

MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
 APRIL 18, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting in the City of Monroe on Tuesday, April 18, 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.	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 Richardville 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 Moore to approve the April 18, 2023 Regular Meeting Agenda as presented.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (04/04/2023 Regular Meeting)

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Moore to approve the minutes as presented for the April 4, 2023 Regular Meeting and waive the reading thereof.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT—None

VIII. RESOLUTIONS, SPECIAL TRIBUTES & PRESENTATION—None

IX. FINANCE MATTERS—None

1. Approval of the 04/19/2023 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of \$1,318,113.03

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to accept the 04/19/2023 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report for \$1,318,113.03 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.

2. Revenues, expenditures and cash balance report for 1st quarter ending March 31, 2023.

Mr. Michael Bosanac, County Administrator/Chief Financial Officer explained the report.

No action required.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Non-Claims
 - a. Check Register dated 04/07/2023 in the amount of \$423,758.48
 - b. Check Register dated 04/14/2023 in the amount of \$874,814.96

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner 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 04/12/2023 meeting was given by Commissioner Richardville. He asked Judge Nichols, Ms. Osment and Ms. Paladino to come to the podium and explain their requests. Discussion commenced and questions were asked and answered.

Link to Operations Committee 04/12/2023 Agenda Packet: [HERE](#)

- a. Letter dated March 31, 2023, from Chief Judge Mark Braunlich and Judge William Paul Nichols, 38th Circuit Court, requesting approval to create a part-time Adult Drug Treatment Court Coordinator position in the Adult Drug Treatment Court. Funding is included in the grant budget.
- b. Letter dated March 31, 2023, from Ms. Annamarie Osment, Monroe County Clerk-Register of Deeds requesting approval to re-organize the Vital Records/ Elections Division of the County Clerk’s office.

- c. Letter dated March 28, 2023, from Ms. Jessica Paladino, Monroe County Indigent Defense Managing Attorney, requesting approval to transition the part-time Coordinator position to a full-time position effective upon approval of the County and MIDC with funding in the FY23 grant. Additionally, request approval of the County to create a part-time Secretary position and include this position in next grant application for FY24 to Michigan Indigent Defense Commission.

- d. Letter dated March 21, 2023, from Ms. Kim Comerzan, Health Officer submitting a succession and staffing plan for the Public Health Department.

Motion by Commissioner Swartout, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to approve the recommendations of the Operations Committee as reported and 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 April 13, 2023 from Mr. Michael Bosanac, Administrator/Chief Financial Officer confirming support of the leadership succession plan for the Public Health Officer/Director and outlining the need for the Board Chairman to send a letter to the State of Michigan’s Department of Health and Human Services submitting the name and credentials of Ms. Jamie Dean as Public Health Officer/Director and authorizing this action.

Chairman Brant read the request into the record. Discussion commenced.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Swartout to accept the communication, place it on file and authorize the Board Chairman to send a letter to the State of Michigan’s Department of Health and Human Services submitting the name and credentials of Ms. Jamie Dean as Public Health Officer/Director.

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 April 18, 2023 from Ms. Holly Flint, Community Corrections Coordinator, requesting approval to submit an application for the FY2024 Community Corrections Grant in the amount of \$402,200 with a County match of \$28,092. Historically, the General Fund has contributed

approximately 25%, subject to final grant approval. Upon approval from the State, the grant may provide funding for associated administrative costs (not to exceed 30%) and seven (7) felony offender programs.

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 submitting the application for the FY 2024 Community Corrections grant in the amount of \$402,200 with County matching funds of \$28,092.

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.

- Letter dated April 11, 2023 from Ms. Olivia Webb, Director, Animal Control Division, Sheriff's Office, requesting approval to submit a grant application to the organization Two Seven Oh, Inc., in the amount of \$10,000 with no matching funds required. The grant would provide funding for spay and neutering of stray dogs and cats as well as vaccinations prior to their adoptions.

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 to apply for a grant in the amount of \$10,000 to Two Seven Oh, Inc. 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.

- Letter dated April 13, 2023 from Ms. Jessica Paladino, Managing Attorney, Monroe County Indigent Defense, submitting the Fiscal Year 2024 Michigan Indigent Defense Commission compliance plan, cost analysis and grant application in the total amount of \$3,005,789.76 (updated from \$2,986,589.76) with the County's local share match cost match amount of \$217,687.41 for a total program cost of 3,223,477.17 (updated from \$3,204,277.17). The County match is included in the 2023 budget for the period October 1-December 31, 2023. The balance of the state fiscal year match January 1-September 30, 2024 will be included in the 2024 County budget.

Chairman Brant read the request into the record. Ms. Paladino explained that the amounts are updated from her original letter and that Standard 8 was approved and that was the biggest change in the compliance plan.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to accept the communication and confirm the grant application submission of state grant funding in the amount of \$3,005,789.76 and the County’s local share cost of \$217,687.41 for fiscal year 2024 for a total program cost of \$3,223,477.17 with the County local match amount is included in 2023 budget and will be included in the 2024 County budget subject to final grant award.

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.

- Letter dated April 12, 2023 from Undersheriff Jeff Pauli, Sheriff’s Office, submitting a request to approve a School Resource Officer agreement with the Summerfield school district for law enforcement services at their schools for the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year. The school district would cover 66.6% of the overall employee costs for the school year and the County of Monroe would cover the remaining share of 33.4%. The maximum cost to the County for the balance of 2023 is \$15,352 with the cost to be charged to the Sheriff’s Office budget subject to a possible supplemental appropriation to cover any remaining shortfall in the 2023 budget.

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 to authorize the Chairman to execute the school resource officer agreement with the Summerfield school district. Further, the agreement will provide for a cost sharing allocation of 66.6% to the school district and 33.4% to the County with the maximum cost to the County for the balance of 2023 of \$15,352 subject to a possible additional appropriation in 2023.

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.

- Letter dated April 12, 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 Whiteford Township.

Chairman Brant read the request into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling 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 Whiteford Township, place it on file and approve the recommendation of the County Planner.

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 April 4, 2023 meeting: None

XVII. MEMBERS TIME

Commissioner Vensel—With regard to the MIDC grant application, I had a very productive meeting with Jessica Paladino, Aundrea and Mike. I was reading there are 20 funding units that have transitioned from an assigned counsel to a public defender’s office between 2018 and 2021, including Lenawee and Washtenaw Counties. My request to the three of them is to see if we could possibly study the benefits of moving to that type of a system. In the very scholarly article that I read, it lists the benefits and the disadvantages of this type of system. What stood out to me is the increased ability to collaborate and work as a team on cases as well as broader advocacy objectives. So, as you are working with the indigent you are helping with their case but you are also helping them to get well and maybe making referrals to different agencies that can support them. I would really be interested to look at how that would be structured if we tried it in Monroe County. Possibly, we could talk to some leaders from Lenawee and Washtenaw counties to see how it’s working for them.

Commissioner Moore—Facetiously, Happy Tax Day everyone!

Commissioner Asper—I would like to support the comments that Commissioner Vensel made. I know we’ve looked at that a little bit before as far as what the advantages and costs would be. I’m just glad that finally something was done under Governor Snyder’s leadership to help the indigent. If they went to an arraignment, they sometimes didn’t even know because there was no one there to explain to them what the charges were.

In addition, some people can't even read. Sometimes we don't recognize some of the problems that they have. I appreciate Commissioner Vensel's comments on that.

All other Commissioners passed.

Commissioner Hoffman—Excused

Mr. Bosanac—Asked Mr. Jesse Stanford, Monroe County Treasurer to talk about a grant that the Land Bank Authority received. Mr. Stanford announced that the Land Bank Authority received a grant for approximately \$365,000 to demolish some dangerous buildings in South Rockwood.

Commissioner Brant—Announced that there is a Public Meeting on Thursday, April 27, 2023 for the purpose of interviewing applicants and considering the appointment of an applicant to the position of Monroe County Prosecutor. Deputy Clerk will send you the information again if you need it.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT—Chairman Brant adjourned the meeting at 6:32 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