



MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

June 10, 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

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, DiStefano, Peat, Leary and Schincariol.
2. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**
3. **Approval of Agenda**
Motion to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by David DiStefano, Carried
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. **May 27th, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**
Motion to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried
5. **Public Comment**
 - Deb Hess, Community Mental Health - Previously requested a resolution regarding Public Behavioral Health Funding shortfall, however that has been resolved and now presenting information to oppose privatized PIHPs.
6. **Presentation**
 - A. **Van Buren County Sheriff Life Saving Award Presentation - Deputy Borah**
Sheriff Daniel Abbott presented a Life-Saving Award to Deputy Scotty Borah for a critical emergency involving a 1-month old child. Congratulations, Deputy Borah!
 - B. **Michigan State University Extension Annual Report**
Kia Gritter, Interim District Director, presented the Van Buren County MSU Extension Annual Report. Tyler Augst provided information on the upcoming Leadership Intensive course.
7. **Administrative Affairs**
 - A. **Saddle Lake Level Assessment Roll & Computation of Costs**

Drain Commissioner Joe Parman presented the request to approve the Saddle Lake Level Special Assessment Roll and Computation of Project Costs. The required public hearing was held June 5, 2025.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Saddle Lake Level Special Assessment Roll and Computation of Project Costs.

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

B. Change of Meeting Date September 9, 2025 to September 8, 2025

There is a request to change the Committee of the Whole and Board Meeting date on September 9, 2025 to September 8, 2025. Commissioner DiStefano has a scheduling conflict, and the budget will be considered for approval at that meeting. The by-laws allow for a resolution to change a meeting date.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, changing the September 9, 2025 meetings to September 8, 2025.

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

C. Re-Appointment Public Transit Local Advisory Council

Transit Director Laurie Schlipp is requesting the reappointment of Melanie Giddings and Faith Dowd to the Van Buren Public Transit Local Advisory Council for a four-year term.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Melanie Giddings and Faith Dowd to the Van Buren Public Transit Local Advisory Council for a four-year term ending July 1, 2029.

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

D. Appointment Materials Management Planning Commission

Community Services Director Lisa Ransler presented the request to appoint Commissioner Kurt Doroh as the elected official representative on the Materials Management Planning Commission.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Commissioner Kurt Doroh as the elected official representative on the Materials Management Planning Commission.

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

8. Buildings and Grounds

A. AEP Easement - Fairgrounds Expedited

John Faul presented the expedited request to approve utility easements to Indiana Michigan Power Company on County property at the fairgrounds for the purpose of installing electric lines. Installing the electric lines will improve the service to the campground sites and needs to be completed before fair week. Fair Board Member Matt Butler answered questions.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the utility easement to Indiana Michigan Power Company for the purpose of installing electric lines at the County Fairgrounds.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

9. Finance

A. Claims

Becky Grabemeyer presented claims in the amount of \$12,927,134.52 for review.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, payment of claims in the amount of \$12,927,134.52.

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

B. Budget Adjustments

Finance Director Becky Grabemeyer presented the monthly budget amendments as required to maintain balanced funds.

Motion to approve the budget amendments as presented.

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

C. Monthly Financial Statement

Finance Director Becky Grabemeyer presented the Monthly Financial Statement for review.

Motion to accept the Monthly Financial Statement as presented.

Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

D. Van Buren County Specialty Court FY 2026 SCAO Grant Applications - EXPEDITED

Specialty Court Administrator Courtney Michalka presented the expedited request to submit the Specialty Court FY2026 SCAO grant applications for Drug Treatment Court, Family Treatment Court, Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program, Mental Health Court and Sobriety Court totaling \$734,543.66.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Specialty Court FY2026 SCAO grant applications totaling \$734,543.66.

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

10. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

11. Public Transit

12. Veterans Services

A. Out of State Travel - Veteran Services

Veterans Services Director David Krzycki presented the request for out-of-state travel to attend the NACVSO training conference in Louisville, KY on July 11-18, 2025 to maintain national accreditation. This is a budgeted item.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Veterans Services out-of-state travel request to attend training on July 11-18, 2025 in Louisville, KY.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

B. Veteran Services Bi Monthly Report

Veterans Services Director David Krzycki presented the bi-monthly report.

13. Public Comment

- Kalli Marshall/Conservation District - Flyers for recycling, lunch & learn and public education events

- Emily Hickmott/Conservation District - 2025 Food, Farm and Fun Guide and Annual Meeting
- Bret Witkowski/Van Buren County Road Commission - Monthly Update

14. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 02:20 PM.

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk