



MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

March 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 03:35 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. **February 25th, 2025 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried
7. Public Comment
8. Administrative Affairs

A. **Confirmation of Appointments to the Van Buren County Parks and Recreation Board
ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION A11/3-11-2025
WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Parks and Recreation Board requires appointed members to ensure compliance with state law and effective operations; and,
WHEREAS, the following individuals are appointed with terms as indicated: Kurt Doroh, Wayne Nelson, and Joe Parman (Ex Officio); Mike Chappel and Gail Patterson-Gladney (County Commission, terms until replaced or January 1, 2028); John Small and Becky

Grabemeyer (terms until January 1, 2026); and Paul Garrod, Daywi Cook, and Emily Hickmott (terms until January 1, 2027); and,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, approve the appointments of the following individuals listed above to the Van Buren County Parks and Recreation Board.

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

- B. ****Authorization to Accept Warranty Deed from Jason Meachum of Meachum Properties LLC for Kayak Launch on Paw Paw River in Hartford Township**

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION A12/3-11-2025

WHEREAS, Jason Meachum of Meachum Properties LLC has offered to transfer approximately 1.25 acres of property in Hartford Township to Van Buren County for \$1 for the development of a public kayak launch; and,
WHEREAS, the project is supported by a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grant (TF23-0178) and matching funds from Van Buren County, Hartford Township, and the Van Buren Conservation District; and,
WHEREAS, the deed includes conditions that the property must be used for public recreation, ownership will revert to the grantor if recreational use ceases and he retains ownership of the adjacent parcel, and the transfer is contingent on the county receiving DNR grant funding; and,
WHEREAS, Van Buren County will cover all surveying and recording fees, while construction and site development costs will be funded by the MNRTF grant (\$283,700) and local matching contributions totaling \$121,600; and,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, authorizes the acceptance of the warranty deed from Jason Meachum of Meachum Properties LLC for \$1 under the specified conditions and approves proceeding with the Hartford Kayak Launch project.

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

- C. ****IT Service agreement with the Paw Paw Police Department**

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION A13/3-11-2025

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County IT Department has been providing IT support to the Paw Paw Police Department for more than five years without a formal agreement; and,
WHEREAS, the absence of a formal agreement has resulted in uncompensated IT support services provided to the Paw Paw Police Department; and,
WHEREAS, the proposed three-year agreement establishes a flat rate of \$5,000 per year for 100 hours of IT support, with additional hours billed at \$50 per hour as needed; and,
WHEREAS, revenue from this agreement will be deposited into account 1010-228.00-631.102 to offset IT overtime wages; and,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, authorizes the IT Director to enter into the IT Service Agreement with the Paw Paw Police Department.

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

- D. ****Out of State Travel Request - MSP Training**

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION A14/3-11-2025

WHEREAS, the Michigan State Police (MSP) has requested funding for out-of-state training, including airfare, registration, and meals for one trooper, as well as lodging and a car rental for six troopers; and,
WHEREAS, this training is essential for maintaining the preparedness and effectiveness of MSP personnel, ensuring they remain up to date on the latest law enforcement techniques and procedures; and,

WHEREAS, MSP routinely requests lodging and travel assistance for training at least once a year, with this being the first such request for 2025; and,
WHEREAS, funding for this training has been allocated in the Drug/Forfeiture account, ensuring there is no additional financial burden on the general fund; and,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the out-of-state travel request for MSP training.

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

9. Buildings and Grounds

A. **CIP Project - Replacement of carpet in South Haven Courthouse

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS RESOLUTION B2/3-11-2025

WHEREAS, the replacement of the carpet on the lower level of the South Haven Courthouse was approved as part of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) with an allocated budget of \$35,000.00; and,
WHEREAS, a bid for the project was received from Home Improvement Supply in the amount of \$24,829.17, which is within the approved budget; and,
WHEREAS, replacing the carpet is necessary to maintain the courthouse's safety, cleanliness, and overall condition; and,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, approves the carpet replacement at the South Haven Courthouse.

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

B. **CIP Project - Replacement of Siding on Administration Building

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS RESOLUTION B3/3-11-2025

WHEREAS, the replacement of windows in the Administration Building was approved as part of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) with an allocated budget of \$40,000.00; and,
WHEREAS, a bid for the window replacement project was received from Lyster Exteriors Inc. in the amount of \$51,730, exceeding the initial estimate; and,
WHEREAS, Lyster Exteriors Inc. will have the necessary equipment on-site to replace the siding at the same time, minimizing disruptions and ensuring efficiency in project completion; and,
WHEREAS, combining the siding and window replacement projects will streamline the process and reduce future logistical challenges; and,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, approves the replacement of the siding on the Administration Building as outlined in the project plan.

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

10. Finance

A. Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) Application Approval EXPEDITED

FINANCE RESOLUTION F11/3-11-2025

WHEREAS, there is a request to approve, on an expedited basis, the submission of an application for Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) in the amount of \$3,000,000 to construct a new 911 Dispatch/Emergency Operations Center (911/EOC); and,
WHEREAS, the CDS program, sponsored by Senator Gary Peters under the Homeland Security Subcommittee, provides funding for high-impact public safety projects like 911/EOCs; and,

WHEREAS, a fully operational 911/EOC is essential to support emergency response infrastructure, ensure public safety during major incidents, and meet requirements for the Palisades Nuclear Power Plant restart; and,
WHEREAS, the estimated project cost is approximately \$10,000,000.00, with County land available for the site and funding to be supplemented by General Fund contributions, partnerships, and potential bonding if necessary; and,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, approve the submission of an application for Congressionally Directed Spending in the amount of \$3,000,000 for the purpose of constructing a new 911 Dispatch/Emergency Operations Center.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

11. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts
12. Public Transit
13. Veterans Services
14. Commissioner's Roundtable
 - Annexed Property in Decatur - Housing Development
 - Opioid Committee requests
 - South Haven Brownfield
 - Erin/Youth Initiative secured location in Hartford
 - MAC Committees
15. Chairman's Update
 - Small Modular Reactors - Tennessee

Administrator Faul:

- April 10th at 4 p.m./Meet and greet Farm Bureau Building
- April 22nd meeting/AI training after meeting

16. Board Correspondence

A. Livingston County

17. Closed Session
18. Public Comment

19. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 03:50 AM.

Randall Peat, Chairperson

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk