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

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

**January 28, 2025**

# 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: Chappell, Doroh, DiStefano, Peat, Leary and Schincariol. Absent and excused: Patterson-Gladney.
2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

3. Approval of Agenda
   Motion to approve the agenda as presented.
   Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried
4. Approval of Minutes

   A. January 14th, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
   Motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting with the correction in Roll Call to reflect DiStefano instead of Godfrey.
   Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Tina Leary, Carried
5. Public Comment
   - Steve Shults - Bloomingdale Communications: Broadband expansion update

6. Presentation

   A. Land Bank Annual Report
   Treasurer Trisha Nesbitt presented the Van Buren County Land Bank Annual Report.

   B. ARPA - Broadband: Update & Mercury RDOF Default, Lawrence Twp
   Chris Scharrer presented an update on the countywide broadband development project and the impact of Mercury Communications RDOF default. There is an option to apply for a BEAD grant. Discussion to address further in February once more information has been obtained.
7. Administrative Affairs

   A. Status Offense Diversion Project Grant Program Application
   Juvenile Court is requesting approval to apply for the Status Offense Diversion Project Grant Program. This would allow expansion to include a contracted position to focus on truancy.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Juvenile Court application for the Status Offense Diversion Project Grant Program.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

B. Local Initiative Services Corporation (LISC) AmeriCorps Host Site Request

Lisa Ransler presented the request to approve an application to the Local Initiatives Support Coalition to serve as an AmeriCorps host site to support a Community Redevelopment Liaison that will assist local units with redevelopment and housing initiatives. The liaison would work with the Community Services Department and would be for 11 months. The local match is $17,000, participating units would be asked to contribute $2,500 and the remainder would be covered by CDBG program income.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the application to the Local Initiatives Support Coalition to serve as an AmeriCorps host site to support a Community Redevelopment Liaison with a $17,000 local match.
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Tina Leary, Carried

8. Buildings and Grounds

9. Finance

10. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

11. Public Transit

A. Director's Report

Tami Naber presented the monthly Public Transit Director's Report.

B. Annual Application Information for MDOT - EXPEDITED

Tami Naber presented the expedited request to approve a resolution of intent and signature for MDOT FY2026 Annual Application for the portal for Public Transit to receive operating and capital funding.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the MDOT FY2026 Annual Application and authorize the Chairman to sign the Contract Clauses Certification and Resolution of Intent on the Board's behalf.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

C. MDOT Contract 2022-0144/P8

Tami Naber presented the request to approve MDOT Contract 2022-0144/P8 for Federal Section 5311 operating assistance for FY2025 in the amount of $435,861.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, MDOT Contract 2022-0144/P8 for FY2025 in the amount of $435,861.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

D. Financial Reports

Tami Naber presented the monthly Public Transit Financial Report.

E. Operations Report

Tami Naber presented the monthly Public Transit Operations Report.

12. Veterans Services

13. Road Commission Update

A. Monthly Update

Director Bret Witkowski presented the monthly Road Commission update.

14. Public Comment

15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.
Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 02:24 PM.

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**Suzie Roehm, County Clerk**