



MINUTES

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

November 13, 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 Paul Schincariol, Vice-Chairman of the Board.

2. Recital of the Pledge of Allegiance / Prayer

Invocation by Commissioner Patterson-Gladney.

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, David DiStefano, Tina Leary, and Paul Schincariol. Commissioners Randall Peat and Kurt Doroh absent and excused.

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 Mike Chappell, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

6. Approval of Minutes

A. **October 21st, 2025 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

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

7. Public Comment

8. Administrative Affairs

9. Buildings and Grounds

10. Finance

A. **Purchase of Vehicle - Sheriff Department

FINANCE RESOLUTION F51/11-13-2025

WHEREAS, there has been a request for the Board to approve the purchase of a 2025

Ford Low Roof Cargo Van for the Sheriff's Office Drain Crew; and,
WHEREAS, the current van is not operational and not safe to drive; and,
WHEREAS, the replacement of this vehicle is necessary for the continued safe and efficient operation of the Drain Crew throughout the County.
WHEREAS, this vehicle purchase is included as an approved Capital Improvement Project (CIP) for the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year; and,
WHEREAS, the total cost of the vehicle is \$51,815 and is to be paid from General Ledger Account #444.0-442.00-975.061; and,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the purchase of a 2025 Ford Low Roof Cargo Van for the Sheriff's Office Drain Crew in the amount of \$51,815 to be paid from GL #444.0-442.00-975.061.

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

B. ****Application for Additional MERS Service Credit Purchase**

FINANCE RESOLUTION F52/11-13-2025

WHEREAS, on May 26, 2015, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution allowing a participant to purchase up to a total of five (5) years of additional service for individual employee requests.; and,
WHEREAS, County employee Jim Charon is requesting approval to use his 457 monies to purchase five (5) years of service for the purpose of obtaining vesting in the MERS Pension Plan, and;
WHEREAS, the Fidelity Plan provides in Section 9.04 that a participant may direct the Trustee to transfer all or a portion of his/her account to a governmental defined benefit plan for the purchase of permissive services credit; and,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the request of Jim Charon to purchase five (5) years of additional service credit to be paid from his Fidelity 457 funds.

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

C. ****Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health (SWMBH) Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Net Cost Contract**

FINANCE RESOLUTION F53/11-13-2025

WHEREAS, SWMBH Net Cost Agreement for Substance Use Disorder Services is an annual contract funded through PA2 and supports the Van Buren County Circuit Court, Specialty Court; and,
WHEREAS, the anticipated funding for FY 25-26 is \$71,466, an increase from \$69,765 in the previous year; and,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the FY 25-26 SWMBH Net Cost Agreement for Substance Use Disorder Services.

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

11. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

12. Public Transit

A. ****Dispatch Radio Equipment Upgrade**

TRANSIT RESOLUTION T7/11-13-2025

WHEREAS, there has been a request is to purchase new dispatch radio equipment from Roe-Comm Communications with Transit funds to replace aging, obsolete equipment; and,

WHEREAS, Transit's current dispatch radio equipment is aging and obsolete, with parts no longer available, and was first purchased in 2008 with additional equipment purchased in 2013. Quotes were obtained from Roe-Comm and Tele-Rad, with Roe-Comm coming in with the lowest price; and,

WHEREAS, the line total cost of the equipment is \$35.058 and is to be paid from 588.0-000.00-001.000 Cash In Common Investment Pool and 588.0-000.00-146.000 Furniture and Equipment; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the purchase of new dispatch radio equipment from Roe-Comm Communications \$35.058 and is to be paid from 588.0-000.00-001.000 Cash In Common Investment Pool and 588.0-000.00-146.000 Furniture and Equipment to replace aging, obsolete equipment.

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

13. Veterans Services

14. Commissioner's Roundtable

- Broadband expansion
- Opioid Settlement
- South Haven American Legion Holiday Meals
- SWMBA lawsuit
- Narcan Kits/Hazen Street
- SNAP Benefits
- Antwerp Township Trail

15. Chairman's Update

16. Board Correspondence

17. Closed Session

18. Public Comment

19. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 03:02 AM.

Paul Schincariol, Vice-Chair

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk

