



MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

July 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, Chappell, Doroh, Godfrey, Peat, Leary and Schincariol.
2. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**
3. **Approval of Agenda**
Motion to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. **June 27th, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**
Motion to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried
5. **Public Comment**
 - Jerry Happel, the new GIS Director, introduced himself
 - Garrett Ketchen/Savion - Decatur Township election proposal re: solar farm
6. **Presentation**
 - A. **Target Market Analysis & Housing Strategic Plan Update**
Zach Morris, Market Van Buren, gave an update on the ongoing efforts to develop a County-wide Housing Strategic Plan. There is an opportunity for a portion of the project to be funded by a grant. Market Van Buren is requesting a \$50k match. Possible funding sources were discussed.

Motion to support proceeding with grant application and to determine which funding source to utilize upon approval of grant.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried
7. **Administrative Affairs**
 - A. **Reappointment to Kinexus Group Workforce Development Board - Tom Stanek - EXPEDITED**

There is a request to re-appoint Tom Stanek to the Kinexus Workforce Development Board.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the re-appointment of Tom Stanek to the Kinexus Workforce Development Board for a term expiring June 30, 2026.

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

B. Area Agency on Aging Fiscal Year 2024 Plan Summary-EXPEDITED

The Area Agency on Aging is seeking approval of their FY20 Annual Implementation Plan Summary.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, approval of the Area Agency on Aging FY2024 Annual Implementation Plan Summary.

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

C. Proclamation - Eleanor Dunlop 100th Birthday

Van Buren County resident Eleanor Dunlop is celebrating her 100th birthday, and a proclamation is being requested in her honor.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, a proclamation to recognize Eleanor Dunlop on her 100th birthday.

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

8. Buildings and Grounds

9. Finance

A. Commissioner Per Diems

Commissioner per diems were reviewed.

Motion to approve payment of per diems as presented.

Motion by Tina Leary, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

B. Claims

Claims were reviewed.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, payment of claims in the amount of \$13,645,050.09.

Motion by Tina Leary, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

C. Monthly Financial Statement

Lorna Nenciarini presented the Monthly Financial Statement.

Motion to accept the Monthly Financial Statement as presented.

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

D. Computer Replacement Program

IT Director, CJ Johnson, presented the request for the annual PC Refresh purchase. It is a budgeted expense.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the 2023 PC Refresh purchase in the amount of \$17,662.02.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

E. Purchase of Sheriff's Office K9

Sheriff Abbott presented the request for the purchase of a new K9 from F.M K9 in Berrien Center. The cost includes the dog, equipment and a basic 6-week training course for the new handler and would be funded through the Public Safety Account.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the purchase of a new K9 from F.M K9 in the amount of \$13,565.00.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

F. Knotek Law Office Invoice - Covert Township NCG Appeal

Attorney Knotek has submitted his annual invoice for the NCG litigation.

Motion to approve payment to Knotek Law Office in the amount of \$12,401.74 for NCG litigation according to the cost sharing agreement.

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

G. Foster Swift Invoice- Covert Township NCG Appeal Placeholder

Nothing was submitted.

10. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

A. Specialty Court Peer Recovery Specialist

Natalie Dean presented the request to move the Peer Recovery Specialist contractual position to a full-time position with the Specialty Courts. The funding would continue to come from state and federal grants.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, moving the contractual position for a Peer Recovery Specialist to a full-time Specialty Courts position .

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

11. Public Transit

A. Director's Report

Motion to accept the Public Transit Director's Report as presented by Director Laurie Schlipp.

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

B. Public Transit Financial Reports

Motion to accept the Public Transit Financial Report as presented by Tami Naber.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

C. Public Transit Operations Reports

Motion to accept the Public Transit Operations Report as presented by Tami Naber.

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

12. Veterans Services

13. Public Comment

- Mary Hosley, South Haven City resident, questions regarding Peer Recovery Specialist position
- Emily Hickmott, VBC Conservation District - Annual meeting invitation

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 02:41 PM.

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk