

MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 2, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting in the City of Monroe, on Tuesday, June 2, 2026. Chairman David Vensel called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll call by Deputy Clerk, Grace Miles, as follows:

PRESENT			EXCUSED
Jay Heinzerling	Brian Lamour	David Swartout	J. Henry Lievens
David Hoffman	David Vensel		
Greg Moore, Jr.	Dawn Asper		

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

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Swartout led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. OPENING PRAYER

Deputy Clerk, Grace Miles led the Opening Prayer.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Swartout, supported by Vice-Chairman Lamour to approve the June 2, 2026 Regular Meeting Agenda as presented.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Brian Lamour	Greg Moore, Jr.	David Hoffman		J. Henry Lievens	
Dawn Asper	Jay Heinzerling				
David Vensel	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (05/19/2026 Regular Meeting Minutes)

Motion by Vice-Chairman Lamour, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to approve the minutes as presented for the May 19, 2026 Regular Meeting and waive the reading thereof.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Brian Lamour	Greg Moore, Jr.	David Hoffman		J. Henry Lievens	
Dawn Asper	Jay Heinzerling				
David Vensel	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT —

1. Jenna Morse: Provided the Board with Drain updates within the County regarding construction, sanitary sewer projects, and drains. Ms. Morse also explained there are two Board of Determination meetings in June and she posted/sent out the necessary notices.

2. Gregory Abood: Introduced himself and explained he will be taking over as the Director of District Probation.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS, SPECIAL TRIBUTES & PRESENTATION

1. Presentation on drone as first responder pilot program by Sheriff Goodnough and Captain Raymond

Sheriff Goodnough and Captain Raymond provided a high-level overview of the Drone Pilot program. Captain Raymond explained: the difference between Drones and Drone as a First Responder (DFR), how DFR integrates with existing technology, how this relates to Monroe County, real examples, safety, security, and the transparency portal.

Commissioners asked questions and shared their concerns regarding invasion of privacy and overall cost.

Further discussion was held.

IX. FINANCE MATTERS

1. Payment of the 06/03/2026 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of \$1,357,151.05

Motion by Commissioner Hoffman, supported by Commissioner Swartout to approve the 06/03/2026 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of \$1,357,151.05 and approve the Claims for the date and amount presented.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Brian Lamour	Greg Moore, Jr.	David Hoffman		J. Henry Lievens	
Dawn Asper	Jay Heinzerling				
David Vensel	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Non-Claims
 - a. Check Register dated 05/22/2026 in the amount of \$ 474,093.45
 - b. Check Register dated 05/29/2026 in the amount of \$ 2,873,095.88

Motion by Vice-Chairman Lamour, supported by Commissioner Swartout to confirm the non-claims payments as presented on the agenda for the dates and amounts listed.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Brian Lamour	Greg Moore, Jr.	David Hoffman		J. Henry Lievens	
Dawn Asper	Jay Heinzerling				
David Vensel	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter dated May 19, 2026 from D/Lt. James Jarrett, Michigan State Police MANTIS, requesting approval to accept a Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) award in the amount of \$19,653.03 with no matching funds required.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept the communication, place it on file, and approve the acceptance of a Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) award in the amount of \$19,653.03 with no matching funds required.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Brian Lamour	Greg Moore, Jr.	David Hoffman		J. Henry Lievens	
Dawn Asper	Jay Heinzerling				
David Vensel	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

2. Letter dated May 26, 2026 from Chief Deputy Michael Preadmore requesting approval to accept the FY2026 Marine Safety Grant Award in the amount of \$20,800.00 with no local match required.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Lamour to approve the acceptance of the FY2026 Marine Safety Grant Award in the amount of \$20,800.00 with no local match required.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Brian Lamour	Greg Moore, Jr.	David Hoffman		J. Henry Lievens	
Dawn Asper	Jay Heinzerling				
David Vensel	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

3. Letter dated May 26, 2026 from Ms. Rebecca Pasko, Mental Health Authority Chairperson transmitting the recommended appointment to the Monroe County Community Mental Health Authority for a term commencing June 2, 2026 and expiring on March 31, 2027.

Motion by Commissioner Swartout, supported by Vice-Chairman Lamour to accept the communication, place it on file, and approve Mr. Henry Werner's appointment to the Community Mental Health Authority for a term commencing June 2, 2026 and expiring on March 31, 2027.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Brian Lamour	Greg Moore, Jr.	David Hoffman		J. Henry Lievens	
Dawn Asper	Jay Heinzerling				
David Vensel	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

4. Letter dated May 27, 2026 from Mr. Jason Berry, Community Planning & Engagement Director submitting the proposed updates to the Ash Township Master Plan for review and approval of the County Planner's recommendations.

Motion by Commissioner Hoffman, supported by Commissioner Asper to accept the communication, place it on file, and approve the recommendations of the County Planner and transmit the recommendations to Ash Township Council.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
Brian Lamour	Greg Moore, Jr.	David Hoffman		J. Henry Lievens	
Dawn Asper	Jay Heinzerling				
David Vensel	David Swartout				

Motion carried.

XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS — None

XIII. OLD BUSINESS — None

XIV. NEW BUSINESS —

1. Bike Path Safety Discussion

Chairman Vensel explained this discussion has been postponed due to attendance.

Commissioner Hoffman recognized the Grand Opening at the Arthur Lesow Community Center and recommended the public check it out.

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT—

1. Alana: Shared her concerns with the drones and thanked the Commissioner's comments regarding constitutional rights. Shared there should be laws in place before using the drones and explained she views it as warrantless tracking.
2. Larry Merkle: Stated he is the Former Fire Chief of Monroe Township for 36 years and explained regarding the drones, hundreds of people record on their phones and upload it to the internet daily. Shared this way, it can be controlled whereas the general public has no control.

XVI. ANNOUNCEMENTS — None

XVII. MEMBERS TIME –

Commissioner Asper – Explained one problem is the expectation of privacy has been narrowed by laws unfortunately. Shared her concerns with the data centers and explained Berlin Township does not have a quorum due to resignations. Explained this is a matter of collectivism and personal liberty. Shared her concerns regarding health and noise pollution from data centers. Commissioner Asper also discussed NDA's.

Commissioner Moore – Explained this board is public facing and must abide by the constitution. Advised to tread lightly when speaking on the fourth amendment rights and constitutional rights. Explained there is a much higher standard for federal, state, and local government than private organizations and/or individuals. Recommended having a commissioner on the drone board.

Thanked Supervisor Manor and Clerk Bryant for being here.

Commissioner Swartout – Passed.

Commissioner Heinzerling – Congratulated the 2026 High School graduates. Recognized the work and effort that goes into school.

Commissioner Lievens – Excused.

Commissioner Hoffman – Thanked everyone for coming and thanked the Drain Commission for doing a good job. Stated the drones are absolutely necessary as long as we keep them under key and they are only used for emergencies. Explained he uses them at his job and elaborated on how they will help. Shared we are short on officers and need to see this come about.

Vice-Chairman Lamour – Congratulated graduates and the City of Monroe on their Arthur Lesow Community Center Grand Opening. Stated it is a beautiful piece of architecture and shared the main architect broke down during his speech since he was so endeared to this project. Explained this is what he lives for, to see more of this in the entire County. Thanked the Sheriff and Captain for their presentation. Stated a commissioner sitting on the drone board would be a great idea.

Chairman Vensel – Agreed with Commissioner Hoffman and Lamour regarding the Arthur Lesow Community Center. All the opportunities that will be provided due to the hard work is tremendous. Thanked Sheriff Goodnough and Captain Raymond for their presentation and stated it was extremely thorough. Shared he has fourth amendment concerns and is curious to see how the pilot program does in regards to calls for service vs the return on investment. Appreciate the input of adding a board member to the committee and stated he will take them up on it.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT - Chairman Vensel adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m. with no further business to discuss.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Grace Miles". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Grace Miles
Deputy Clerk/Administrative Assistant
Monroe County Board of Commissioners