



MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

December 14, 2021 4:00 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

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 04:27 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: Gail Patterson-Gladney (South Haven, MI), Kurt Doroh, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell, Randall Peat, Donald Hanson, Paul Schincariol

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Addition: Item 7.I. - Area Agency on Aging Appointment

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 Gail Patterson-Gladney, Carried

4. Approval of Minutes

A. **11/23/2021 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

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

5. Public Comment

6. Presentation

7. Administrative Affairs Committee

A. **Global Eagle Company (GECBTS) - eLearning Training Courses

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA58/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve the 3-year proposal from Global Eagle Company for a Countywide web-based training program, and;

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2021 the Committee of the Whole received a demonstration from Global Eagle Company on what the platform will consist of, and;

WHEREAS, the proposed cost is \$27,528.00 annually and will be charged to the

Human Resources budget # 101.0-270.00-910.005, and;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the purchase of the 3 year web-based training program from Global Eagle Company at an annual cost of \$27,528.00.

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

B. ****Extension to the Local State of Emergency for the County of Van Buren**

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA59/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the County of Van Buren, Michigan was informed that in response to the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, a state of emergency was declared by the Governor of the State of Michigan; and
WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the County of Van Buren, Michigan was informed that in response to the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, a national state of emergency was declared by the President of the United States; and
WHEREAS, the Van Buren/Cass District Health Department was partially activated on March 2, 2020, and fully activated on March 17, 2020; and
WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Emergency Operations Center was partially activated on March 25, 2020, in support of Public Health in acquiring resources to deal with the pandemic, and has since been demobilized; however, the Van Buren County Emergency Operations Center remains ready to assist and may be partially or fully activated consistent with the Emergency Operations Plan which has been functioning since March 25, 2020 as necessary; and
WHEREAS, any widespread outbreak within the County of Van Buren could hinder and/or cease most daily operations within the entire County and overwhelm Emergency Medical Services, hospitals and urgent care facilities; and
WHEREAS, the percentage of COVID 19 cases continue to increase in numbers within Van Buren County to a number of higher than last year at this time; and
WHEREAS, as a result of the requirements placed on the local health department personnel (including, but not limited to, education, enforcement, contact tracing, planning, testing and vaccination deployment), additional staff, volunteers, services, supplies/equipment and afforded liability protection may be needed to continue to protect public health; and
WHEREAS, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) rules and orders exist requiring, or advising of, preventive measures to be in place to protect public health, including limitations on gatherings and use of remote technologies; and
WHEREAS, in the absence of a current State of Michigan declared State of Emergency, it is necessary to declare a local State of Emergency.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, in accordance with Section 10 of 1976 PA 390, as amended, hereby declares that a "local state of emergency" continues to exist within our jurisdiction as of December 14, 2021 and that local resources and funding are being utilized to the fullest possible extent, and the Emergency Operations Plan will be partially or fully implemented as this pandemic necessitates.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Declaration, which was scheduled to expire on December 31, 2021, will be extended until and expire on June 30, 2022, unless otherwise extended or repealed by the Board of Commissioners.

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

C. ****CDBG Housing Grant - Program Income Fund Use**

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA60/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to authorize the Board Chair to sign documents presented by Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency related to the \$35,000 Program Income for emergency repairs from the CDBG Housing Grant Program, and;
WHEREAS, a public hearing was recently held to use \$35,000 in federal program income funds for emergency home repairs from the CDBG Housing Grant Program, and;

WHEREAS, Southwest Michigan community Action Agency provides this service to our county and will present documents for approval to use these funds, and;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair to sign documents on behalf of the Board of Commissioners as presented by Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency for CDBG's \$35,000 emergency repair Program Income Funds.

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

D. ****Re-Appointment of Sandy Hanson to the Library Board**

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA61/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to re-appoint Sandy Hanson to the District Library Board, and;

WHEREAS, Sandy Hanson's current term expires on 12/31/2021. The new term will expire in 4 years on 12/31/2025, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the re-appointment of Sandy Hanson to the District Library Board with a term expiration date of 12/31/2025.

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

E. **USDA Lease Offer for 57418 CR 681, Hartford, MI**

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA62/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to authorize County Administrator Frank Hardester to negotiate and sign lease agreement documentation with the USDA for the property located at 57418 CR 681, Hartford, MI, and;

WHEREAS, the property is vacant and available for use due to the departure of Van Buren / Cass District Health Department, and;

WHEREAS, the Van Buren Conservation district and USDA are very interested in leasing the property. The USDA has an in-depth lease application process that must be completed, and;

WHEREAS, if a lease agreement can be reached, this will bring in revenue to the county for use of this vacant space in Hartford, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners authorizes County Administrator Frank Hardester to negotiate and sign lease agreement documentation with the USDA for the property at 57418 CR 681, Hartford, MI.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

F. **Full-Time Mobile Drug Tester Position Creation**

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA63/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, Circuit Court requests approval to create and post a full-time mobile drug tester position for the Van Buren County Specialty Courts, and;

WHEREAS, additional grant funding has been received through 09/2025 and this

position was written into that funding request and would be 100% grant funded. If grant funding is reduced in the future this position will expire, and;
WHEREAS, the hiring of a full-time mobile tester would allow us to test individuals at a number of locations throughout Van Buren County, therefore addressing the current transportation barrier many of our customers face, and;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the request to create and post the position of a Full-Time Mobile Drug Tester.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

G. Appointment of Lisa Imus to the Land Bank Authority
ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA64/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, this request is to appoint Lisa Imler to the Land Bank Authority, and;
WHEREAS, the Land Bank Authority is looking to replace Matthew Newton who was representing local government with the Land Bank Authority. His term expires on 12/31/2021. The Land Bank has chosen Lisa Imler to fill that role, and;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners appoints Lisa Imler to represent local government with the Land Bank Authority for a two-year term to expire on 12/31/2023.

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

H. Tax Adjustment Specialist Salary Exception
ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA65/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to authorize the Treasurer to hire a qualified candidate for the Tax Adjustment Specialist position at an R-23 Step C salary at \$40,696.50, and;
WHEREAS, the Treasurer has selected a qualified candidate to fulfill the Tax Adjustment Specialist position. Larissa Storoshenko is currently the Deputy Treasurer in Alpena Township and has proficient knowledge of BS&A programs, Michigan property taxes, and an associate degree in Business Administration, and;
WHEREAS, this position was budgeted for the FY as a part-time position with GF funding. The difference for the full-time salary is made up by funding from the Tax Forfeiture Fund (520), and;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the salary exception for the Tax Adjustment Specialist at the R-23 Step C salary.

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

I. Area Agency on Aging Appointment - Commissioners Hanson & Patterson-Gladney
ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION AA66/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, this request is to re-appoint Don Hanson and Gail Patterson-Gladney to the Region IV Area Agency on Aging, and;
WHEREAS, the current appointments expire on 12/31/2021, these are two year terms, and;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners re-appoints Don Hanson and Gail Patterson-Gladney to the Region IV Area Agency on Aging for a two-year term to expire on 12/31/2023.

Motion by Kurt Doroh, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

8. Finance Committee

A. Auction of Forfeited Vehicles

FINANCE RESOLUTION F54/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve the auction of 4 vehicles that have been forfeited through narcotics investigations, and;

WHEREAS, During the course of investigations, the Van Buren County Sheriff's Office seized and, through the court process, forfeited those vehicles. These vehicles are now property of Van Buren County and are not in a condition that we can utilize for county use.

2000 Chevrolet Blazer VIN: 1GNCS18W5YK128277

2000 SUZUKI VIN: JS1VS52A2Y2100422

1994 DODGE RAM VAN VIN: 2B7HB21Y0RK183571

2002 CHEVROLET 4 DOOR VIN: 1G1ND52JX2M722285, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the auction of the forfeited vehicles and to utilize Biddergy for the sale of those vehicles.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

B. 2022 Annual Child Care Fund Plan and Budget

FINANCE RESOLUTION F55/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve the 2022 annual childcare fund plan and budget, and;

WHEREAS, the budget for juvenile court for FY 2022 has already been submitted and approved. This plan and budget make it possible for many expenditures that are in the approved juvenile court budget to be reimbursed under the terms of the CCF annual plan and budget, and;

WHEREAS, eligible expenses will receive 50% reimbursement through this agreement with the State of Michigan. The CCF annual plan and budget is not a commitment from the court to spend all of the money in the plan and budget, but rather a commitment from the state that they will reimburse the court for 50% of eligible expenses up to the amount in the annual plan and budget, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the 2022 annual childcare fund plan and budget and for the Board Chair to sign any related documents on the Board's behalf.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

C. Payscale Exception - Chief Probation Officer

FINANCE RESOLUTION F56/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve the pay scale exception for the new Juvenile Court Chief Probation Officer, Clint Cook, to be placed on the Court Association pay scale at range and step 28E, and;

WHEREAS, this internal applicant was interviewed and promoted to the position of Chief Probation Officer, and;

WHEREAS, the court's proposal to pay him an annual salary of \$66,612, is an increase of \$5,114 annually, 50% of which is reimbursed by the childcare fund. The court believes this annual salary increase is appropriate for this supervisory position. The net cost in 2022 after childcare fund reimbursement would be \$2,557, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Van Buren County Board of

Commissioners approves the pay scale exception for the new Juvenile Court Chief Probation Officer, Clint Cook, to be placed on the Court Association pay scale at a range of step 28E with an annual salary of \$66,612.00 effective 12/6/2021.

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

D. Ivanti Endpoint Management Software Purchase

FINANCE RESOLUTION F57/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, The Information Technology department is requesting authorization to purchase an endpoint management software package from Ivanti. The total costs for software licensing, deployment services, and three years of support and maintenance are \$41,263.48, and;

WHEREAS, endpoint management software is the cornerstone of any IT Department's ability to centrally manage, deploy, and update computers across the organization. The County's current solution is antiquated, highly unreliable, and without vendor support. The inability to effectively and reliably deploy software and security updates to user computers and server systems significantly increases the risks of a potential security breach, and;

WHEREAS, the largest portion of the proposed expenses are the up-front costs for software licensing and professional services for deployment. The annual recurring costs are not significant and can be absorbed by the Technology Improvement fund. The budget account used to fund this purchase will be 636.0.228.00.801.015, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the purchase of the endpoint management software package from Ivanti for a total cost of \$41,263.48.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

E. National Opioid Settlement

FINANCE RESOLUTION F58/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to authorize the board chair to sign off on legal documents related to the National Opioid Settlement, and;

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2021, the County Administrator registered for the county to be listed as a subdivision in the State of Michigan, which allows us to be eligible to receive funds from the National Opioid Settlement. As a result, we are in receipt of documentation that needs to be signed by our board chair, and;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Associations of Counties recommends that we submit this paperwork and it has been approved by our legal counsel, and;

WHEREAS, no costs will be incurred at the county. Depending on the terms of the settlement, we will be entitled to receive a portion of the settlement agreement, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Board Chair to sign any legal documents related to the National Opioid Settlement.

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

F. Claims

CLAIMS RESOLUTION C12/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, claims in the amount of \$16,600,756.11 for November 2021 were submitted and reviewed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves total claims in the amount of \$16,600,756.11.

Motion by Paul Schincariol, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

9. Labor, Negotiations, and Contracts Committee

A. **One Year Contract Extension for AFSCME Local 2628.12 (Public Transit)

LABOR & NEGOTIATIONS RESOLUTION L27/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, the request is to approve the one-year contract extension with Public Transit's AFSCME Local 2628.12, and:

WHEREAS, Public Transit's contract with AFSCME Local 2628.12 is scheduled to expire 12/31/2021. In an effort to sync all negotiations in the timeframe, the county administration met with the union to discuss extending the existing agreement by 1 year, and;

WHEREAS, the agreement also offers a 2% increase on the pay scale used by AFSCME Local 2628.12. The union met with their membership and held a ratification vote on 11/9/2021 approving the proposal to extend the collective bargaining agreement, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the one-year contract extension with Public Transit's AFSCME Local 2628.12 with a 2% pay increase in 2022 and authorizes the Board Chair to sign the agreement on the Board's behalf.

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

B. **2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant Americans Rescue Plan Act (EMPG ARPA) agreement package

LABOR & NEGOTIATIONS RESOLUTION L28/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, this request is to approve the 2021 EMPG ARPA Grant Agreement from the State of Michigan, and:

WHEREAS, the state received 2.5 million in supplemental ARPA funds which have been awarded from the Federal Level. 1.3 million of this funding is to go to local partners to assist with the 50% match program for salary and fringe benefits of Emergency Managers, and;

WHEREAS, the requirements of this grant are the same as the normal Emergency Management Performance Grant that is accepted every year. The additional grant awarded to the Van Buren County Emergency Management Program was 17.13% of the local funds or \$19,244.00 for program manager's salary and fringe benefits, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the 2021 EMPG ARPA Grant Agreement from the State of Michigan and for the Board Chair to sign on the Board's behalf.

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

10. Public Transit Committee

A. **Appointment to the Public Transit Local Advisory Council - Melanie Giddings

TRANSIT RESOLUTION T10/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, this request is to appoint Melanie Giddings to the Public Transit Advisory

Council, and:

WHEREAS, a council member did not re-apply when their term expired on 7/1/2021 leaving a vacancy. Therefore, Melanie's 4-year term will expire on 7/1/2025, and;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves appointment of Melanie Giddings to the Public Transit Advisory Council.

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

B. ****MDOT Master Agreement 2022-0144**
TRANSIT RESOLUTION T11/12-14-2021

WHEREAS, this request is for approval of the MDOT Master Agreement 2022-0144 which covers federal and capital funding for fiscal years 2022 through 2025, and for the Board Chair to digitally sign on the Board's behalf, and:
WHEREAS, MDOT issues each transit agency a new master agreement every four fiscal years. The purpose of the agreement is to make Federal and/or state grant funds available to Transit for the costs of eligible projects that promote or benefit public transportation. This agreement sets forth the terms and conditions for any and all project authorizations issued under the agreement., and;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the MDOT Master Agreement 2022-0144 for fiscal years 2022 through 2025, and for the Board Chair to digitally sign on the Board's behalf.

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

11. Public Comment

12. Closed Session

A. Closed Session to discuss litigation related to Wayside.

Motion to enter into Executive Session under Section 8e of the Open Meetings Act to discuss litigation related to Wayside.

Motion by Randall Peat, Second by Kurt Doroh, Carried

Roll Call Vote: All Yes

Board went into closed session at 4:46 p.m.

Board returned from closed session at 5:30 p.m.

13. Board Correspondence

A. Ogemaw County Resolution

B. South Haven Public Hearing Notice

C. Alpena County Resolution

14. Committee/Out-Board Assignments

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 05:37 PM.

Richard Godfrey, Chairperson

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk