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

MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

January 24, 2023

Committee of the Whole Meeting

1. Call to Order
The Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order at 01:00 PM by Randall Peat, Chairman of the Board. Present: Patterson-Gladney, Chappell, Doroh, Godfrey, Peat and Schincariol. Leary absent and excused.

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda
Add Item 6.E. Van Buren County Broadband Project Update

3. Approval of Agenda
Motion to approve the agenda as amended.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

4. Approval of Minutes

A. January 10, 2023 Committee of the Whole Minutes
Motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented.
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

5. Public Comment

- Steve Shults, Bloomingdate Communications - Broadband Project

6. Presentation

A. Data Guardian File Digitization Project
Data Guardian provided an overview of their process to scan and digitize files. The Board is directing the Court Administrator to obtain a quote for the revised project for consideration.

B. Resource Recovery Quarterly Report
Kalli Marshall, Van Buren Conservation District, presented the Resource Recovery Quarterly Report.

C. Proclamation - Suella VanDyke
Commissioner Patterson-Gladney presented the request for a proclamation to recognize Van Buren County resident Suella VanDyke on her 103rd birthday.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, recognition of Suella VanDyke on her 103rd birthday.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

D. Support for Holtec Repowering the Palisades Nuclear Plant

Holtec is requesting a resolution of support from Van Buen County to apply to re-open and repower the Palisades Nuclear Plant. Discussion.
Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, support from Van Buren County for Holtech to repower Palisades Nuclear Plant.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried
Roll Call Vote:

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

E. Broadband Project Update

Sara Snoeyink, Market Van Buren, updated the Board on the ROBIN grant process. There is a 30-day window for applications. Matching funds are a scoring component of the grant and a minimum match of 15% is required. Alloting $4.5 million of ARPA funds should allow the County to provide for the minimum match. Any committed matching funds that are not tied to a ROBIN award will remain in the County's control. The County previously allocated $3.5 million

Motion to allocate an additional $1 million of the ARPA funds for the Van Buren County Broadband Project as administered by DCS Technology Design, LLC.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried
Roll Call Vote: All Yes

7. Administrative Affairs

A. Appointment to District Health Board - Donald Hanson

Motion to approve by resolution today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Donald Hanson to the District Health Board.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

B. Appointment to District Health Board - Tina Leary

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Tina Leary to the District Health Board.
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

C. Appointment to Kinexus Board - Tina Leary

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Tina Leary to the Kinexus Board for a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2025.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

D. Appointment to Kinexus Board - Kurt Doroh

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Kurt Doroh to the Kinexus Board for a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2025.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

E. Review and Adopt Board Bylaws and Procedures

The Board Bylaws and Procedures were reviewed with the changes from the Organizational meeting.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the updated Board Bylaws and Procedures.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

8. Buildings and Grounds

A. Request to use County Property - Paw Paw Wine and Harvest Festival 2023

There is a request for use of County Property for the Wine and Harvest Festival on September 7-10, 2023.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, use of the park and the grass lot on the corner of St. Joseph and Niles Streets for the Paw Paw Wine and Harvest Festival on September 7-10, 2023.
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

9. Finance

A. 2023 Annual Borrowing Resolution

Treasurer Trisha Nesbitt is requesting authorization to borrow up to $7.5 million for the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, authorization for the County Treasurer to borrow up to $7.5 million for the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried
Roll Call Vote: All Yes

B. Staff additions to 911 Central Dispatch

Tim McGee is requesting allocation for two additional staff positions for 911 Central Dispatch to be funded through the 911 budget.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, allocation from the 911 budget for two additional staff positions for 911 Central Dispatch.
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

10. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

A. Salary Exception for GIS Director Position

Charles Norton is requesting a salary exception to hire a GIS Director at the 1 year step.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the salary exception for the GIS Director position at the 1 year step of the AFSCME R34 payscale, $82,387.50 annually.
Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

B. Animal Control Deputies Wage Scale Reclassification

The Animal Control Deputies were released from AFSCME in negotiations. Lt. Evans is requesting the non-union wage structure as follows:
Sworn Animal Control Deputy $27.05 per hour (starting Deputy wage)
Non-Sworn Animal Control Deputy $23.52 - Start - 1 year probation period $25.43 - Rate of pay after probationary period

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the recommended non-union wage structure for Animal Control Deputies as presented.
Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

C. Position Elimination and Creation

The Accounts Payable Specialist position was released from AFSCME in negotiations. Administrator Post is requesting to eliminate that position and create a new Finance & Administration Specialist position at the non-union wage scale R25.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the elimination of the Accounts Payable Specialist and creation of the Finance & Administration Specialist position at the non-union wage scale R25.
Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

D. Finance Operations Manager Wage Scale Reclassification

The Finance Operations Manager position was released from AFSCME in negotiations. Administrator Post is requesting the position be placed at the non-union wage scale R29.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, placing the Finance Operations Manager position at the non-union wage scale R29.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

E. County Administrator Status

Administrator Post has submitted his resignation. He will remain with the County through March 24th. The Board is appointing IT Director Charles Norton to be Interim Deputy Administrator and be paid the same wage that Mr. Post received as Interim Administrator. Norton will also be compensated for overseeing the GIS Department in the absence of a GIS director. CJ Johnson will be appointed to be Interim IT Director.

Motion to accept the resignation of Administrator Ryan Post effective March 24th at 5 p.m.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

Motion to appoint Charles Nortion as Interim Deputy Administrator at the same wage as the previous Interim Administrator, and appoint CJ Johnson as Interim IT Director.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

Motion to compensate Charles Norton in the amount of $3,500 for overseeing the GIS Department in the absence of a director.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

11. Public Comment

- Geoffrey Rose, Covert Township Resident - Palisades Nuclear Plant

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 02:50 PM.

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk