



**MINUTES**  
**Board of Commissioners Chambers**  
**219 East Paw Paw Street**

**June 25, 2024**

**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

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| <b>Board of Commissioners Meeting</b> |
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1. Call to Order  
On the above date the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 02:20 PM by Randall Peat, Chairman of the Board.
2. Recital of the Pledge of Allegiance / Prayer  
Invocation given by Commissioner Doroh.
3. Roll Call  
The roll was called by County Clerk Suzie Roehm with the following commissioners answering to their name and district: Mike Chappell, Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Randall Peat, Tina Leary, Paul Schincariol. Commissioner Patterson-Gladney absent and excused.
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 Kurt Doroh, Carried
6. Approval of Minutes  
  
A. \*\*June 11th, 2024 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes  
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried
7. Public Comment
8. Administrative Affairs
9. Buildings and Grounds
10. Finance  
  
A. \*\*Claims

**CLAIMS RESOLUTION C6/6-25-2024**

WHEREAS, claims in the amount of \$4,796,800.44 were submitted and reviewed, and;  
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve of the total claims in the amount of \$4,796,800.44 for the month of May 2024.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

B. **\*\*Equalization Services Contract - Addendum**

**FINANCE RESOLUTION F35/6-25-2024**

WHEREAS, there has been a request for approval of an addendum to the Equalization Services contract with Tony Meyaard, Assessing Services, for the complete data entry of all recorded land records from the Register of Deeds Office into the BS&A system; and, WHEREAS, we presently have a contract with Assessing Solutions to perform all equalization services for the County. The contract runs through December 31, 2025; and, WHEREAS, we have a need for the assistance of the input of recorded land records into the BS&A system, which was previously performed by the Land Services Specialist, a position that is now vacant. These duties are typically performed in the Equalization Department. Consequently, we would like to amend the existing contract to add these services; and,  
WHEREAS, the additional cost is \$40,000 per year or \$3,333.33 per month. This will be absorbed into the existing budget for this fiscal year through the vacant position. Beginning in the new fiscal year, this amount will be added to the Equalization contract line item; and,  
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves an addendum to the Equalization Services contract with Tony Meyaard, Assessing Services, for the complete data entry of all recorded land records from the Register of Deeds Office into the BS&A system.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

C. **60% Justice Training Fund (MCOLES) - Deficit Elimination Plan - EXPEDITED**

**FINANCE RESOLUTION F36/6-25-2024**

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan, Department of Treasury (State) has advised the County that our FY 2022 – 2023 Audit shows a \$1,275 deficit in the 60% Training Fund (MCOLES); and,  
WHEREAS, Public Act 140, Section 21(2) states that local units of government that end their year in a deficit condition shall formulate a Deficit Elimination Plan; and,  
WHEREAS, the Deficit Elimination Plan and a Resolution authorizing the implementation of the Plan be submitted to the State no later than July 7, 2024; and,  
WHEREAS, the Deficit Elimination Plan is for the Finance Director to transfer \$2,000 from General Fund Balance (101.0-965.00-999.237.000) to the 60% Justice Training Fund (MCOLES) (237.0-301.00-699.101) and for the County Board of Commissioners approve a budget amendment to allow the transfer to happen; and,  
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the Deficit Elimination Plan that authorizes the Finance Director to transfer \$2,000 from General Fund Balance (101.0-965.00-999.237.000) to the 60% Justice Training Fund (MCOLES) (237.0-301.00-699.101), approve a budget amendment to allow the transfer to happen, and for the County Administrator to submit the Deficit Elimination Plan and this Resolution to the State.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Tina Leary, Carried

11. **Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts**

12. Public Transit

A. **\*\*Central County Transportation Authority Contract Revision**

**TRANSIT RESOLUTION T14/6-25-2024**

WHEREAS, there has been a request for the Board to approve the revised contract between CCTA (Central County Transportation Authority) and Van Buren Public Transit which will provide two new buses; and,

WHEREAS, the original agreement, signed in 2021, is being revised to reduce the number of buses from three to two. This is due to major changes which occurred due to COVID; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the revised contract between CCTA (Central County Transportation Authority) and Van Buren Public Transit which will provide two new buses.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

13. Veterans Services

14. Commissioner's Roundtable

- Van Buren County Youth Initiative
- Wellness Committee Health Fair
- County Museum
- Veterans Court Graduation July 19th, 3:30 pm, Holland

15. Chairman's Update

- AI Task Force

16. Closed Session

A. **Attorney Client Privileged Discussion - Litigation Regarding NCG v Van Buren County**

Motion to enter into closed session under MCL 15.268E to consult with attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with pending litigation with New Covert Generating that would have a detrimental effect if it were held in open session.

Motion by Tina Leary, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

Roll Call Vote: All Yes

Board went into closed session at 2:29 p.m.

Board returned from closed session at 2:42 p.m.

Motion to sign an engagement letter with economist Ira Chavel Consulting, LLC.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

17. Board Correspondence

A. **Crawford County**

18. Public Comment

19. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 02:50 PM.

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**Randall Peat, Chairperson**

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**Suzie Roehm, County Clerk**