



MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

December 27, 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

Board of Commissioners Meeting

1. Call to Order
On the above date the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 02:44 PM by Randall Peat, Chairman of the Board.
2. Recital of the Pledge of Allegiance / Prayer
3. Roll Call
The roll was called by County Clerk Suzie Roehm with the following commissioners answering to their name and district: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell, Randall Peat, Donald Hanson, Paul Schincariol.
4. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda
5. Approval of Agenda
All items on the agenda marked with '*' are part of the consent agenda. Commissioners or the public can request that items be removed from the consent agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried
6. Approval of Minutes

A. **Board of Commissioners 12/13/2022 Minutes
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried
7. Public Comment
Dan Bishop and Wayne Nelson, on behalf of the Road Commission, presented Commissioner Hanson with a plaque honoring his service to Van Buren County.
8. Administrative Affairs

A. VBEMS Contract Renewal
ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA68/12-27-2022
WHEREAS, the ambulance contract between Van Buren County and EMS will expire December 31, 2022, and;
WHEREAS, a renewal contract has been submitted and review for the time period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2026.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of

Commissioners hereby approves the contract renewal with VBEMS to expire December 31, 2026.

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

B. Land Bank Authority Board Reappointment-Zach Morris

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA69/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, the request is to appoint Zach Morris to the Land Bank Authority representing the EDC/Brownfield division for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2026, and;

WHEREAS, Zach Morris's term on the Land Bank Authority is expiring December 31, 2022 and he is seeking re-appointment.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints Zach Morris to the Land Bank Authority for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2026.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

9. Buildings and Grounds

10. Finance

A. **2023 Marijuana Operation and Oversight Grant Program

FINANCE RESOLUTION F64/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, The request is for Community Mental Health to submit a renewal grant application on behalf of Van Buren County.

WHEREAS, The Cannabis Regulatory Agency (CRA) is preparing to administer the 2023 Marijuana Operation and Oversight Grant program for Michigan counties. These grants, which are available to counties, will only be approved for education, communication, and outreach regarding the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act and the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act. Grants provided under this section must not be used for law enforcement purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the grant application renewal from the Community Mental Health on behalf of Van Buren County.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

B. ARPA Proposal # 029 - Road Commission CR 388

FINANCE RESOLUTION F65/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, The request is for approval to use ARPA funds under Category 6 (loss revenue) in the amount of \$1,200,146.86 for the CR 388 project.

WHEREAS, The VBCRC lost \$1,200,148.86 in revenue from the COVID-19 pandemic. The total project cost is \$1,894,000.00, VBCRC is self-funding \$693,853.14. The project on CR 388 is a high priority project which will positively impact the public. If awarded the lost revenues, the Road Commission will complete this high priority project in the best interest of the County, Road Commission and traveling public. CR388 from CR653 to 22nd Street (Van Kai), trench and widen the existing roadway, crush and shape the existing pavement and place a new asphalt surface. This falls into category 6 as replacing public sector revenue loss as well as category 2, addressing negative economic impacts of COVID-19.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the ARPA request from the Van Buren County Road Commission.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

C. ****ARPA Proposal # 031 - Van Buren Cass District Health Department
FINANCE RESOLUTION F66/12-27-2022**

WHEREAS, the request is for the approval of ARPA funds under Category 6 (loss revenue) in the amount of \$220,000 to the Van Buren/Cass District Health Department.

WHEREAS, the county's ARPA investment will release financial burdens experienced as a result of COVID-19 and aid in the continued rebuilding and gaining momentum of our local public health infrastructure. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 and 2021 estimated loss of revenue at the Van Buren County Community Dental Clinics (Hartford and Mattawan) was \$818,398 and \$700,346, respectively, for a total estimated loss in Van Buren County of \$1,518,744. VBCDHD is requesting \$220,000 in ARPA funds to cover 14% of the total VB County revenue lost.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the Van Buren Cass District Health Department ARPA fund request.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

11. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

A. **AFSCME Union Bargaining Agreements**

LABOR RESOLUTION L27/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, the Bargaining Unit agreements with AFSCME, Local 2628.02 Probate Court, Local 2628.03 Seventh District Court, Local 2628.04 Circuit Court/FOC, Local 2628.07 Courthouse General and Local 2628.09 Courthouse Supervisory, 2628.12 Transit expires December 31, 2022, and;

WHEREAS, a tentative agreement has been reached for a three-year (3) agreement to expire December 31, 2025, to include the following changes:

Wage Increase: 6% for 2023, 3% for 2024, 3% for 2025, and;

1. All Units: Article 1 - Recognition, and;
2. All Units: Article 9 – Seniority, Section 2 – Probation Period, and;
3. All Units: Article 11 – Posting and Bidding Procedure, Section 11.1, and;
4. All Units except Transit: Article 12 – Paid Absence Leave, Section 12 (A) and Section 12 (F), and;
5. All units: Article 15 – Wages, Section 3 - Removal of “start” from Step A, and;
6. Transit: Article 21 – Work Schedules, Section E - Weekend Premium, and;
7. Transit: Article 21 – Work Schedules, Section F – Driver Physicals, and;
8. Transit: Article 22 – Wages, and;
9. Transit: Article 39 – Sick Leave and Article 40 – Vacation, and;
10. All Units: LOU on unified pay scale, and;
11. All Units: Reclassifications, and;

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the AFSCME bargaining agreements for the stated units subject to review by personnel and labor counsel for any typographical and clerical omissions from the contracts.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Board Chairman to execute the bargaining agreement with the AFSCME, Local 2628 Bargaining Units as presented.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

B. **APA Agreement**

LABOR RESOLUTION L28/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, the Assistant Prosecutors' Association bargaining agreement expires December 31, 2022, and;

WHEREAS, a tentative agreement has been reached for a three-year (3) agreement to expire December 31, 2025, to include the following:

Wage Increase: 6% for 2023, 3% for 2024, 3% for 2025, and;

WHEREAS, Article 7 - Bereavement Leave, and;

WHEREAS, Article 15 (B) – Wellness, and;

WHEREAS, Appendix A - Benefits, Section III, and;

WHEREAS, Appendix A – Benefits, Section VI, and;

WHEREAS, Appendix B – On Call Stipend, and;

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the Prosecuting Attorney's Association Agreement subject to review by personnel and labor counsel for any typographical and clerical omissions from the agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Board Chairman to execute the bargaining agreement with the Attorney's Association as presented.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

C. Court Association Bargaining Agreements

LABOR RESOLUTION L29/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, the Judicial Officers Association bargaining agreement expires December 31, 2022, and;

WHEREAS, a tentative agreement has been reached for a three-year (3) agreement to expire December 31, 2025 to include the following:

Wage Increase: 6% for 2023, 3% for 2024, 3% for 2023.

WHEREAS, Article 1 – Recognition, and;

WHEREAS, Article 2 – Terms and Conditions, Section C, and;

WHEREAS, Article 6 – Paid Time Off, and;

WHEREAS, Article 7 - Bereavement, and;

WHEREAS, Article 10 – Modification of Agreement, and;

WHEREAS, Article 12 (B) – Wellness, and;

WHEREAS, Article 13 – Effective Date and Duration of Agreement, Section C, and;

WHEREAS, Article 14 – Grievance Procedure, and;

WHEREAS, Appendix A – Section IV, and;

WHEREAS, Appendix B – Benefits, Section 3, and;

WHEREAS, Appendix B – Benefits, Section 6, and;

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the Court Association Agreement subject to review by personnel and labor counsel for any typographical and clerical omissions from the agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Board Chairman to execute the bargaining agreement with the Court Association as presented.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

D. GELC - Corrections Bargaining Agreements

LABOR RESOLUTION L30/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, the GELC Bargaining Agreement with the Sheriff's Office Corrections Unit expired December 31, 2022 and an agreement has been reached to include the following:

TERM: Three-year agreement effective January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025

WAGES: 2023 – 6.00%, 2024 – 3.00%, 2025 – 3.00% increase to base wages

WHEREAS, Cover page, and;

WHEREAS, Article 7 – Seniority, Section 6 – Transfers from other positions within the

Sheriff's Department and Section 7 – Employees with Past Correctional Experience, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 8 – Paid Time Off, Section 2 – PTO Accrual and Usage, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 8 – Paid Time Off, Section 6 – Annual PTO Cash-in, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 8 – Paid Time Off, Section 7 – Payout of PTO Upon Separation of Employment, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 9 – Leaves of Absence and Personal Days Off, Section 3 – Personal Days Off, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 9 – Leaves of Absence and Personal Days Off, Section 4 – Medical Leave of Absence, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 10 – Holidays, Section 1 (A) – Paid Holidays, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 1C – Health Insurance Opt. Out, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 2 – Disability, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 3 – Workers Compensation, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 6, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 12 – Hours of Work, Section 2 – Court Time, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 13 – Wages, Section 3 – Call and Pay, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 16 – Miscellaneous, Section 13 – Health & Wellness, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 17 – Duration and Termination, Section 1, and;
 WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the GELC bargaining agreement subject to review by personnel and labor counsel for any typographical and clerical omissions from the contract.
 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Board Chairman to execute the bargaining agreement with the GELC Corrections Bargaining Unit as presented.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

E. Non-Represented Employees and Elected Officials Compensation

LABOR RESOLUTION L31/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, a proposal has been received to increase all Non-Union employee's and Elected Officials compensation as follows:

Wage Increase: 6% for 2023, 3% for 2024, 3% for 2025, and;

WHEREAS, all employees shall be allowed to participate in other fringe benefits as provided to each other bargaining unit in Van Buren County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the proposal for the increase of the Non-Represented Employee's and Elected Officials compensation as presented.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

F. POLC - Command Bargaining Agreements

LABOR RESOLUTION L32/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, the POLC Bargaining Agreement with the Sheriff's Office Command Unit expired December 31, 2022 and an agreement has been reached to include the following:

TERM: Three-year agreement effective January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025

WAGES: 2023 – 6.00%, 2024 – 3.00%, 2025 – 3.00% increase to base wages

WHEREAS, Cover page, and;

WHEREAS, Article 1 – Recognition, Section 1, and;

WHEREAS, Article 8 – Paid Time Off, Section 2 – PTO Accrual and Usage, and;

WHEREAS, Article 8 – Paid Time Off, Section 6 – Annual PTO Cash-in, and;

WHEREAS, Article 8 – Paid Time Off, Section 7 – Payout of PTO Upon Separation of Employment, and;

WHEREAS, Article 9 – Leaves of Absence and Personal Days Off, Section 3 – Personal Days Off, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 9 –Leaves of Absence and Personal Days Off, Section 4 – Medical Leave of Absence, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 10 – Holidays, Section 1 (A) – Paid Holidays, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 1 (C) – Health Insurance Opt. Out, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 1 (D) – Health Insurance Cost and Contributions, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 2 – Disability, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 3 – Workers Compensation, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 12 – Hours of Work, Section 2 – Court Time, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 13 – Wages, Section 3 – Call and Pay, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 17 – Duration and Termination, Section 1, and;
 WHEREAS, Article 16 – Miscellaneous, Section 13 – Health & Wellness, and;
 WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the POLC bargaining agreement subject to review by personnel and labor counsel for any typographical and clerical omissions from the contract.
 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Board Chairman to execute the bargaining agreement with the POLC Command Bargaining Unit as presented.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

G. POAM - Deputies Bargaining Agreement

LABOR RESOLUTION L33/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, the POAM Bargaining Agreement with the Sheriff's Office Deputies Unit expired December 31, 2022 and an agreement has been reached to include the following:

TERM: Three-year agreement effective January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025

WAGES: 2023 – 6.00%, 2024 – 3.00%, 2025 – 3.00% increase to base wages.

WHEREAS, Cover page, and;

WHEREAS, Article 1 – Recognition and Name Change, Section 1, and;

WHEREAS, Article 7 – Seniority, Section 6 – Transfers from other positions within the Sheriff's Department and Section 7 – Employees with Past Correctional Experience, and;

WHEREAS, Article 8 – Paid Time Off, Section 2 – PTO Accrual and Usage, and;

WHEREAS, Article 8 – Paid Time Off, Section 6 – Annual PTO Cash-in, and;

WHEREAS, Article 8 – Paid Time Off, Section 7 – Payout of PTO Upon Separation of Employment, and;

WHEREAS, Article 9 – Leaves of Absence and Personal Days Off, Section 3 – Personal Days Off, and;

WHEREAS, Article 9 – Leaves of Absence and Personal Days Off, Section 4 – Medical Leave of Absence, and;

WHEREAS, Article 10 – Holidays, Section 1 (A) – Paid Holidays, and;

WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 1C – Health Insurance Opt. Out, and;

WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 2 – Disability, and;

WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 6, and;

WHEREAS, Article 12 – Hours of Work, Section 2 – Court Time, and;

WHEREAS, Article 12 – Hours of Work, Section 3 – Overtime, and;

WHEREAS, Article 13 – Wages, Section 3 – Call and Pay, and;

WHEREAS, Article 16 – Miscellaneous, Section 12 – Health & Wellness, and;

WHEREAS, Article 16 – Miscellaneous, Section 14 - Duration and Termination, and;

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the POAM

bargaining agreement subject to review by personnel and labor counsel for any typographical and clerical omissions from the contract.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Board Chairman to execute the bargaining agreement with the POAM Deputies Bargaining Unit as presented.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

H. POAM - Dispatch Bargaining Agreement

LABOR RESOLUTION L34/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, the POAM Bargaining Agreement with the Sheriff's Office Dispatch Unit expired December 31, 2022 and an agreement has been reached to include the following:

TERM: Three-year agreement effective January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025

WAGES: 2023 – 6.00%, 2024 – 3.00%, 2025 – 3.00% increase to base wages

WHEREAS, Cover page, and;

WHEREAS, Article 1 – Recognition and Name Change, and;

WHEREAS, Article 7 – Seniority, Section 6 – Transfers from other positions within the Sheriff's Department and Section 7 – Employees with Past Correctional Experience, and;

WHEREAS, Article 8 – Paid Time Off, Section 2 – PTO Accrual and Usage, and;

WHEREAS, Article 8 – Paid Time Off, Section 6 – Annual PTO Cash-in, and;

WHEREAS, Article 8 – Paid Time Off, Section 7 – Payout of PTO Upon Separation of Employment, and;

WHEREAS, Article 9 – Leaves of Absence and Personal Days Off, Section 3 – Personal Days Off, and;

WHEREAS, Article 9 – Leaves of Absence and Personal Days Off, Section 4 – Medical Leave of Absence, and;

WHEREAS, Article 10 – Holidays, Section 1 (A) – Paid Holidays, and;

WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 1C – Health Insurance Opt. Out, and;

WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 2 – Disability, and;

WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section 3 – Workers Compensation, and;

WHEREAS, Article 11 – Insurance and Pension, Section F, and;

WHEREAS, Article 12 – Hours of Work, Section 2 – Court Time, and;

WHEREAS, Article 12 – Hours of Work, Section 3 – Overtime, and;

WHEREAS, Article 13 – Wages, Section 3 – Call and Pay, and;

WHEREAS, Article 15 – Miscellaneous, Section 2 – Legal Assistance, and;

WHEREAS, Article 15 – Miscellaneous, Section 12 – Health & Wellness, and;

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the POAM bargaining agreement subject to review by personnel and labor counsel for any typographical and clerical omissions from the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Board Chairman to execute the bargaining agreement with the POAM Dispatch Bargaining Unit as presented.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

I. Prosecuting Attorneys Legal Secretaries Association

LABOR RESOLUTION L35/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, the Prosecutor's Legal Secretaries Association contract expires December 31, 2022, and;

WHEREAS, a tentative agreement has been reached for a three-year (3) agreement to expire December 31, 2025 to include the following:

Wage Increase: 6% for 2023, 3% for 2024, 3% for 2025, and;

WHEREAS, Article 5 – Paid Absence Leave, Section 5.3 - Bereavement Leave, and;
WHEREAS, Article 6 – Holidays, Section 6.1 – Recognized Holidays, and;
WHEREAS, Article 10 – Miscellaneous, Section 10.14 (B) – Wellness, and;
WHEREAS, Appendix B – Benefits, Section III, and;
WHEREAS, Appendix B – Benefits, Section VI, and;
WHEREAS, The Office Manager position will be reclassified from an R23G to R25E on the AFSCME pay scale, and;
WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the Prosecuting Legal Secretaries Association Agreement subject to review by personnel and labor counsel for any typographical and clerical omissions from the agreement.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Board Chairman to execute the bargaining agreement with the Prosecuting Legal Secretaries Association as presented.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

12. Public Transit

A. **Vehicle Accessibility Plan

TRANSIT RESOLUTION T8/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, The request is final approval and resolution of the attached Vehicle Accessibility Plan which was reviewed and approved by the Committee of the Whole on December 13, 2022.

WHEREAS, In 2005 MOOT required all transit agencies to submit a master Vehicle Accessibility Plan (VAP). This plan is a requirement for receiving state funding under Michigan Public Act 51. Each year since 2005 Transit has submitted a VAP update TA form with the annual application. Since the plans are over 15 years old, MOOT has determined that a new master plan needs to be created and will be done every five years.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the vehicle accessibility plan from the Van Buren County Public Transit.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

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

TRANSIT RESOLUTION T9/12-27-2022

WHEREAS, The request is to appoint Nicole Handy to the Public Transit Local Advisory Council.

WHEREAS, There is a vacancy on the Local Advisory Council. Nicole Handy would be filling the vacancy representing low-income residents with a term expiration of 12/31/2026.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the appointment to the Public Transit Local Advisory Council.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

13. Veterans Services

14. Public Comment

15. Board Correspondence

A. Barry County Resolution to Amend Michigan Auto Insurance

16. Closed Session

17. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 03:03 PM.

Randall Peat, Chairperson

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk