



MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

February 11, 2025

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

Board of Commissioners Meeting

1. Call to Order
On the above date the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 02:43 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: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Mike Chappell, Kurt Doroh, David DiStefano, Randall Peat, Tina Leary, Paul Schincariol.
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 Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried
6. Approval of Minutes

A. **January 28th, 2025 Board of Commissioner Meeting Minutes
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried
7. Public Comment
8. Administrative Affairs

A. **Status Offense Diversion Project Grant Program Application
ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION A7/2-11-2025
WHEREAS, the Juvenile Justice Reform Task Force has recommended funding for a pilot project to expand juvenile courts' use of diversion programs to keep youth out of the formal juvenile justice system; and,
WHEREAS, Van Buren County has made significant progress in youth diversion efforts, and applying for one of five available \$100,000 one-time grants would allow for the expansion of the diversion team to include a contracted position focused on truancy

intervention; and,

WHEREAS, the sustainability of this position would rely on future 75% reimbursement from the Child Care Fund, ensuring long-term support for truancy prevention services in collaboration with a provider committed to working with Van Buren County youth; and,

WHEREAS, if awarded, the grant would have no immediate financial impact and could be incorporated into the FY27 Child Care Fund, with partial funding considered for FY26 if necessary; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, approve the submission of the juvenile court application for the Status Offense Diversion Project Grant Program.

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

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

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION A8/2-11-2025

WHEREAS, Van Buren County seeks to partner with the Local Initiatives Support Coalition (LISC) to host an AmeriCorps Community Redevelopment Liaison to assist local units with redevelopment and housing initiatives; and,

WHEREAS, the liaison will support the Community Services Department in guiding local units through the Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) process, enhancing eligibility for grant funding and economic development opportunities; and,

WHEREAS, the AmeriCorps Member will be a LISC employee, receiving a \$42,200 stipend for 1,700 hours over 11 months, with a required local match of \$17,000, funded through contributions from participating units and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program income; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, approve the Application and Placement Site Agreement with the Local Initiatives Support Coalition (LISC) to serve as an AmeriCorps host site to support a Community Redevelopment Liaison that will assist local units with redevelopment and housing initiatives, and authorize the Board Chair to sign the documents.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

9. Buildings and Grounds

10. Finance

11. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

A. Reclassification of Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys and Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney EXPEDITED

LABOR RESOLUTION L4/2-11-2025

WHEREAS, the current pay scale for Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys is outdated and inconsistent with comparable county positions, making recruitment and retention difficult; and,

WHEREAS, to address this, Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys should be reclassified to Level 35 and the Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney to Level 37 on the County Court Administrators' Wage Scale; and,

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of \$25,848.33 for the 2025 fiscal year will be offset by an unfilled Assistant Prosecuting Attorney position, requiring no budget adjustments; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, approve the reclassification as stated, effective immediately.

Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

12. Public Transit

A. **MDOT Contract 2022-0144/P8

TRANSIT RESOLUTION T2/2-11-2025

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has issued Contract 2022-0144/P8, which provides Federal Section 5311 operating assistance for Fiscal Year 2025 in the amount of \$435,861 to support Van Buren Public Transit operations; and, WHEREAS, these funds represent 18% of estimated eligible costs for FY 2025 and are provided by the Federal Transit Administration, United States Department of Transportation, and MDOT to assist in the operation of rural public transportation services; and,

WHEREAS, the acceptance of these funds requires the County's formal agreement of utilization, as outlined in the Master Agreement 2022-0144, ensuring compliance with all federal and state regulations governing their use; and,

WHEREAS, approval of this contract is necessary to secure continued federal and state funding for Van Buren Public Transit operations, which provide essential transportation services to the residents of Van Buren County; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, approve MDOT Contract 2022-0144/P8 for Federal Section 5311 operating assistance, authorize the Board Chair to digitally sign the contract on behalf of the Board.

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

B. Third Party Contract Amendment EXPEDITED

TRANSIT RESOLUTION T3/2-11-2025

WHEREAS, Van Buren County Transit requires an amendment to the third-party contract with CPM Construction for its ongoing construction project; and,

WHEREAS, the amendment includes one change order for the addition of eight data drop rough-ins at a cost of \$2,640.00; and,

WHEREAS, this increases the total contract amount to \$570,090.00, which will be covered by previously approved funds from the Transit budget; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, approve the amendment to the third-party contract with CPM Construction.

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

13. Veterans Services

14. Commissioner's Roundtable

- Luc's Light Gala February 22nd
- Community Mental Health
- Opioid Settlement Funds
- Listening Tour
- Parks & Recreation Committee

15. Chairman's Update

- Board of Commissioners Updates communications

16. Board Correspondence

17. Closed Session

18. Public Comment

- Jeff Roe

19. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by David DiStefano, Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 03:17 PM.

Randall Peat, Chairperson

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk