

MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
 MARCH 21, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting in the City of Monroe on Tuesday, March 21, 2023. Chairman Mark Brant called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll call by Deputy Clerk, Lisa Sanders, as follows:

PRESENT			ABSENT
Mark Brant	Randy Richardville	Greg Moore, Jr. (arrived at 6:01)	David Hoffman
Dawn Asper	David Vensel	J. Henry Lievens	
Jay Heinzerling	David Swartout		

A quorum being present, the Board proceeded to conduct business.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Heinzerling led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. OPENING PRAYER

Deputy Clerk, Lisa Sanders led the Opening Prayer.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Swartout to approve the March 21, 2023 Regular Meeting Agenda as presented.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (03/07/2023 Regular Meeting)

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Asper to approve the minutes as presented for the March 7, 2023 Regular Meeting and waive the reading thereof.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT—

1. Pastor Heather Boone, Oaks of Righteousness Christian Ministries—She announced that the Homeless Shelter has reopened. She said they are the largest Homeless Shelter in Monroe County with 75 beds. They do a food pantry, clothes closet, soup kitchen, non-profit grocery store, and have the only free medical clinic in Monroe County. They have a Mobile Recovery Unit already existing where people receive Vivitrol shots or Naloxone and other things to deal with opioid and alcohol addiction. They have AA meetings as well. She invited the Commissioners to come out and see what they do.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS, SPECIAL TRIBUTES & PRESENTATION—

1. Presentation by Roger Bezek, Monroe County Farm Bureau and President Doug Darling, Michigan Farm Bureau Director and County Farm Bureau Public Policy Committee member with delivery of the 2023 Michigan Farm Bureau Policy Books. Monroe County has 1,100 members who make farming, ranching and support of local agriculture possible. Today is National Agriculture Day that is a day set aside to recognize the contributions that American agriculture makes towards feeding, clothing and providing multiple products for this nation and the world. The annual banquet will be held this year at the Matthes Tree Farm on the 3rd or 4th Thursday in September. Policy is created at the local level first. Delegate members meet once a year to discuss and approve policies.

2. Resolution Authorizing Entry of Participation Agreements in Partial Settlement of the National Prescription Opiate Litigation and Entry of State and Local Government Intrastate Agreement Concerning Allocation of Settlement Proceeds.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Swartout, to adopt the Resolution and authorize the Chairman to execute the Resolution and the Administrator/Chief Financial Officer to execute the Participation Agreements as the authorized officer.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Mark Brant	Randy Richardville	Greg Moore, Jr.		David Hoffman	
Dawn Asper	David Vensel	J. Henry Lievens			
Jay Heinzerling	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

IX. FINANCE MATTERS—None

1. Approval of the 03/22/2023 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of \$486,138.39.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to accept the 03/22/2023 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report for \$486,138.39 and approve the Claims for the date and amount presented.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Mark Brant	Randy Richardville	Greg Moore, Jr.		David Hoffman	
Dawn Asper	David Vensel	J. Henry Lievens			
Jay Heinzerling	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Non-Claims
 - a. Check Register dated 03/10/2023 in the amount of \$511,473.38
 - b. Check Register dated 03/17/2023 in the amount of \$674,201.60

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to confirm the Non-Claims payments as presented on the agenda for the dates and amounts listed.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Mark Brant	Randy Richardville	Greg Moore, Jr.		David Hoffman	
Dawn Asper	David Vensel	J. Henry Lievens			
Jay Heinzerling	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

2. Operations Committee-Report of Committee Chairman from 03/15/2023 meeting was given by Commissioner Randy Richardville. He explained that the items below were unanimously approved by the Committee and recommends that the Board approve them. Link to Operations Committee 03/15/2023 Agenda Packet: [HERE](#)
 - a. Letter dated February 9, 2023, from Judge Cheryl Lohmeyer, Chief Probate Judge, requesting approval to add a part-time Records Process Clerk position to the Probate Court. Funding is included in the 2023 Budget.
 - b. Letter dated March 15, 2023 from Ms. Stacey Goans, Employment and Training Director, requesting approval for the Employment and Training Reorganization Plan.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Lievens approve recommendations of the Operations Committee as presented.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Mark Brant	Randy Richardville	Greg Moore, Jr.		David Hoffman	
Dawn Asper	David Vensel	J. Henry Lievens			
Jay Heinzerling	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

Board Action:

1. Letter dated March 14, 2023 from Mr. Chris Westover, Environmental Health Director requesting approval to accept a grant award for a Scrap Tire Clean-Up program in the amount of \$20,000 from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). There is no match requirement for this grant.

Chairman Brant read the request into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Lievens to accept the communication, place it on file and approve the request to accept a grant award for a Scrap Tire Clean-Up program in the amount of \$20,000 from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) with no matching funds required.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Mark Brant	Randy Richardville	Greg Moore, Jr.		David Hoffman	
Dawn Asper	David Vensel	J. Henry Lievens			
Jay Heinzerling	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

2. Letter dated March 13, 2023 from Mr. Jeff McBee, Community Planning & Engagement Director requesting a letter of interest and support from the Monroe County Board of Commissioners for the Cleveland-Toledo-Detroit corridor passenger rail project.

Chairman Brant read the request into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to accept the communication, place it on file and approve the request for a letter of interest and support from the Monroe County Board of Commissioners for the Cleveland-Toledo-Detroit corridor passenger rail project and authorize the Chairman to sign the accompanying letter.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

3. Letter dated March 14, 2023 from Mr. Jeff McBee, Community Planning & Engagement Director submitting a Summary of a Farmland/Open Space review/recommendation from the County Planner and to approve the application to the Farmland and Open Space Preservation program (part 361 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act) for property in London Township and Dundee Township.

Chairman Brant read the recommendation into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Swartout to accept the communication along with the Summary of Farmland review/recommendation to approve the application to the Farmland and Open Space Preservation program for property in London Township and in Dundee Township, place on file and approve the recommendation of the County Planner.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

4. Letter dated March 16, 2023 from Mr. Mark Brant, Chairman, Board of Commissioners, submitting recommended appointments of individuals and corresponding terms of office to the Monroe County Community Mental Health Authority Board.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to accept the communication, place it on file and confirm the Chairman’s recommended appointments of individuals with corresponding terms of office to the Monroe County Community Mental Health Authority Board.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Mark Brant	Randy Richardville	Greg Moore, Jr.		David Hoffman	
Dawn Asper	David Vensel	J. Henry Lievens			
Jay Heinzerling	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS—None

XIII. OLD BUSINESS—None

XIV. NEW BUSINESS—None

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT—None

XVI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Copies of any Tributes or Certificates issued since the March 7, 2023 meeting: CAN Council Child Abuse Awareness

XVII. MEMBERS TIME

Commissioner Lievens— Thank you Roger and Doug for coming out and I thank you for your work. Would like to see Chris Westover at one of these meetings; he used to come when the Scrap Tire grant was on the agenda. I’m looking forward to positive things from our appointees to Community Mental Health.

Commissioner Asper—Happy National Ag Day. I really enjoyed your event last year. I appreciate that you have very family oriented and constitutional values.

Commissioner Hoffman—Excused

Commissioner Richardville—I’d like to congratulate the appointees to the Community Mental Health Board. I’d like to acknowledge 2 people who served for many years on the CMH Board and they are Jim Neumann and Gloria Rafko.

Commissioner Brant—I hope that with these new appointments we can have the best people to serve and give direction to Community Mental Health. We did not want to eliminate all the institutional knowledge and kept a couple of the previous members on. I’d like to see the 4 new members turned into dedicated public servants.

All other members and Mr. Bosanac passed.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT—Chairman Brant adjourned the meeting at 6:27 p.m. with no further business to conduct.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lisa E. Sanders

Lisa E. Sanders

Deputy Clerk/Administrative Assistant

Monroe County Board of Commissioners