



DECEMBER 2022
VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION MONTHLY ACTIVITY

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HIGHLIGHTS

- 1. Proclamation for Commissioner Hanson's Years of Service** – Commissioner Hanson was honored and recognized by Senator Aric Nesbitt, Representative Beth Griffin, the Historical Society and other groups and individuals for his years of service with Van Buren County. A Certificate of Proclamation was presented by the Board of Commissioners.
- 2. Sworn-In Ceremony** – The Board welcomed Commissioner Tina Leary as she was sworn-in to take over representing District 6th, formally represented by Commissioner Donald Hanson.
- 3. VBEMS Contract Renewal** – VBEMS is seeking a contract renewal for a, was approved.
- 4. Bargaining Unit Agreements** – The Board of Commissioners approved the pay increase of 6% in 2023, 3% in 2024 and 3% in 2025 for all bargaining units and non-represented employees at Van Buren County.
- 5. ARPA Proposal #029 Road Commission CR 388** – The Board approved the request to use ARPA funds under Category 6 (loss revenue) for the County Road 388 project. CR388 from CR653 to 22nd Street (Van Kai), trench and widen the existing roadway, crush, and shape the existing pavement and place a new asphalt surface. This falls into category 6 as replacing public sector revenue loss as well as category 2, addressing negative economic impacts of COVID-19.
- 6. 2023 Marijuana Operation and Oversight Grant Program** – The Board approved the request for Community Health to submit a renewal grant application on behalf of Van Buren County. The Cannabis Regulatory Agency (CRA) is preparing to administer the 2023 Marijuana Operation and Oversight Grant program for Michigan counties. These grants, which are available to counties, will only be approved for education, communication, and outreach regarding the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act and the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act.
- 7. ARPA Proposal # 031 - Van Buren Cass District Health Department** – The Board approved the request to use ARPA funds under Category 6 (loss revenue) to the Van Buren/Cass District Health Department. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 and 2021 estimated loss of revenue at the Van Buren County Community Dental Clinics (Hartford and Mattawan) was \$818,398 and \$700,346, respectively, for a total estimated loss in Van Buren County of \$1,518,744. VBCDHD is requesting \$220,000 in ARPA funds to cover 14% of the total VB County revenue lost.
- 8. Claims** – Claims in the amount of \$7,962,676.16 were approved for the month of December 2022.

- 9. Replacement Phone Handset Purchase Request**– The desk phone handsets used across the County need replacement. They are models that came out 10 years ago and are no longer supported by our phone system vendor. total costs for the replacements are \$20,307.88. This is a planned, budgeted expense to be taken from the Technology Improvement Fund. The request to purchase and replace the phone handsets, was approved.

Re-Appointments/Appointments

- 1. Appointment to the Public Transit Local Advisory Council - Nicole Handy** - There was a vacancy on the Public Transit Local Advisory Council and the request for the appointment of Nicole Handy to join the Public Transit Local Advisory Council with an expiration date of 12/03/2026, was approved.
- 2. Parks Commission Appointment - Paul Garrod** - There was a vacancy on the Parks Commission and Paul Garrod is seeking appointment. Paul Garrod has been a part of other local Boards, United Christian Services, Former chairperson for the Lawrence Ox Roast and Homecoming Committee for 33 years, and Van Buren Youth Fair Board member for 22 years. The appointment to the Parks Commission was approved.
- 3. Remonumentation Committee Appointment - Kate Hosier** - Kate Hosier, City Manager of South Haven, is also a part of the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. It was approved to appoint Kate Hosier to the Remonumentation Committee to fill a vacancy for the representative of Villages and Cities.
- 4. Road Commission Re-Appointment - Douglas Burleson** - The request is to appoint Douglas Burleson to the Van Buren County Road Commission for a six-year term to expire December 31, 2028. Douglas Burleson's term expired on December 31, 2022 and is seeking re-appointment for a term expiration of December 31, 2028, was approved.

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