



MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

December 13, 2022

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

Committee of the Whole Meeting

1. **Call to Order**
The Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order at 01:04 PM by Randall Peat, Chairman of the Board. Present: Patterson-Gladney, Doroh, Godfrey, Chappell, Peat, Hanson and Schincariol.
2. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**
Delete: Item 6B and Item 9E
Add: Item 7A
3. **Approval of Agenda**
Motion to approve the agenda as amended.
Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. **November 22, 2022 Committee of the Whole Minutes**
Motion to approve the minutes of the November 22, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented.
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried
5. **Public Comment**
 - Mary Beth Sons in support of Red Arrow Youth Center
 - Kalli Marshall, Conservation District, update on Solid Waste Plan
 - Heidi Olivares, Behavioral & Trauma Coordinator in support of Red Arrow Youth Center
6. **Presentation**
 - A. **Appreciation For Commissioner Hanson's Years of Service**
Commissioner Hanson was honored and recognized by Senator Aric Nesbitt, Representative Beth Griffin, the Historical Society and other groups and individuals. The following Certificate of Proclamation was presented by the Board of Commissioners.

WHEREAS, Commissioner Donald Hanson was first elected to the Van Buren County Board of Supervisors in November 1968, and;
WHEREAS, during his career he has not only served as a Commissioner but has also been a part of other Boards, including The Van Buren Cass Public Health District

Board, South West Planning Commission, Michigan Works, Kinexus, as well as serving his local community on the Hamilton Township Board, and;
WHEREAS, Commissioner Hanson did not run for Commissioner in 1976, instead he served as the Hamilton Township Trustee from 1977 to 1978 and was elected Treasurer of Hamilton Township where he served until his term ended in 1994. Commissioner Hanson then filed to run for Van Buren County Commission and was elected every two years until 2022. He served as chairman of the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners in 1973, 1974, 1998, 1999, and;
WHEREAS, Commissioner Hanson has led by example, set the bar, and made a lasting impact that we will always cherish, and;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners congratulate Commissioner Donald Hanson on his well-deserved retirement after 54 years of outstanding service and thank him for his years of dedication not only to the county but also to the citizens of Van Buren County.

B. DCS Broadband Work Plan

This item was removed from the agenda.

7. Administrative Affairs

A. Parks Commission Appointment, Paul Garrod

There is a vacancy on the Parks Commission and Paul Garrod is being recommended for the position.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Paul Garrod to the Parks Commission.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

8. Buildings and Grounds

A. Use of County Property - Battle Creek VA

Request to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Karen Wallace, Battle Creek VA, to allow parking her government vehicle on county property overnight while meeting with veterans in the county.

Motion to approve at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Memorandum of Understanding to allow Karen Wallace, Battle Creek VA, to park her government vehicle on county property overnight while meeting with veterans in the county.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

9. Finance

A. ARPA Proposal # 028 - Covert Township Sanitary Sewer Improvements

Covert Township is requesting approval to use ARPA funds under Category 5 for Sanitary Sewer Improvements in the amount of \$1,058,400.00.

Motion to approve the request from Covert Township for ARPA funds in the amount of \$1,058,400.00.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Richard Godfrey, Failed
Roll Call Vote

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Richard Godfrey, Paul Schincariol
No: Kurt Doroh, Mike Chappell, Randall Peat, Donald Hanson

B. ARPA Proposal # 029 - Road Commission CR 388

The Road Commission is requesting approval to use ARPA funds under Category 6 for the CR 388 road project in the amount of \$1,200,146.86.

Motion to approve the request from the Van Buren County Road Commission for ARPA funds in the amount of \$1,200,146.86.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried
Roll Call Vote

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell, Paul Schincariol
No: Kurt Doroh, Randall Peat, Donald Hanson

C. ARPA Proposal # 031 - Van Buren Cass District Health Department

The Van Buren Cass Health Department is requesting approval to use ARPA funds under Category 6 for revenue loss in the amount of \$220,000.00.

Motion to approve the request from the Van Buren Cass Health Department for ARPA funds in the amount of \$220,000.00.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried
Roll Call Vote

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell, Randall Peat, Donald Hanson, Paul Schincariol
No: None

D. ARPA Proposal # 033 - Red Arrow Youth Center

The Red Arrow Youth Center is requesting approval to use ARPA funds under Category 1, 2 & 3 to build a youth center in the amount of \$745,400.00.

Motion to approve the request from the Red Arrow Youth Center for ARPA funds in the amount of \$745,400.00.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Richard Godfrey, Failed
Roll Call Vote

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Richard Godfrey, Paul Schincariol
No: Kurt Doroh, Mike Chappell, Randall Peat, Donald Hanson

E. ARPA Proposal # 035 - Lawton Lead Service Line Replacement

This item was removed from the agenda.

F. 2023 Marijuana Operation and Oversight Grant Program

Community Mental Health is requesting to submit a renewal grant application on behalf of Van Buren County.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Community Mental Health renewal grant application for the 2023 Marijuana Operation and Oversight Grant in the amount of \$19,011 on behalf of Van Buren County.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

G. Administrator's Mileage Reimbursement

Motion to approve the Administrator's Mileage Reimbursement in the amount of \$52.50.

Motion by Donald Hanson, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

H. Foster Swift Invoice

The Foster Swift invoice for NCG litigation was reviewed.

Motion to approve payment of the Foster Swift invoice for NCG litigation in the amount of \$23,463.50.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried
Roll Call Vote

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell, Randall Peat

No: Kurt Doroh, Donald Hanson, Paul Schincariol

I. Commissioner Per Diems

Commissioner per diems were reviewed.

Motion to approve payment of Commissioner per diems as presented.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

J. Claims

Claims were reviewed.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, claims in the amount of \$7,962,676.16.

Motion by Donald Hanson, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

K. Monthly Financial Statement

The Monthly Financial Statement was reviewed.

Motion to accept the Monthly Financial Statement as presented.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

10. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

11. Public Transit

A. Public Transit Financial Reports

Laurie Schlipp presented the Public Transit Financial Report.

B. Public Transit Operations Reports

Laurie Schlipp presented the Public Transit Operations Report.

C. Public Transit Director's Report

Laurie Schlipp presented the Public Transit Director's Report.

Motion to accept the reports for Public Transit as presented by Director Laurie Schlipp.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

D. Vehicle Accessibility Plan

Laurie Schlipp presented the updated Vehicle Accessibility Plan, which is required by MDOT, for approval.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the updated Vehicle Accessibility Plan for Public Transit.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

E. Appointment to the Public Transit Local Advisory Council - Nicole Handy

There is a vacancy on the Public Transit Local Advisory Council and the recommendation is to appoint Nicole Handy.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Nicole Handy to the Public Transit Local Advisory Council for a term ending 12/3/2026.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

12. Veterans Services

Veterans Holiday Food Give Away will be held on December 14th from 1 pm to 3 pm at 801 Hazen Street in Paw Paw.

13. Public Comment

The following spoke regarding Red Arrow Youth Center:

- Mary Beth Sons
- Paul Schincariol
- Randy Peat
- Leah Schincariol
- Maria Bowater

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 04:02 PM.

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk