MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 2, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting in the Board Chambers in the City of Monroe on Tuesday, November 2, 2021. Chairman 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
David Hoffman	Sharon Hill	George Jondro
Mark Brant	David Swartout	
Dawn Asper	Greg Moore, Jr.	
Randy Richardville	Henry Lievens	

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

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Brant led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. OPENING PRAYER

Deputy Clerk, Lisa Sanders led the Opening Prayer.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Asper, supported by Commissioner Moore to amend the agenda to add Resolution Against Vaccine Passports or Certificates within the Boundaries of Monroe County.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYE	NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Dawn Asper	David Hoffman	George Jondro	
Greg Moore, Jr.	Mark Brant		
	Randy Richardville		
	Sharon Hill		
	David Swartout		
	Henry Lievens		

Motion failed.

Motion by Commissioner Hoffman, seconded by Commissioner Swartout to approve the November 2, 2021 agenda as presented.

Voice vote taken. 7 AYES; 1 NAY. Motion carried.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (10/19/2021 Regular Meeting Minutes)

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Swartout to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2021 Regular Meeting as presented and waive the reading thereof.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Gerald Bruck, Maybee—Wants to know why the Commissioners refuse to discuss the Resolution Against Vaccine Passports or Certificates within the Boundaries of Monroe County that Commissioner Asper has proposed. Chairman Brant told Mr. Bruck that Public Comment is not a time for questioning or debating the Commissioners but he was welcome to make comments. Mr. Bruck left the podium without further comment.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS, SPECIAL TRIBUTES & PRESENTATION

1. Presentation by Mr. Collin Keehn, AFL-CIO Community Services Liaison on the 2021 United Way Campaign. Chairman Brant presented a Resolution Declaring November as United Way Month in Monroe County.

IX. FINANCE MATTERS

1. Approval of the 11/03/2021 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of $461,957.34

   Motion by Commissioner Hoffman, supported by Commissioner Hill to accept the 11/03/2021 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report for $461,957.34.

   Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYE		NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
David Hoffman	Sharon Hill		George Jondro	
Mark Brant	David Swartout			
Dawn Asper	Greg Moore, Jr.			
Randy Richardville	Henry Lievens			

   Motion carried.

2. Letter dated October 21, 2021 from Mr. Jesse Stanford, Monroe County Treasurer transmitting the Cash and Investment Report for the quarter ending September 30, 2021.

Mr. Stanford explained the Cash and Investment Report for the quarter ending September 30, 2021.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept and place on file the September 30, 2021 Cash and Investment Report from the Monroe County Treasurer.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYE		NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
David Hoffman	Sharon Hill		George Jondro	
Mark Brant	David Swartout			
Dawn Asper	Greg Moore, Jr.			
Randy Richardville	Henry Lievens			

Motion carried.

3. Revenues, expenditures and cash balance report for 3rd quarter ending September 30, 2021.

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

   No action required.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Non-Claims
   a. Check Register dated 10/22/2021 in the amount of $413,956.99
   b. Check Register dated 10/29/2021 in the amount of $2,261,282.28

Motion by Commissioner Richardville, supported by Commissioner Hill to approve the Non-Claims for the dates and amounts presented.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYE		NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
David Hoffman	Sharon Hill		George Jondro	
Mark Brant	David Swartout			
Dawn Asper	Greg Moore, Jr.			
Randy Richardville	Henry Lievens			

Motion carried.

2. Commissioner Richardville, Chairman of the Operations Committee explained that the Committee unanimously recommends to the Full Board the following from the 11/02/2021 Operations Committee meeting held at 4:00 p.m.:

A. Letter dated October 28, 2021, from Mr. Michael Bosanac, Administrator/Chief Financial Officer submitting four (4) policies recommended for consideration and approval and an update on the progress of updating the policy manual.

i. Policy #701 Employee Solicitations
ii. Policy #702 County Facilities Closing Due to Inclement Weather and Emergencies
iii. Policy #704 General Liability Insurance
iv. Policy #203, County Resolutions, Special Tributes and Certificates

Motion by Commissioner Swartout, supported by Commissioner Hill to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYE		NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
David Hoffman	Sharon Hill		George Jondro	
Mark Brant	David Swartout			
Dawn Asper	Greg Moore, Jr.			
Randy Richardville	Henry Lievens			

Motion carried.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

Board Action:

1. Letter dated October 28, 2021 from Chief Deputy David Buchko, Monroe County Sheriff's Office recommending the Board accept the Fiscal Year 2022 Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards Justice Training Grant in the amount of $15,017.20 with a County match of $3,849 for a total of $18,867. The County match will be funded from the 2022 Sheriff's Office Budget.

Chairman Brant read the request into the record and Chief Deputy Buchko explained the grant.

Motion by Commissioner Hoffman, supported by Commissioner Asper to accept the grant award and authorize the budget be amended to reflect the revenues and expenditures of the grant along with the funding from the 2022 Sheriff's Office budget.

Roll Call by Clerk as follows:

AYE		NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
David Hoffman	Sharon Hill		George Jondro	
Mark Brant	David Swartout			

Dawn Asper	Greg Moore, Jr.			
Randy Richardville	Henry Lievens			

Motion carried.

2. Letter dated October 27, 2021, from D/Lt. James Jarret, Michigan State Police MANTIS, requesting approval to accept a grant award from the Bureau of Justice Assistance for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) FY2022 in the amount of $75,000.00 with no county match.

   Chairman Brant read the request into the record.

   Motion by Commissioner Hill, supported by Commissioner Asper to accept the communication, place it on file and approve/not approve the request to accept a grant award from the Bureau of Justice Assistance for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) FY2022 in the amount of $75,000.00 with no county match.

   Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYE		NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
David Hoffman	Sharon Hill		George Jondro	
Mark Brant	David Swartout			
Dawn Asper	Greg Moore, Jr.			
Randy Richardville	Henry Lievens			

   Motion carried.

3. Reappointments of Board/Commission members.
   A. Jury Commission
      i. Letter dated October 27, 2021 from Ms. Annamarie Osment, Monroe County Clerk/Register of Deeds, recommending the reappointment of Ms. Mary Kay Thayer to a (6) six-year term ending December 31, 2027 and to appoint Mr. Nick Wagers to a six-year term ending December 31, 2027.
      ii. Jury Commission Roster

   Chairman Brant read the request into the record.

   Ms. Osment addressed the Commissioners to clarify that the recommendations came from the three (3) Monroe County Circuit Court Judges.

   Motion by Commissioner Hoffman, supported by Commissioner Hill to approve the recommendation and appoint Ms. Mary Kay Thayer and Mr. Nick Wagers to the Monroe County Jury Commission with terms ending December 31, 2021

   Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS—None

XIII. OLD BUSINESS—None

XIV. NEW BUSINESS—None

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT—

1. Candice Ferrell, Monroe Township—Wants to know what the wording of Commissioner Asper's proposed Resolution is. Chairman Brant said he's sure Commissioner Asper would be glad to share it with her after the meeting but Public Comment time is not the time to do that. She talked about people who have natural immunity to Covid-19 and that the government needs to be recognizing people who have natural immunity. She feels that no one at the local level of government is speaking out on the public's behalf.
2. Erika Brodie, Frenchtown Township—She spoke to Senator Zorn and showed him some videos. Said no one replied to the email that she sent to several government officials. She wants the public to be protected and hopes they are listening to what she is saying.
3. Paul Rivnak (sp?), Ash Township—Talked about The Revised School Code, mcl Act 451 of 1976, section 380. 1370b (statement of prohibited practices) that includes, prohibiting any restraint that negatively effects breathing. You hear nothing about natural immunity to Covid-19.

XVI. ANNOUNCEMENTS—None

XVII. MEMBERS TIME

Commissioner Asper—Disappointed that we didn't consider the Resolution tonight. I made some changes to it and thought I would have more Commissioners support it. I think it's important as a County Commissioner that I always stand up for constitutional and civil rights. Unfortunately I think the Resolution was taken as an anti-vaccine Resolution and it never was that. It was designed to explain why we should not have two classes of people in our County and that we should help each other and support each other. I've looked at the research that has come out on PubMed and I tried to outline everything that explained why we should not have a vaccine passport and why we should not have two classes of citizens. This is not to decrease the severity of the virus. It's a matter of medical choice. The best way to take liberty from people is to cause fear and the more fear there is, the more tenacious I am about wanting to pass this Resolution. I simply wanted to make it clear that our county works together, that we help one another and we do very well in this county as far as taking care of the elderly. I hope that you will go ahead and read the Resolution and just know what my heart was in supporting that. I will be circulating it to other counties so that perhaps they can adopt it.

Commissioner Swartout—I'd like to address one thing that was said earlier. Our county is very involved with a new program called the V.I.P.E.R program and they're actively pursuing human traffickers like never before. I want to put that out there that our county is doing what they can, the best way they can.

Commissioner Hoffman—Pass.

Commissioner Moore—Disappointed that we can't get it (Commissioner Asper's proposed Resolution) on the Agenda to at least discuss it. If it's on the Agenda you can vote for it, you could vote against it, you could table it, you could make comments, but to have all but two (2) Commissioners vote against even putting something on the Agenda, really, in my opinion the lowest form of representative democracy there is. If we're here to do the work of the people, for every 150 people I've talked to that support something like this I've maybe talked to 1 who doesn't. I think that rises to the occasion of having a discussion about it whether it is something where we put it on the agenda, we talk about it, vote for or against it, table it or whatever it is that we need to do, but to shut it down and not even bring it to the public in a sense, I just feel that that's a real mistake.

Commissioner Hill—Pass.

Commissioner Lievens—Pass

Commissioner Richardville—Pass.

Commissioner Jondro—Excused.

Mr. Bosanac—Updated the Board on the schedule for adopting the Budget schedule. Recommended Budget will be presented at the November 16 meeting, with the Public Hearing/Adoption at the December 7 meeting.

Chairman Brant—Pass.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Brant adjourned the meeting at 6:46 p.m.