



MINUTES

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

March 24, 2026

Commissioners

Gail Patterson-Gladney, District 1
Mike Chappell, District 2
Kurt Doroh, District 3
David DiStefano, District 4
Mike Toth, 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: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Mike Chappell, Kurt Doroh, David DiStefano, Mike Toth, Tina Leary, Paul Schincariol.

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. March 10, 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented.

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

5. Public Comment

6. Presentation

A. Award Presentation- Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Dan Abbott presented an award to citizen Ricky Holly for his heroic actions on February 28, 2026, in pulling a disabled individual from a house fire in Pine Grove Township.

B. Van Buren Youth Initiative Update

Erin Kucharski gave an update on the Van Buren County Youth Initiative.

7. Administrative Affairs

A. Out of State Travel Request- Sheriff's Office EXPEDITED

Administrator Faul presented the expedited request for out-of-state travel for Detective Orr to attend AX400 Advanced Mobile Data Analysis training in McLean, VA on April 7-9, 2026.

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

of-state travel for Detective Orr to attend AX400 Advanced Mobile Data Analysis training in McLean, VA on April 7-9, 2026.

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

B. Van Buren/Cass District Health Department Board of Health By-Law Amendment

Administrator Faul presented the request for the Van Buren/Cass District Health Department Board of Health to amend their by-laws to remove Article III, Section IV, listing the set agenda for each meeting as it limits discussion abilities.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, amending the Van Buren/Cass District Health Department Board of Health by-laws.

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

C. Approval of Letter of Consistency – Alternative Fuel Technology Facility Authorization

Community Services Director Lisa Ransler presented the request for a Letter of Consistency for Alternative Fuel Technology, LLC supporting EGLE authorization of a processing and transfer facility in Lawton.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, a Letter of Consistency for Alternative Fuel Technology, LLC supporting EGLE authorization of a processing and transfer facility in Lawton.

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

D. Board Calendar - Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) Legislative Conference

Administrator Faul presented the request to reschedule the April 28, 2026 Committee of the Whole and Board of Commissioners meetings to April 30, 2026 in order for the Board Members to attend the MAC Legislative Conference being held April 27-29, 2026.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the rescheduling of the April 28, 2026 meetings to April 30, 2026 to allow Board Members to attend the MAC Legislative Conference.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

8. Buildings and Grounds

9. Finance

A. MST Licensee Agreement

Veronica Stillson presented the request to approve the contract authorizing the court's continued agreement with MST Services for the Multisystemic Therapy Program.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the contract with MST Services.

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

B. FY26 Hyland Contract

Veronica Stillson presented the request to approve the contract with Hyland to provide the OnBase platform. This contract changes the fee structure from a perpetual license to a subscription license and allows the county to minimize annual fee increases while maintaining continuity of operations.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the contract with Hyland to provide the OnBase platform.
Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Mike Toth, Carried

C. Millage Renewal - Van Buren Conservation District Ballot Language

Emily Hickmott presented the request to place the Van Buren Conservation District Millage Renewal Proposal on the August 4, 2026 primary ballot.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, placing the Van Buren Conservatin District Millage Renewal Proposal on the August 4, 2026 primary ballot.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Tina Leary, Carried

D. Millage Renewal - Public Safety Ballot Language

Administrator Faul presented the request to place the Public Safety Millage Renewal Proposal on the August 4, 2026 primary ballot.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, placing the Public Safety Millage Renewal Proposal on the August 4, 2026 primary ballot.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Mike Toth, Carried

E. Millage Renewal - Ambulance Service Ballot Language

Administrator Faul presented the request to place the Ambulance Service Millage Renewal Proposal on the August 4, 2026 primary ballot.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, placing the Ambulance Service Millage Renewal Proposal on the August 4, 2026 primary ballot.

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

10. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts

A. Out of State Travel Approval Policy

Administrator Faul presented the request to approve the adoption of the Out-of-State Travel Approval Policy. The policy would authorize the Administrator and Finance Director to review and approve routine requests. This would streamline the process by not requiring it to be brought before the Board, reserve the right to refer to the Board if necessary, and provide an appeal process if denied.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the adoption of the Out-of-State Travel Approval Policy.

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

B. Holidays Policy - Update

Human Resources Director Anna Blankenship presented the request to update the Holidays Policy to specify the number of hours associated with holiday pay. The County operates with standard full-time schedules of 7.5 or 8-hour workdays, depending on department.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, updating the Holidays Policy to specify the number of hours associated with holiday pay.

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

C. Employment Inquiry Policy

Human Resources Director Anna Blankenship presented the request to establish an Employment Inquiry Policy to formalize the County's practice when responding to employment verification or reference requests. Responses will be limited to confirming date of employment and position held.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, establishing an Employment Inquiry Policy.

Motion by David DiStefano, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

11. Public Transit

A. Scheduling Software Purchase Request

Public Transit Director Laurie Schlipp presented the request to purchase new scheduling software from CTS TripMaster. There is a one-time cost of \$62,272 and a monthly cost of \$1,210.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the purchase of scheduling software from CTS TripMaster in the amount of \$62,272 and a monthly cost of \$1,210.

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

12. Veterans Services

Michael Fossitt introduced the new Veterans Services Officer, Casey Somers.

13. Road Commission Monthly Update

A. Road Commission Monthly Update

Director Bret Withowski presented the Road Commission monthly update.

14. Public Comment

Lisa Ransler introduced the new Community Services Assistant, Jacob Diljak.

15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 02:26 PM.

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk