



MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

January 27, 2026

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 Kurt Doroh, Chairman of the Board. Present: Mike Chappell, Kurt Doroh, David DiStefano, Randall Peat, Paul Schincariol. Commissioners Gail Patterson-Gladney and Tina Leary absent and excused.
2. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**
Delete Item 6.A.
Expedite Item 10.C.
3. **Approval of Agenda**
Motion to approve the agenda as amended.
Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Randall Peat, Carried
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. **January 13, 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**
Motion to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented.
Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried
5. **Public Comment**
6. **Presentation**
 - A. **Broadband Update and DCS Contract Extension**
This item was removed from the agenda and will be heard at the February 10th meeting.
7. **Administrative Affairs**
 - A. **Information Technology Annual Report**
Director CJ Johnson presented the IT Department Annual Report.
 - B. **Out of State Travel - Sheriff's Office EXPEDITED**
Captain Jim Charon presented the expedited request to approve out-of-state travel for a member of the Sheriff's Office to attend a one-week training course on digital video data structures in Hoover, AL on February 8-13, 2026.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the

out-of-state travel for training in Hoover, AL on February 8-13, 2026.
Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by David DiStefano, Carried

C. Re-Appointments Van Buren County Community Mental Health

Administrator Faul presented the request for the reappointment of Carol Sjoquist and Michael Saenz to the Van Buren County Community Mental Health Board for a three year term.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the reappointment of Carol Sjoquist and Michael Saenz to the Van Buren County Community Mental Health Board for a three year term expiring March 31, 2029.
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by David DiStefano, Carried

D. Re-Appointment Van Buren District Library - Sandy Hanson

Administrator Faul presented the request for the reappointment of Sandy Hanson to the District Library Board for a four-year term.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the reappointment of Sandy Hanson to the District Library Board for a four-year term expiring December 31, 2029.
Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

8. Buildings and Grounds

9. Finance

10. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

A. Human Resources Annual Report

Director Anna Blankenship presented the Human Resources Annual Report.

B. Insurance Benefits Policy Update

Director Anna Blankenship presented the request to update the Personnel Handbook with the recently updated insurance benefits policies.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the updated insurance benefits policies in the Personnel Handbook.
Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by David DiStefano, Carried

C. Paid Time Off Policy Update

Director Anna Blankenship presented the expedited request to update the Paid Time Off Policy to clarify how and when PTO may be used and paid out. PTO cannot be used in addition to holiday pay for any employee and Specialty Courts have grant funding limitations for PTO payouts.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, updating the Paid Time Off Policy to clarify how and when PTO may be used and paid out.
Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Randall Peat, Carried

D. Building Closure Policy Update

Director Anna Blankenship presented the request to update the Building Closure Policy to clarify expectations during delayed starts and closures.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of

Commissioners, updating the Building Closure Policy for clarifications.
Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

11. Public Transit

12. Veterans Services

13. Road Commission Monthly Update

A. Road Commission Monthly Update

Director Bret Witkowski presented the monthly Road Commission update.

14. Public Comment

15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 02:03 PM.

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk