



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

**September 8, 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 Paul Schincariol, Vice-Chairman of the Board. Present: Patterson-Gladney, Chappell, Doroh, DiStefano, Leary and Schincariol. Commissioner Peat absent and excused.
2. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**
3. **Approval of Agenda**  
Motion to approve the agenda as presented.  
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried
4. **Approval of Minutes**
  - A. **August 26th, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**  
Motion to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented.  
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried
5. **Public Comment**
6. **Presentation**
  - A. **Facilities Master Plan Update**  
Ryan Archer, Tower Pinkster, presented a review of the Facility Assessment Report and timetable for next steps in the project.
7. **Administrative Affairs**
  - A. **Region IV Area Agency on Aging - MI Choice Waiver Resolution**  
**EXPEDITED**  
Christine Vanlandingham presented the expedited request to consider a resolution in support of the MI Choice Medicaid Waiver Program, which allows older adults and individuals with disabilities to receive long term care in their own homes.  
  
Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, a resolution in support of the MI Choice Medicaid Waiver Program.  
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

**B. Out-of-State Travel Request: Prosecutor's Office - Ohio Sept. 15-19, 2025  
EXPEDITED**

Prosecutor Susan Zuiderveen submitted an expedited out-of-state travel request for two individuals from the Prosecutor's Office to attend the Sexual Assault Investigation Academy in Ohio on September 15-19, 2025. This is a budgeted item.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the travel request from the Prosecutor's Office to attend the Sexual Assault Investigation Academy in Ohio on September 15-19, 2025.

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

**C. Board of Canvassar Appointment**

County Clerk Suzie Roehm presented the request to select and appoint two members to the Board of Canvassers for a 4-year term. The names presented by the Republican Party were Judy Janssen, Tonya Schuitmaker and Sid Shank, and from the Democrat Party were Marie Botchie and Michael Seymour. Ballots were distributed to the commissioners to make their selection.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Judy Janssen (R) and Michael Seymour (D) to the Board of Canvassers for a four-year term expiring on October 31, 2029.

Motion by Tina Leary, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

**D. MSU Extension Memorandum of Agreement Renewal FY 2025 - 2026**

Kai Gritter, MSUE District Director, presented the request to approve the annual Memorandum of Agreement between Van Buren County and Michigan State University in the amount of \$212,800.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the annual Memorandum of Agreement with Michigan State University in the amount of \$212,800.

Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

**E. Domestic Violence Coalition Services Agreement Renewal FY 2025 - 2026**

Melanie Hooker, DVC Executive Director, presented the request to approve the Domestic Violence Coalition FY25-26 Annual Agreement Renewal in the amount of \$25,000.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the FY25-26 Annual Agreement Renewal with Domestic Violence Coalition in the amount of \$25,000.

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

**F. Van Buren Conservation District - Resource Recovery Services Agreement Renewal FY 2025 - 2026**

Emilly Hickmott, Van Buren Conservation District Executive Director, presented the request to approve the Resource Recovery Annual Agreement Renewal in the amount of \$100,000.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Resource Recovery Annual Agreement Renewal with the Conservation District in the amount of \$100,000.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

**8. Buildings and Grounds**

## 9. Finance

### A. Travel Expenditures

Finance Director Becky Grabemeyer presented the monthly commissioner travel expenditures for review.

Motion to approve payment of travel expenditures as submitted.

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

### B. Claims

Finance Director Becky Grabemeyer presented monthly claims for review.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the payment of claims in the amount of \$5,645,635.26.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by David DiStefano, Carried

### C. Budget Adjustments

Finance Director Becky Grabemeyer presented monthly budget adjustments for review.

Motion to approve the monthly budget adjustments as required to maintain a balanced budget.

Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

### D. 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 Kurt Doroh, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

### E. Child Care Fund Budget Summary DHS-2091

Jennifer Mockler presented the request for signature of the Child Care Fund Budget Summary DHS-2091 form. The Annual Plan & Budget has been approved by the Child Care Fund Monitoring Unit and this form will finalize FY26.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Child Care Fund Budget Summary DHS-2091 form for signature.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by David DiStefano, Carried

## 10. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

## 11. Public Transit

### A. Director's Report

Laurie Schlipp presented the monthly Public Transit Director's Report.

### B. Transit Finance Report

Tami Naber presented the Public Transit Monthly Finance Report.

### C. Transit Operations Report

Tami Naber presented the Public Transit Monthly Operations Report.

## 12. Veterans Services

13. Public Comment

- Bret Witkowski presented the monthly Road Commission Update and invited the Board to the Annual Employee Appreciation Day.
- Laurie Schlipp advised that Public Transit provided transportation to the Amish family involved in the buggy accident.

14. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 02:48 AM.

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**Suzie Roehm, County Clerk**