



MINUTES

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

January 11, 2022 10:00 AM

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

ARPA Committee Meeting

1. Call to Order

Committee Members Present: Commissioner Paul Schincariol (Chair), Commissioner Gail Patterson-Gladney, Commissioner Kurt Doroh, County Administrator Frank Hardester, Treasurer Trisha Nesbitt, Finance Director Ryan Post

Others in attendance: Commissioner Don Hanson, Trial Court Administrator Rachel Lindley, Director of SHAWSA William Hunter, CEO of Bloomingdale Communications Steve Schults

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Commissioner Patterson-Gladney; Supported by Commissioner Doroh; Motion: Carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

A. 12/14/2021 ARPA Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the 12/14/2021 ARPA Committee Meeting Minutes by Commissioner Doroh; Supported by Ryan Post; Motion: Carried.

5. Public Comment

Steve Schults, CEO of Bloomingdale Communications, stood up to give an update on broadband. He explained that they established contracts for bids and have come up under the original budget. Mr. Schults reported that they are working with attorneys about possible USDA funding, but there still are no definite answers. He will revise his proposal request to reflect the updated contract amounts.

6. Agenda Items

A. ARPA Update

Administrator Hardester presented the ARPA Update.

- The US Department of Treasury released their final rule on 1/6/2022. There have been some changes; for example, one of those changes is a standard loss revenue amount of \$10 million.
- We have formally approved the use of ARPA funds in the amount of \$4,386,541.23 to date. If the Board approves the recommended \$7 Million allocation for broadband, \$3,312,829 will remain.

- Administrator Hardester recommends changing the ARPA Committee meeting to once per month, immediately following the Finance Committee meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at 3:00 PM.

Motion to change the ARPA Committee meeting schedule as recommended by Commissioner Doroh; Support Treasurer Nesbitt; Motion: Carried.

- Administrator Hardester stated the Sheriff has indicated that he would like to request to remove the Bearcat Armored Vehicle from the ARPA proposal list.

Motion to remove the Bearcat Armored Vehicle proposal from the ARPA fund request by Commissioner Patterson-Gladney; Support by Commissioner Doroh; Motion Carried.

B. Proposal # 013 - HVAC - Administration Building

Administrator Hardester reported that there is discussion scheduled for the Committee of the Whole meeting today to discuss capital improvement projects, and these items could possibly be placed on that list. Therefore, he is recommending tabling this item and item C for the next ARPA Committee meeting.

Motion to table items B & C, ARPA Proposal # 013 and ARPA Proposal # 014, for the next ARPA Committee meeting on 2/1/22 meeting by Commissioner Doroh; Supported by Commissioner Patterson-Gladney; Motion: Carried.

C. Proposal # 014 - Windows - Administration Building

This item was tabled to the next ARPA Committee meeting scheduled for 2/1/2022. Motion carried under item B.

D. Proposal # 022 - Lead Service Replacement - South Haven Area Water & Sewer Authority

William Hunter presented his proposal to replace lead services in the South Haven area, using ARPA funds for the amount of \$2,019,581.00. Rate increases for consumers will also occur. This is a long-term project that requires them to make these changes over the next 20 years at a total cost of \$15 Million. The first year will cost them \$640,625.000. Discussion ensued.

Recommendations to reach out to the local municipalities for additional funding. Administrator Hardester recommended that Mr. Hunter amend his proposal after seeking other funding, then bring it back to this committee.

Motion to have the requester amend his proposal and bring it back to this committee on 2/1/2022 by Administrator Hardester; Support by Commissioner Patterson-Gladney; Motion: Carried.

E. Proposal #019 - VBC Children's Advocacy Center

Administrator Hardester reported that this was placed back on this committee's agenda for formality's sake. This is going before the Board under a different funding source and it should be removed from the ARPA proposal list.

Motion to remove this item from the ARPA proposal list by Commissioner Doroh; Support Commissioner Patterson-Gladney; Motion: Carried.

F. Proposal # 023 VBC Court and Sheriff's Office File Digitization

Trial Court Administrator Rachel Lindley presented her collaborative request between the court and the Sheriff's Office for the funding to utilize an outside source, Data Guardian, to digitize all files at a cost of \$680,592.00.

Administrator Hardester questioned if there was any consideration for using alternate space to hold the files. Ms. Lindley responded that is an option, keeping in mind that staff still need to be able to access the files and digitization will eliminate the time of going to find the file, maintaining the paper copies and re-filing. Discussion ensued.

Motion to table this item until after holding a meeting to discuss options is completed by Commissioner Doroh; Support by Treasurer Nesbitt; Motion: Carried.

G. Proposal # 024 Caring Network Maternal Infant Health Program

Administrator Hardester reported that Item 6G will need to be postponed as the requester was not able to attend today's meeting, the item will be placed on the next ARPA agenda.

7. Public Comment

None

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner Doroh; Supported by Administrator Hardester; Motion: Carried.

Meeting adjourned: 11:35 AM