831500

Motion to approve payment of Invoice#831500 to Foster Swift in the amount of $39,561.73 for services related to the NCG litigation. This payment is subject to the cost sharing agreement.
Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

J. Knotek Law Office - NCG Invoice 220533

Motion to approve payment of Invoice#220533 to Knotek Law Office in the amount of $28,644 for services related to the NCG litigation. This payment covers a term of October 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022 and is subject to the cost sharing agreement.
Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

K. County Insurance and Cybersecurity

Additional cybersecurity insurance coverage is recommended and a quote has been obtained from the established insurance provider.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, additional cybersecurity insurance coverage in the amount of $28,399 from MML and authorization to review insurance vendor options for future coverage cycles.
Motion by Donald Hanson, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

L. County Administrator Travel Reimbursement

Motion to approve travel reimbursement for April, 2022 to Administrator Hardester in the amount of $76.05.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

M. Commissioner Per Diems

Motion to approve Commissioner per diems as submitted.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

9. Veterans Services

A. Veteran Services Update

David Krzycki provided the monthly update from Veterans Services.

10. Public Comment

11. Closed Session

A. NCG Litigation

Motion to enter into Executive Session under Section 8e of the Open Meetings Act to discuss litigation involving New Covert Generating.
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried
Roll Call Vote: All Yes

Board went into closed session at 4:33 p.m.
Board returned from closed session at 5:03 p.m.

B. Personnel Matter

Motion to enter into Executive Session under Section 8a as requested & 8h of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried
Roll Call Vote: All Yes

Board went into closed session at 5:04 p.m.
Board returned from closed session at 7:05 p.m.

Motion to place Administrator Hardester on paid Administrative Leave for a two-week period pending further review.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried
Roll Call Vote
Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell, Randall Peat, Paul Schincariol
No: Donald Hanson

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 07:07 PM.

Randall Peat, Chairperson

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk