



MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

September 29, 2021 3:00 PM

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

Committee of the Whole Meeting

1. **Call to Order**
The Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Richard Godfrey, Chairman of the Board. Present in person: Doroh, Godfrey, Peat, Hanson and Schincariol. Present remotely: Patterson-Gladney (South Haven, MI) and Mike Chappell (Hartford, MI). Also noted that Commissioner Patterson-Gladney left the meeting at 3:30 p.m..
2. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**
Add Item 9D: Drain Office Positions
3. **Approval of Agenda**
Motion to approve the agenda as amended.
Motion by Donald Hanson, Second by Randall Peat, Carried
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. **9/14/2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**
Motion to approve the September 14, 2021 Committee of the Whole minutes as presented.
Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried
5. **Presentation**
 - A. **Presentation by Rose Street Advisors**
Ben Cohen, Rose Street Advisors, updated the Board on their work with the County's health benefit plans.
 - B. **Palisades Decommissioning Update**
John Faul, Palisades Project Director, updated the Board on the decommissioning progress.
6. **Administrative Affairs Committee**
 - A. **Transfer of Property to Columbia Township**
Treasurer Nesbitt presented Columbia Townships request to the County to transfer two deeds for small parcels that had not sold at prior year auctions. The township would like to combine some smaller lots to create buildable lots. Supervisor Speicher and Randy Hay addressed the Board on the matter regarding blight and other issues.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the transfer of two parcels of property to Columbia Township and authorize the Board Chair to sign the documents.

Motion by Donald Hanson, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

Yes: Kurt Doroh, Mike Chappell, Donald Hanson, Paul Schincariol

No: Richard Godfrey, Randall Peat

B. Domestic Violence Coalition 2021 - 2022 Services Agreement

Domestic Violence Coalition is requesting a contract renewal for 2021-2022.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the DVC Annual Services Agreement for 2021-2022 in the amount of \$25,000 to be paid in two equal installments.

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

Yes: Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell, Randall Peat, Paul Schincariol

No: Donald Hanson

C. Parks Department for Van Buren County

Commissioner Chappell is requesting to discuss the option to create a County Parks Department.

Motion to direct the Administration Office to research the topic and report back to the Board at a later date.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Randall Peat, Carried

D. Resolution Re: OMA and Remote Participation

Remote participation in public meetings will end on 12-31-2021. Discussion if the Board would like to draft a resolution supporting remote participation beyond the expiration date.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, support of remote participation in public meetings beyond the 12-31-2021 expiration date.

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

Yes: Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell, Randall Peat, Paul Schincariol

No: Donald Hanson

E. Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (BRA) and State-Licensed Marijuana Businesses

Discussion if county policies are needed for Brownfield Redevelopment Authority and other assistance requests involving state-licensed marijuana businesses. The county will not proceed with a county policy.

F. **Re-Appointment of William Van Tassell to the Land Preservation Board, term to expire 5/1/2023**

Motion to approve at today's regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the re-appointment of William Van Tassel to the Land Preservation Board for a two-year term expiring on May 1, 2023.

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

G. **Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Appointment - Lisa Imus**

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Lisa Imus to the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board to fill a current vacancy.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

7. **Buildings & Grounds Committee**

A. **Hazen Street Janitorial Agreement**

Jeff Hall is requesting an agreement with Community Mental Health's Employment Services for janitorial services at Hazen Street,

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, an agreement with Community Mental Health's Employment Services for janitorial services at Hazen Street in the amount of \$1,225 per month, \$14,700 annually.

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

8. **Finance Committee**

9. **Labor, Negotiations and Contracts Committee**

A. **Veterans Services Officer Salary Exception**

David Krzycki, Veteran's Services Director, is requesting a salary exception for the new Veteran's Services Officer to begin at the 3 year step, R24 Step E. This individual has already obtained the required training.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the salary exception for the new VSO employee to the 3 year step, R24 Step E (\$48,886.50).

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

B. **IT Generalist III Salary & PTO Exception**

Charles Norton is requesting a salary and PTO exception for an IT Generalist III due to experience. There is no budget increase.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, a salary exception to the 2-year step, 29D (\$61,015.50) and PTO exception to the 3 year mark (6.12 hrs/pay period) for the IT Generalist III position. Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

C. IT Generalist II Salary Exception

Charles Norton is requesting a salary exception for an IT Generalist II due to experience.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, a salary exception to the 1-year step, 27C (\$50,680.50) for the IT Generalist II position.

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

D. Elimination and Creation of Drain Commission Position

Drain Commissioner Joe Parman is requesting to eliminate a position and create/post a new position. Engineering work will be 100% contracted services.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the elimination of the the Chief Deputy Engineer position and create/post a new Chief Deputy Drain Commissioner position at the R27 pay scale.

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Paul Schincariol, Carried

10. Public Transit Committee

11. Veterans Services Committee

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 04:01 PM.

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk