



MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

Commissioners

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

September 29, 2021 4:00 PM

County 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 04:09 PM 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: Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell (from Hartford, MI), Randall Peat, Donald Hanson, Paul Schincariol. Gail Patterson-Gladney appeared remotely from South Haven, MI at 4:15 p.m.

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Add: Item 10D Drain Commission Positions

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 amended.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

4. Approval of Minutes

A. **9/14/2021 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

5. Public Comment

The following individuals spoke regarding Domestic Violence Coalition:

Robin Young, Decatur resident

Dave Foerster, Waverly Township resident

Diane Barton, Paw Paw resident

6. Presentation

7. Administrative Affairs Committee

A. **Board of Canvassers Appointment

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA45/9-29-2021

WHEREAS, the recommendation is to appoint two Board of Canvassers Members, one Republican and one Democrat, to a 4-year term commencing November 1, 2021, and;

WHEREAS, Pursuant to MCL.46.1(1) the County Board of Commissioners is required to appoint members to the Board of Canvassers. There are two positions which expire October 31, 2021, and;

WHEREAS, each major political party has submitted names for consideration as required, and;

WHEREAS, on September 14, 2021 at the Committee of the Whole meeting, the Board of Commissioners selected the following nominees to serve on the Board of Canvassers for a 4-year term ending October 31, 2025: Democratic Party: Janet Abshagen; Republican Party: Mary Ann Middaugh, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners appoints Janet Abshagen and Mary Ann Middaugh to the Board of Canvassers.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

B. Re-Appointment of William Van Tassell to the Land Preservation Board
ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA46/9-29-2021

WHEREAS, the recommendation is to re-appoint William VanTassell to the Land Preservation Board, and;

WHEREAS, the appointment would be a two-year term to expire on 5/1/2023, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the re-appointment of William VanTassell to the Land Preservation Board.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

8. Buildings and Grounds Committee

9. Finance Committee

A. ****Sheriff's Department Items To Be Auctioned**

FINANCE RESOLUTION F40/9-29-2021

WHEREAS, the recommendation is to approve the auction or recycling of Sheriff Department items, and;

WHEREAS, the auction items will be listed on Bidergy, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the auction or recycling of Sheriff Department items.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

10. Labor Negotiations and Contracts Committee

A. Veterans Services Officer Salary Exception

LABOR & CONTRACTS RESOLUTION L19/9-29-20221

WHEREAS, the recommendation is to approve the new Veterans Services Officer to start at the 3 year step, R24E of the non-union scale, and;

WHEREAS, an objective of the Veterans millage was to improve the services provided by our Veterans Service Department. One of the methods to do that is to hire a highly

qualified Veterans Services Officer, and;
WHEREAS, the board approved the job description and salary range for this position at R24 (\$38,590.50 - \$52,767.00) but noted it could be adjusted if needed, and;
WHEREAS, based on the experience quality and training of the newly hired VSO a more adequate starting range of R24, Step E (\$48,886.50) is appropriate for the VSO position, and;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the salary exception for the new Veterans Service Officer at R24, Step E, \$48,886.50.

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

B. IT Generalist III Salary & PTO Exception

LABOR & CONTRACTS RESOLUTION L20/9-29-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve a starting salary and PTO accrual exception for the IT Department – Generalist III position at the 3-year step of non-represented pay scale 29 and the 3-year mark for PTO accrual rate. The annual salary rate at this step is \$65,773, and;

WHEREAS, the justification being that Mr. Collin Coe has significant experience in the key fields required for this position, primarily server administration, virtualization, and advanced technical support. Additionally, he brings a breadth of experience with duties, technologies and products secondary to his role as the IT Generalist III, and;
WHEREAS, the IT Generalist III position is a budgeted position that will become vacant on October 8, 2021. The current employee is leaving at the 2-year step (\$61,015.50) and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the salary and PTO exception for the IT Generalist III position at 29E, \$65,773 annually.

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

C. IT Generalist II Salary Exception

LABOR & CONTRACTS RESOLUTION L21/9-29-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve a starting salary exception for the IT Department – Generalist II position at the 1-year step of non-represented pay scale 27. The annual salary rate at this step is \$50,680.50, and;

WHEREAS, the justification being that Mr. Brock Farrington has significant experience in the key fields required for this position, primarily server administration, customer service, and technical troubleshooting. Additionally, he brings a breadth of experience with duties, technologies and products secondary to his role as the IT Generalist II, and;

WHEREAS, the IT Generalist II position is a budgeted position that became vacant on September 17, 2021. The previous incumbent left at the starting step (\$46,117.50), and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the salary for the IT Generalist II position at 27C, \$50,680.50 annually.

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

D. Elimination/Creation of Drain Commission Positions

LABOR & CONTRACTS RESOLUTION L22/9-29-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to authorize the elimination of the Chief Deputy Engineer Position (#04-DR-0001) and create/post a new Chief Deputy Drain Commissioner

position (04-DR-0004).and;

WHEREAS, County Administration and Drain Commissioner met with AFSCME's Supervisory unit to discuss this proposal and have their support moving forward. Given the retirement of Peter Van Dop, the Drain Commissioner would like to remove the Engineer portion of the position. After careful review of the county as a whole and a comparison of wages in other "like" counties, our recommendation is to assign the newly created position at R27 on the AFSCME pay scale. If the board approves this request, once the newly created position is filled, the original position will be eliminated. The drain office has already used outside contracted engineers for large projects. This change will result in 100% contracted services for engineering work, and;

WHEREAS, the result of the change will be a reduction in compensation for the position (R33 \$65,286 - \$87,457.50 reduced to R27 \$45,844.50 - \$62,283.00 on the AFSCME scale), and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the elimination of the Chief Deputy Engineer Position and create/post a new Chief Deputy Drain Commissioner position.

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

11. Public Transit Committee
12. Veterans Services Committee
13. Public Comment
14. Board Correspondence
 - A. Tuscola County Board Resolution
 - B. Muskegon County Resolution
 - C. Kalkaska County Resolution
15. Committee/Out-Board Assignments
 - SW Michigan Action Agency
 - Building & Grounds
 - Grievance
 - Kayak launch
 - Wellness Committee
 - Revenue Sharing
 - PFAS
 - MAC presentations
 - Public Health

Administrator Hardester

- MAC
- Out of State

16. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 04:49 PM.

Richard Godfrey, Chairperson

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk