



MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

April 11, 2023

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

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, Doroh, Godfrey, Peat, Leary and Schincariol. Absent and excused: Chappell.

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Add Item 10.C. GIS Director Vacancy and hear the item after the first public comment.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

4. Approval of Minutes

A. March 28th, 2023 Committee of the Whole Minutes

Commissioner Patterson-Gladney identified an error on Item 7.E. The minutes should reflect that Commissioner Leary is moved to the Van Buren County Mental Health Board in addition to Commissioner Patterson-Gladney, not in place of her.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting with correction.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Tina Leary, Carried

5. Public Comment

- Zach Morris introduced Katie Multhauf, the new Economic Development Manager with Market Van Buren.
- Sandra Merchant, Van Buren County Historical Society, remarked on the County Museum repairs and thanked the Board.
- John Faul introduced Lorna Nenciarini, the new County Finance Director.

6. Presentation

A. Equalization Report

Tony Meyaard, Equalization Director, presented the 2023 Equalization Report which shows a 6.63% increase overall.

Motion to accept the 2023 Equalization Report as presented.

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

7. Administrative Affairs

A. Reappointment to the Van Buren County Community Mental Health Board - Carol Sjoquist EXPEDITED

The term of Carol Sjoquist to the Van Buren County Community Mental Health Board is expiring and a reappointment is requested.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the reappointment of Carol Sjoquist to the Van Buren County Community Mental Health Board for a three-year term expiring March 31, 2026.

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

B. Reappointment to the Van Buren County Community Mental Health Board - Tom Erdman- EXPEDITED

The term of Tom Erdmann to the Van Buren County Community Mental Health Board is expiring and a reappointment is requested.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the reappointment of Tom Erdmann to the Van Buren County Community Mental Health Board for a three-year term expiring March 31, 2026.

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

8. Buildings and Grounds

A. Mowing Services and Purchase of Mowers

Building & Grounds Director John Small updated the Board on mowing services and the purchase of two mowers. The trustee work crew will be utilized again for this service and there will be a savings of \$48,118 in the first year alone. This is a collaborative effort with the Sheriff's Department.

B. Historical Museum Electrical Bills

Building & Grounds Director John Small updated the Board on electricity bills being incurred during the storm damage repair project. MML will reimburse for this cost once the project is completed.

C. Justice Facility Drainage Project

Building & Grounds Director John Small is requesting to contract with Kalamazoo Excavation for the Van Buren County Justice Facility Drainage Project. The project is on the approved CIP list.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the contract with Kalamazoo Excavation for the Van Buren County Justice Facility Draining Project in the amount of \$26,485.45 from the CIP Fund.

9. Finance

A. Commissioner Per Diems

Commissioner per diems were reviewed.

Motion to approve Commissioner per diems for payment.

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

B. Claims

Claims were reviewed.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the payment of claims in the amount of \$1,879,072.40.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

C. Budget Adjustments

Budget adjustments were reviewed.

Motion to approve the monthly budget adjustments required to maintain a balance budget.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

D. Monthly Financial Statement

The monthly financial statement was reviewed.

E. Foster Swift Invoice

The Foster Swift invoice was reviewed.

Motion to pay the Foster Swift invoice in the amount of \$12,490.00 for NCG litigation according to the cost sharing agreement.

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

F. Vital Record Fee and Marriage License Waiver Fee Increase

County Clerk Suzie Roehm is requesting to increase vital record fees to \$15.00 for the first copy and \$5.00 for each additional copy, and to increase the marriage license 3-day waiver fee to \$25.00.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, increasing vital record fees to \$15.00/\$5.00 and the marriage license 3-day waiver fee to \$25.00, both effective May 1, 2023.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Tina Leary, Carried

G. Resolution Pledging Full Faith and Credit to the Van Cass Intercounty Drain Drainage District Note or Notes

Drain Commissioner Joe Parman is requesting approval for a resolution pledging full faith and credit to the Van Cass Intercounty Drain Drainage District Note or Notes in an amount not to exceed \$595,000 to provide funds to pay preliminary costs of the Van Cass Intercounty Drain Petition Project.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, pledging full faith and credit to the Van Cass Intercounty Drain Drainage District Note or Notes in an amount not to exceed \$595,000.

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

H. Blight Elimination Grant Award

Sarah Snoeyink presented the request to accept the grant from the Michigan Land Bank Authority in the amount of \$89,998.00.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, acceptance of the grant from Michigan State Land Bank Authority in the amount of \$89,998 for blight elimination activities.

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

10. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

A. Wage Exception - Finance & Administration Specialist - EXPEDITED

Finance Director Lorna Nenciarini is requesting a wage exception to fill the Finance & Administrative Specialist position due to the candidates experience.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the wage exception for the Finance & Administrative Specialist position to the R25C step, \$24.25 hourly.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

B. Specialty Court Renewal Contract - EXPEDITED

The Specialty Court Administrator position is vacant again and the courts are requesting to extend the contract with Rachel Lindley, former Specialty Court Administrator, for her services for grant applications and required reporting through October 11, 2023.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, renewing the contract with Rachel Lindley for Specialty Court services through October 11, 2023.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

C. GIS Director Vacancy

*This item was added to agenda and heard following first public comment.

The recently hired GIS Director has resigned. There were other qualified candidates that were interviewed. Discussion to have the Human Resources Director and Equalization Director review those applications again to see if other viable candidates are still interested in the position.

11. Public Transit

12. Veterans Services

A. Veteran Services Update

David Krzyski presented the Veterans Services bi-monthly update.

13. Public Comment

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 02:52 PM.

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk