



MINUTES
County Board of Commissioners
Van Buren County

February 23, 2021

4:00 PM

Board of Commissioners Chambers - 219 East Paw Paw Street

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.

On the above date the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Richard Godfrey, Chairman of the Board.

The roll was called by County Clerk Suzie Roehm with the following commissioners answering to their name and district: Gail Patterson-Gladney, District 1 (remotely from City of South Haven, Van Buren County, MI); Kurt Doroh, District 2; Richard Godfrey, District 3; Mike Chappell, District 4; Randy Peat, District 5 (remotely from Paw Paw Township, Van Buren County, MI); Donald Hanson, District 6; and Paul Schincariol, District 7.

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Add Item 6: State of the Courts Address

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as amended.

Roll Call Vote: All Yes

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. ** Minutes - February 09, 2021

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

6. PRESENTATION

A. State of the Courts Address

Chief Judge Kathleen Brickley presented the State of the Courts address and commended Court Administrator Frank Hardester on his work during the pandemic.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

8. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

9. FINANCE/AUDITING COMMITTEE

A. ** VHF Radio Upgrade Project - Water Tower Engineering

FINANCE RESOLUTION F10/2-23-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to complete engineering and drawing for the water towers that are being

utilized in Covert, Gobles, Paw Paw, and South Haven, and;
WHEREAS, this is the next step in the VHF Fire/EMS Radio Upgrade Project, and;
WHEREAS, Funds are utilized from the 911 Fund Balance with a cost of \$36,824.00, and;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the request to complete engineering and drawing for the water towers that are being utilized in Covert, Gobles, Paw Paw, and South Haven and authorizes the Board Chair to sign the appropriate documents on their behalf.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

B. ** Annual PC Refresh Purchase

FINANCE RESOLUTION F11/2-23-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve the annual purchase of this year's batch of replacement PCs, and;
WHEREAS, every year, the IS Department budgets for and purchases roughly 50 PCs and/or laptops as part of a rolling hardware refresh program. These PCs are distributed throughout County departments to replace the oldest machines in the network. By replacing a number of PCs every year, the County can keep its equipment up to date and secure. Additionally, the phased refresh helps avoid the cost and administrative overhead of purchasing and deploying the entire end-user computer pool in one instance, and;
WHEREAS, several desktops in the Prosecuting Attorney's Office were scheduled for replacement this year. Prosecuting Attorney Zuiderveen has requested that those be replaced with laptops instead. She has agreed to pay the difference in cost between the laptops and the desktops.
WHEREAS, the final cost will be \$50,690.52 from 636.0-228.00-.752.005 and \$4,107.84 from 258.0-296.00-949.002, and;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the request to purchase this year's batch of replacement PC's.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

C. ** Land Bank Authority Fund Establishment/Budget Adjustment

FINANCE RESOLUTION F12/2-23-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to establish a Land Bank Authority Fund and once established allocate money through a budget transfer to the Fund, and;
WHEREAS, The Land Bank Authority is new and a fund was not established when it was created. As a start up the Authority is requesting the establishment of the Fund and allocate \$5,500 to cover startup costs for its first projects, and;
WHEREAS, moving forward, once there is a sale of Land Bank Authority owned parcels, there is a 50% tax capture for the first five years. This will provide revenue in the future for subsequent projects.
WHEREAS, the financial impact is a \$5,500 transfer from the Delinquent Tax Revenue Fund to the Land Bank Authority Fund once the Fund has been established.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the request to establish a Land Bank Authority Fund and once established allocate money through a \$5,500 budget transfer from the Delinquent Tax Revenue Fund to the Land Bank Authority Fund.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

D. ** Sheriff's Office - Purchase of Vehicles

FINANCE RESOLUTION F13/2-23-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve the purchase of two vehicles for our investigative divisions and one animal control truck, and;
WHEREAS, The Sheriff's Office regularly replaces aging vehicle within our fleet and the investigative divisions are due to be cycled out. We currently have one vehicle that has high estimate for repair and it is more economical to replace rather than fix, and;
WHEREAS, the new animal control truck will not exceed \$33,800 to be paid out of 101.0-430.00-981 Animal Control Vehicles line item.
WHEREAS, the two investigative vehicle will not exceed \$50,000 and will be paid out of Public

Safety Vehicle line item 207.0-301.00-981.00

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the request to purchase two vehicles for the Sheriff's Department's investigative divisions and one for Animal Control.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

10. LABOR NEGOTIATIONS AND CONTRACTS

A. **MERS Defined Benefit Plan Updated Adoption Agreement

LABOR NEGOTIATIONS & CONTRACTS RESOLUTION L1/2-23-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve updated MERS Defined Benefit Adoption Agreement Addendum, and;

WHEREAS, Van Buren County is required to submit an updated Adoption Agreement Addendum indicating changes/and or clarifications to our MERS Defined Benefit Plan. Options for change are included in the Plan Eligibility (Employee Classification, Probationary Period) Service Credit Provisions (Day of Work Definition Modification, Leaves of Absence, and Definition of Compensation). The County can also choose to not make any changes but will still be required to submit the Adoption Agreement, and;

WHEREAS, the only change recommended is to update the Day of Work definition to use the MERS approach of hours per month instead of x number of days per month. The benefit is that alleviates confusion for calculating the service credit for part time workers. It has no financial impact from what we are doing now, and;

WHEREAS, our financial obligations will not change as we adopt the agreement with no changes (other than clarifying Day of Work definition) to the existing Plan, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the updated MERS Defined Benefit Adoption Agreement Addendum for all Van Buren County Divisions (8006-01, 02, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18) and authorizes the Board Chair to sign the documents on its behalf.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

B. **Rose Street Advisors and Blue Cross Blue Shield Fee for Service Agreements

LABOR NEGOTIATIONS AND CONTRACTS RESOLUTION L2/2-23-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve a renewal with Rose Street Advisors to provide employee benefit consulting services for the period of March 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023, and;

WHEREAS, Rose Street Advisors are responsible for assisting the County Board and advising them on matters pertaining to fringe benefits, and ensuring the County is compliant with all rules and regulation's concerning fringe benefits, In addition, they manage the County's compliance with PA 152 and Affordability Care Act, prepare bid specifications for Life Insurance, Short Term and Long Term Disability Insurance, Dental, Vision and Health Insurance and serve as the County's advocate with third party payers, which include Blue Cross Blue Shield, and;

WHEREAS, Rose Street Advisors has been providing these services for close to twenty years. We normally have renewed this agreement to coincide with our benefit plan year. Because we changed our benefit year to be the calendar year, this agreement will end December 31, 2023. Consequently, it is a 2 3/4-year term not a 3-year term as was done in the past, and;

WHEREAS, The County will pay a consulting fee of \$3,000 per month. This is an increase from \$2,860 per month, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the renewal with Rose Street Advisors to provide employee benefit consulting services for the period of March 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023 and authorizes the Board Chair to sign the appropriate documents on its behalf.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

11. TRANSIT COMMITTEE

12. VETERAN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

14. CLOSED SESSION

15. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Menominee County
- B. Huron County
- C. Mecosta County
- D. Missaukee County
- E. Iron County Resolution
- F. Lawrence Township Public Hearing Notice

16. COMMITTEE/OUT-BOARD ASSIGNMENTS

- Municipalities
- Brownfield Redevelopment
- Technology Committee
- Council on Foreign Relations
- Health & Human Services
- SW Michigan Planning Commission
- SW Michigan Action Agency
- Emergency Operations
- Road Commission
- Palisades Drill
- Building & Grounds
- Wellness Committee
- Health Department
- Kinexus
- MiWorks
- Labor Negotiations & Contracts
- Public Health
- Solid Waste Consortium
- Veterans - VFW in Decatur March 3rd

Administrator Faul:

- Commended Information Services Department
- Wellness Committee
- Zach Morris, Market Van Buren presentation at next meeting

17. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

18. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Richard Godfrey, Chairperson

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk