

County Board of Commissioners

Members

Gail Patterson-Gladney, District 1
Kurt Doroh, District 2
Richard Godfrey, District 3
Mike Chappell, District 4
Randall Peat, District 5
Donald Hanson, District 6
Paul Schincariol, District 7



Contact

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MINUTES April 13, 2021 4:00 PM

1. Call to Order

A. Zoom Meeting Information

On the above date the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at by Richard Godfrey, Chairman of the Board.

The roll was called by County Clerk Suzie Roehm with the following commissioners answering to their name and district: District 1-Gail Patterson-Gladney (remotely from South Haven, Van Buren County, MI); District 2-Kurt Doroh; District 3-Richard Godfrey; District 4-Mike Chappell; District 5-Randy Peat; District 6-Donald Hanson; District 7-Paul Schincariol.

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None.

3. 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 Donald Hanson, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell, Randall Peat, Donald Hanson, Paul Schincariol

4. Approval of Minutes

A. ** Minutes - March 23, 2021
Motion by Donald Hanson, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

5. Public Comment

6. Presentation

7. Administrative Affairs Committee

A. ** Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health
ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA14/4-13-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve an amendment to the Intergovernmental Contract with Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health (SWMBH), and;
WHEREAS, SWMBH is a community mental health regional entity engaged to coordinate the provision of substance abuse disorder services through an intergovernmental contract and funded through the pass through of PA 2 Funds
WHEREAS, this contract was just renewed for the term of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023, and;
WHEREAS, the amendment adds clauses that clarify Article V LIABILITY, to include Section 5.2 Indemnification and Hold Harmless and Article VI MISCELLANEOUS, to include Section 6.14 Nondiscrimination, and;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the amendment to the Intergovernmental Contract with Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health (SWMBH) and authorizes the Board Chair to sign the appropriate documents on its behalf.

Motion by Donald Hanson, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

B. Citizen Proclamation - Lois Jewell
ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA15/4-13-2021

WHEREAS, on February 21, 2021, Lois Jewell, a resident of South Haven, turned 100 years old, and;
WHEREAS, Lois was born in Waukegan, Illinois. She and her family then moved to the west side of Chicago near Maxwell Street. In 1930 they moved to the Southside, and;
WHEREAS, as a teenager she spent summers at the family farm in Kibbie, Michigan, enjoying the beach and shopping excursions in town.
WHEREAS, in 1944 she moved to South Haven and raised her 3 children, George, Ronald and Sandra Ellen Stansberry, where they attended the South Haven School system, and;
WHEREAS, Lois worked as a domestic worker until an employment opportunity opened for her at the South Haven Hospital in the Dietary Service Department.

She worked there from 1966 until 1986 when she retired.

WHEREAS, Lois has been actively involved with the church and her family. Her aunt was Reverend Mary Roland, who was the founder and pastor of Kibbie Community Church. Lois is currently a member of Greater Faith Community Church with Pastor Bernice Thomas.

WHEREAS, Lois has been a resident of Briar Hills since September 1985.

Several of her hobbies are reading and listening to music.

WHEREAS, Lois volunteered at the Senior Citizen Services Building, the Warren Center, putting together the South Haven Tribune.

WHEREAS, in 2021, she enjoyed her wonderful 100th Birthday Celebration "Drive-by", arranged by her good friend, Rosemary Swaggerty.

WHEREAS, Lois Jewell, also known as "Mother" Jewell, is a much loved and respected member of the community and deserving of being honored.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners recognize sMs. Lois Jewell as a loved and respected member of the community within Van Buren County during this wonderful time of her 100th Birthday.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried
Roll Call Vote

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell, Randall Peat, Donald Hanson, Paul Schincariol

C. Board of Commissioners - Four Year Terms

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION F16/4-13-2021

WHEREAS, the 1963 Michigan Constitution stipulated four-year terms for county Board of Supervisors, the preceding body to today's Boards of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature voted in 1966 to abolish Boards of Supervisors and formally replace them with Boards of Commissioners after the 1968 election; and WHEREAS, Public Act 261 of 1966 promulgated that the length of terms for the new county commissioners shall be concurrent with that of state representatives, as specified in Article IV, section 3 of the Michigan Constitution; and WHEREAS, the scope of county government responsibilities has greatly increased in the last century –road patrols, indigent defense, mental health treatment and substance abuse prevention programming, solid waste pick-up and disposal, food and water supply safety, park operations, economic development efforts, emergency management and response; and

WHEREAS, Michigan is one of only five states in the United States that provides for exclusively two-year terms for county commissioners; and

WHEREAS, all other county and township elected officials in Michigan are elected to terms of at least four years; and

WHEREAS, the position of county commissioner is a highly complex oversight role that requires years to master; and

WHEREAS, legislation to amend state law to enact four-year terms has been filled in the form of Senate Bills 242 and 245; and WHEREAS, the Michigan

Association of Counties supports the legislation as introduced.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners supports Senate Bills 242 and 245 to enact four-year terms for county commissioners.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to our State Senator and Representative.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried
Roll Call Vote

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell, Randall Peat, Paul Schincariol

No: Donald Hanson

8. Buildings and Grounds Committee

9. Finance Committee

A. Claims

CLAIMS RESOLUTION C4/4-13-2021

WHEREAS, claims in the amount of \$780,052.15 for March 2021 were submitted and reviewed. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves total claims in the amount of \$780,052.15.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Randall Peat, Carried
Roll Call Vote

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell, Randall Peat, Donald Hanson, Paul Schincariol

B. ** 2021 Data Center Hardware Refresh

FINANCE RESOLUTION F17/4-13-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve the 2021 datacenter refresh proposal, and;
WHEREAS, By June 2021, most of the server hardware in the two datacenters in Paw Paw will be reaching end of life and will need to be replaced. This hardware serves as the main backbone that runs the County's technology resources including BS&A, dispatch functions, jail management, OnBase, remote access...etc, and;

WHEREAS, it is of critical importance to periodically refresh that equipment. Failing to do so leaves the continuity of County operations vulnerable to hardware failure, insecure and exploitable hardware and poor performance, and;
WHEREAS, the Technology Improvement Fund (636.0-228.00-980.004) will be used for this purchase. The recommended proposal is to utilize Sentinel Technologies for a total cost of \$431,197.60 which will leave a remaining fund balance of \$201,033.30

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the proposal from Sentinel Technologies for the 2021 datacenter refresh project and authorizes the Board Chair to sign the appropriate documents on its behalf.

Motion by Donald Hanson, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

C. **Authorization of Sale by Auction of Property

FINANCE RESOLUTION F18/4-13-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to authorize the sale of County-owned property at the Municipal Auction conducted by Biddergy on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, and;
WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Department has a variety of seized/unclaimed property, and;

WHEREAS, the items range from power tools, gasoline cans, electronics and 2 County owned vehicles that have been taken out of service. A 2016 Ford Explorer (Sheriff's Department) and a 2010 Dodge Charger (Friend of the Court), and;

WHEREAS, the revenue impact will not be known until after the auction.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the sale of County-owned property at the Municipal Auction conducted by Biddergy on Tuesday, April 20, 2021.

Motion by Donald Hanson, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

10. Labor Negotiations and Contracts Committee

A. Palisades Recovery Plan - Employment Agreement, Faul

LABOR NEGOTIATIONS AND CONTRACTS RESOLUTION C5/4-13-2021

WHEREAS, the current Employment Agreement with County Administrator John Faul (Employee) and Van Buren County (Employer) expires December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Employee desires to transition from the position of County Administrator into the position of Palisades Project Director, effective July 2, 2021 through December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Employer desires to employ Employee as the Palisades Project Director, subject to the terms and conditions of the attached Agreement, effective July 2, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which consideration is hereby acknowledged, the Employer and the Employee hereby agree to terminate the current Employment Agreement and enter into the attached Employment Agreement for the period of July 2, 2021 through December 31, 2021, and authorize the Board Chair to sign said Agreement.

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried
Roll Call Vote

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell,
Randall Peat, Donald Hanson, Paul Schincariol

B. Palisades Recovery Plan - VBC/Kinexus Services Agreement

LABOR NEGOTIATIONS AND CONTRACTS RESOLUTION L6/4-13-2021

WHEREAS, Van Buren County wishes to enter into an Agreement with Kinexus Group for assistance in attracting the maximum of grant dollars and other monies that can be used to help mitigate the closing of Palisades Nuclear Generating Plant; and;

WHEREAS, Kinexus Group will also support economic, workforce and community development transition services for Van Buren County as Palisades Nuclear Generating Station prepares to close in partnership with a representative to be determined by the County; and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract will be July 2, 2021 through December 31, 2022, with a thirty day out clause for either party for \$190,500.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which consideration is hereby acknowledged, Van Buren County and Kinexus Group hereby agree enter into the attached Agreement for the period of July 2, 2021 through December 31, 2022, and authorize the Board Chair to sign said Agreement.

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried
Roll Call Vote

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell,
Randall Peat, Donald Hanson, Paul Schincariol

11. Transit Committee

A. ** MDOT Contract 2017-0136/P11

TRANSIT RESOLUTION T4/4-13-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve the renewal of MDOT Contract 2017-0136/P11, and;

WHEREAS, this contract is for additional CARES Act Funds and will be based on 8.7% of Transit's estimated eligible costs, and;

WHEREAS, the additional funding will be in the amount of \$177,785.00, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves MDOT Agreement No. 2017-0136/P11 and authorizes the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to execute the appropriate documents on their behalf

Motion by Donald Hanson, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

12. Veteran's Services Committee
13. Public Comment
14. Closed Session
15. Board Correspondence
 - Berrien County Resolution
 - Cheboygen County Resolution (2)
 - Genesee County Resolution
 - Hillsdale County Resolution
16. Committee/Out-Board Assignments
 - Municipalities
 - Finance Department
 - MAC webinar
 - LDFA
 - Brownfield Redevelopment
 - Van Buren County Mental Health
 - Foreign Relations
 - Market Van Buren
 - Road Commission
 - Veterans
 - Administrative Affairs
 - Palisades
 - PFAS
 - Emergency Operations
 - Economic Development
 - Solid Waste Consortium
 - Redistricting
 - Recycling

Administrator Faul:

- Thanked Board for opportunity to serve as Administrator and Palisades Project Director

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m..

Richard Godfrey, Chairperson

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk