MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

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

March 10, 2026

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: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, David DiStefano, Tina Leary, Paul Schincariol. Commissioner Chappell absent and excused and District 5 vacant.

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by David DiStefano, Carried

4. Approval of Minutes

A. February 24, 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Tina Leary, Carried

5. Public Comment

All qualified individuals who submitted an application for the District 5 Commissioner vacancy were invited to speak during this time. Those present were: Neil Boff, James DeGroff, Josh Przgocki, Chris Tapper, and John Tapper. Administrator Faul noted that Don Stull and Mike Toth had contacted him to advise they were unable to attend and that Mike Toth stated he did not intend to become a candidate for the partial term and was only applying for an interim appointment.

After all applicants had spoken, Chairman Doroh asked each Commissioner for a nomination. The following nominations were made:
Commissioner Leary nominated Mike Toth, and Commissioner DiStefano seconded.
Commissioner Patterson-Gladney nominated John Tapper, nomination did not receive a second.

Public Comment resumed:

- Paul Carrier - support of applicant Przgocki
- John Young - support of applicant Przgocki
- Raelyn Freelove - support of applicant DeGroff
- Kalli Marshall - Conservation District Materials Management
- Tyler Augst - MSUE

6. Presentation

A. FY 2024 - 2025 Audit Presentation

Dane Porter, CPA gave the FY2024-2025 audit presentation.

Motion to receive the audit report.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Tina Leary, Carried

7. Administrative Affairs

A. Board Vacancy EXPEDITED

It is necessary to fill the February 9, 2026 vacancy in District 5 within 30 days. Applications were received and reviewed, and applicants were given the opportunity to address the Board. This position will be placed on the 2026 ballot as a partial term.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Mike Toth to fill the District 5 vacancy until a successor has been elected.
Motion by Tina Leary, Second by David DiStefano, Carried

B. Out of State Travel - Prosecutors Office EXPEDITED

Prosecutor Susan Zuiderveen presented the expedited request for two staff members to attend Karpel training in St. Louis, MO on April 13-16, 2026. Karpel is their new software program and training will enhance knowledge and understanding of the program.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the out-of-state travel for Karpel training in St. Louis, MO on April 13-16, 2026.
Motion by Tina Leary, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

C. Specialty Court Grant Application

Specialty Court Administrator Courtney Michalka presented the request to submit a federal grant application in the amount of $1,000,000 to support operations for the Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the federal grant application in the amount of $1,000,000 to support operations for the Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program.
Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

D. Approval of Van Buren Youth Fair Association's sublease with Vassar Farms

Community Services Director Lisa Ransler presented the request for approval for the Van Buren Youth Fair Association's sublease of 30 acres of fairground property to Vassar Farms for the 2026 agricultural season in the amount of $3,150. The lease income will be received by the Fair Association.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Fair Association's sublease of 30 acres to Vassar Farms in the amount of $3,150.
Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

E. Approval of Revised Van Buren County Planning Commission Bylaws

Community Services Director Lisa Ransler presented the request to approve the updated Van Buren County Planning Commission bylaws.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the updated Van Buren County Planning Commission bylaws.
Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by David DiStefano, Carried

F. Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (SWMPC) Appointment of Mary Hosley

Administrator Faul presented the request to appoint Mary Hosley to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for a 2-year term.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Mary Hosley to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for a two-term expiring on December 31, 2027.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

8. Buildings and Grounds

9. Finance

A. Claims

Finance Director Becky Grabemeyer presented monthly claims for review in the amount of $4,073,786.51.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, payment of monthly claims in the amount of $4,073,786.51.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

B. Budget Adjustments

Finance Director Becky Grabemeyer presented the monthly budget adjustments for reveiw.

Motion to approve the monthly budget adjustments as required to maintain a balanced budget.
Motion by David DiStefano, 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 Paul Schincariol, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

D. RAPID DNA Technology Acceptance of Grant and Authorization for Board Chair Signature

Captain Jim Charon presented the request to accept a Congressionally Directed Spending grant in the amount of $576,000 to acquire Rapid DNA technology and authorize the Board Chair to sign all required documents.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, acceptance of the Congressionally Directed Spending grant in the amount of $576,000 and authorize the Board Chair to sign all required documents.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

E. FY 2025 Emergency Management Performance Grant Packet

Emergency Manager Ray Hochsprung presented the request to approve the 2025 EMPG grant in the amount of $8,908. This grant is utilized for a portion of the Emergency Program Manager's salary and fringe benefits.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the 2025 EMPG grant in the amount of $8,908.
Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

F. New Age Laboratories Loan – Partial Mortgage Discharge and Loan Amendment - EXPEDITED

Community Services Director Lisa Ransler presented the expedited request for a partial discharge of mortgage for the New Age Laboratories EDC loan. The partial discharge of mortgage would release the residential house and associated acreage while maintaining the remaining vacant parcels as collateral, allowing the borrower to restructure existing financing and higher-interest obligations.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the partial discharge of mortgage for New Age Laboratories and approve the second amendment to the loan agreement.
Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

G. 2026 PC Refresh – EXPEDITED

IT Director CJ Johnson presented the expedited request to approve the 2026 PC Refresh purchase in an amount up to $55,000 for 33 desktop PC's and 14 laptops.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the 2026 PC Refresh purchase in an amount up to $55,000.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

H. Applied Innovations Copier Lease Renewal

IT Director CJ Johnson presented the request for a copier lease renewal with Applied Innovations in the amount of $1,395.31 per month for nine copiers. The renewed lease agreement would be for an additional five-year term and replace all existing copier equipment while maintaining per page rates.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the copier lease renewal with Applied Innovations for a five-year term.
Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

I. Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) FY 26-27 Application Approval

Administrator Faul presented the request to submit 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 to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the 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 Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by David DiStefano, Carried

10. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

A. Office of the Public Defender - Michigan Indigent Defense Commission (MIDC) Annual Grant Application

Chief Public Defender Scott Jessen provided a department update and presented the request to approve the submission of the FY26-27 Michigan Indigent Defense Commission annual grant application.

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

Commissioners, the submission of the FY26-27 Michigan Indigent Defense Commission annual grant.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Tina Leary, Carried

11. Public Transit

12. Veterans Services

13. Public Comment

14. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.
Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 03:14 PM.

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk