



MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

December 12, 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 Mike Chappell, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. **November 28th, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**
Motion to approve the November 28, 2023 minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting as presented.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Tina Leary, Carried
5. **Public Comment**
 - Bret Witkowski presented the Road Commission update.
6. **Presentation**
 - A. **South Haven Buoy Update**
Rich Chapman, Ken Gibbons and Mike DeGrandchamp gave an update on the South Haven Buoy as well as the historical background.
7. **Administrative Affairs**
 - A. **Medical Examiner Appointment - EXPEDITED**
Dr. Joyce deJong has resigned from WMU Med and Dr. Patrick Hansma needs to be appointed as the new Medical Examiner.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Dr. Patrick Hansma as Medical Examiner of Van Buren County.
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried
 - B. **Deputy Medical Examiner Appointments - EXPEDITED**

The contract with WMU Med also requires appointing Deputy Medical Examiners. One of the five deputies will be Dr. Joyce deJong which will allow her to finish her open cases.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Jared Brooks M.D., Amanda Fisher-Hubbard M.D., Edmund Donoghue M.D., Anna Tart M.D. and Joyce deJong D.O. as Deputy Medical Examiners for Van Buren County.

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

C. SWMPC - Appointment of Kimberly Sinclair

There is a recommendation to appoint Kimberly Sinclair to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for a two year term.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Kimberly Sinclair to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for a term expiring December 31, 2025.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

D. December 26th, 2023 Meeting

Discussion to consider canceling the December 26, 2023 Board of Commissioner's meeting as there is no known urgent business to address.

Motion to cancel the December 26, 2023 Board of Commissioners meeting.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

8. Buildings and Grounds

9. Finance

A. DCS Technology - ROBIN Grant Update, MEC Subrecipient Agreement and Broadband Consultant Agreement - EXPEDITED

Chris Scharrer, DCS Technology, was not available to attend the meeting.

Motion to table this item until the January 9, 2024 meeting.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

B. Commissioner Per Diems

Commissioner per diems were reviewed.

Motion to approve Commissioner per diems as presented.

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

C. Claims - EXPEDITED

Claims were reviewed.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, payment of claims in the amount of \$9,137,614.42.

Motion by Richard Godfrey, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

D. Monthly Financial Statement

Finance Director, Becky Grabemeyer, presented the Monthly Financial Statement.

Motion to accept the Monthly Financial Statement as presented.

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

E. Foster Swift Invoice

The Foster Swift invoice in the amount of \$11,358.60 was reviewed.

Motion to approve payment of the Foster Swift invoice in the amount of \$11,358.60 for NCG litigation according to the cost sharing agreement.

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

F. Board of Commissioners Compensation

Discussion regarding Board of Commissioners' compensation. It is proposed to move to a set annual rate to replace the existing per diem and mileage compensation, effective January 1, 2025. The annual adjustment would be the same percentage as non-union employees, out of County per diems would be set at \$65 with a limit of 3 per day and mileage at the approved IRS rate. The compensation schedule to be reviewed for accuracy. This item will be placed as a non-consent item on the January 9, 2024 agenda.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the compensation schedule to be set as an annual amount for the Board of Commissioners beginning January 1, 2025.

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

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, Randall Peat, Tina Leary, Paul Schincariol

No: Mike Chappell, Richard Godfrey

10. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

11. Public Transit

12. Veterans Services

A. Veteran Services Report

David Krzycki presented the Veteran Services update. Happy Birthday to the National Guard and Space Force.

13. Public Comment

- Emily Hickmott presented an update and provided Conservation District calendars.
- County Clerk Suzie Roehm gave an update on the Early Voting Grant

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 02:22 PM.

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk

