



MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Chambers
219 East Paw Paw Street

February 8, 2022 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 03:27 PM by Paul Schincariol, Vice-Chairman of the Board. Present: Patterson-Gladney, Doroh, Godfrey, Chappell, Hanson and Schincariol. Absent and Excused: Peat.

2. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**

Delete:

- 6.A.
- 8.D.
- 9.A.
- 10.A.
- 11 B. & C.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion by Gail Patterson-Gladney, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Richard Godfrey, Mike Chappell, Donald Hanson, Paul Schincariol

No: Kurt Doroh

4. **Approval of Minutes**

A. **1/25/2022 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented.

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

5. **Public Comment**

Geoff Moffat, Almena Township Treasurer, spoke in support of ARPA Proposal #17.

6. **Presentation**

A. **MSU Extension Annual Report**

Julie Pioch, MSUE District Director, presented the Van Buren County 2021 Annual Report. Staff members Cheyenne Sloan, Georgina Perry and Janice Zerbe also spoke briefly.

B. Committee Meeting Structure and Scheduling

Item removed from Agenda.

7. Administrative Affairs Committee

A. Re-Appointment of Mike Toth to the Economic Development Corporation

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the re-appointment of Mike Toth to the Economic Development Corporation for a six-year term expiring February 13, 2028.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

B. Appointment of Jan Petersen to Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the appointment of Jan Petersen to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for a two-year term expiring on December 31, 2023.

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

C. Re-appointment of Matt Newton to Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the re-appointment of Matt Newton to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for a two-year term expiring on December 31, 2023.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Donald Hanson, Carried

D. Re-appointment of Sandra Hanson to Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the re-appointment of Sandra Hanson to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for a two-year term expiring on December 31, 2023.

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

8. ARPA Committee

A. Proposal # 017 - Broadband - Bloomingdale Communications (build areas in Almena Twnshp)

Steve Schults gave a brief overview of the broadband expansion.

Motion to table item for further information.

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

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, Donald Hanson

No: Mike Chappell, Paul Schincariol

Abstain: Richard Godfrey

B. Proposal #018 - Broadband - Midwest Energy & Communications - Hamilton Twp Project

Motion to table item for further information.

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

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, Mike Chappell, Donald Hanson

No: Richard Godfrey, Paul Schincariol

Abstain: None

C. **Proposal # 027 - Broadband - Midwest Energy & Communications
Keeler Township**

Motion to table item for further information.

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

Yes: Gail Patterson-Gladney, Kurt Doroh, Mike Chappell, Donald Hanson

No: Richard Godfrey, Paul Schincariol

Abstain: None

D. **Proposal # 023 - VBC Court and Sheriff's Office File Digitization**

Item removed from agenda.

9. **Buildings & Grounds Committee**

A. **CIP Abbreviated List**

Item removed from agenda.

10. **Finance Committee**

A. **2022-2023 911 Local Surcharge Collection**

911 Director Tim McGee presented the request for the annual resolution to collect the 911 Local Surcharge for the 2022-2023 collection period.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the 2022-2023 911 Local Surcharge Collection Resolution as approved by voters for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

Motion by Mike Chappell, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

B. **911 CPE (Customer Premise Equipment) - Phone Hardware
Replacement**

911 Director Tim McGee is requesting to replace/refresh 911 CPE phone equipment.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the 911 Customer Premise Equipment purchase from InDigital in the amount of \$72,275.68.

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

C. **Retirement and Adoption of K9 Aspen**

K9 handler Scott Schmitt has retired and is requesting to adopt K9 Aspen.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of

Commissioners, the adoption of K9 Aspen by retired K9 handler Scott Schmitt for the purchase price of \$1.

Motion by Donald Hanson, Second by Mike Chappell, Carried

11. Labor, Negotiations and Contracts Committee

A. Part Time Position Change to Full Time - Public Transit

Public Transit Director Laurie Schlipp is requesting two part-time driver positions be changed to two full-time positions due to staff shortages.

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, changing two part-time driving positions in Public Transit to two full-time positions.

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

B. Project Director Position Creation

Item removed from Agenda.

C. Position Reclassification

Item removed from agenda.

D. Public Transit - Letter of Understanding

Motion to approve by resolution at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, a Letter of Understanding with Public Transit to place AFSCME members on the AFSCME unified pay scale effective February 23, 2022.

Motion by Donald Hanson, Second by Richard Godfrey, Carried

12. Veterans Services Committee

A. Approval for Additional MVAA Funds

Van Buren Veterans Services has been granted additional MVAA funds in the amount of \$12,086.

Motion to approve by resolution at today's meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the amendment for the additional MVAA funds in the amount of \$12,086 and authorize the board Vice-Chair to sign related documents.

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

13. Public Comment

Bill Van Tassell, Almena Township Supervisor, spoke in support of ARPA Proposal #17.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 04:12 PM.

Suzie Roehm, County Clerk