

MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JULY 16, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting in the City of Monroe, on Tuesday, June 16, 2024. Chairman Mark Brant called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

PRESENT			ABSENT
David Hoffman	Jay Heinzerling	David Swartout	Greg Moore, Jr.
Mark Brant	Randy Richardville	J. Henry Lievens	
Dawn Asper	David Vensel		

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

Ms. Annamarie Osment, County Clerk/Register of Deeds was also in attendance.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Swartout 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 Heinzerling to approve the July 16, 2024 Regular Meeting Agenda as presented.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (06/18/2024 Regular Meeting)

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to approve the minutes as presented for the June 18, 2024 Regular Meeting and waive the reading thereof.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT—

1. Ned Birkey, Spartan Agricultural, updated the Board on the diesel leak in Whiteford Twp. (Pilot Gas Station).
2. Kojo Quartey, President, Monroe County Community College wants to dispel some of the negative publicity about the College. He said they are abiding by the Larsen Act. Also, they have a nice summer camp going on at the College.

3. William Bruck, State Representative, wants everyone to know that the House and Senate are on recess until September and he is more than happy to talk to anyone about issues they may have.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS, SPECIAL TRIBUTES & PRESENTATION—None

IX. FINANCE MATTERS

1. Payment of the 07/03/2024 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of \$542,763.96.

Motion by Commissioner Hoffman, supported by Commissioner Asper to confirm the Accounts Payable Current Claims payment as presented on the agenda for the date and amount listed.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

2. Approval of the 07/17/2024 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of \$1,113,939.58

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept the 07/17/2024 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report for \$1,113,939.58 and approve the Claims for the date and amount presented.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

3. Letter dated June 28, 2024 from Mr. Michael Bosanac, Administrator/Chief Financial Officer submitting reports filed with the Michigan Department of Treasury in compliance with Public Act 202 of 2017 regarding the Monroe County defined benefit pension and retiree health care trust funds.

Chairman Brant read the item into the records and Mr. Bosanac discussed further.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to accept the communication, place it on file, and acknowledge the governing board's action in receiving the reports in the official meeting minutes as recommended.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

4. Letter dated July 11, 2024 from Ms. Sue Maier, Director of Fiscal Services, providing the corrective action plan to be submitted to Michigan Department of Treasury for Monroe County related to Governmental Accounting Standards Board Standard (GASB) 96 overspent amounts.

Chairman Brant read the item into the record and Ms. Maier further explained.

Motion by Commissioner Asper, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept the communication, place it on file and confirm acknowledgement of the Corrective Action Plan.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Non-Claims
 - a. Check Register dated 06/21/2024 in the amount of \$486,947.86
 - b. Check Register dated 06/28/2024 in the amount of \$1,319,684.90
 - c. Check Register dated 07/03/2024 in the amount of \$76,331.00
 - d. Check Register dated 07/05/2024 in the amount of \$667,015.11
 - e. Check Register dated 07/12/2024 in the amount of \$527,120.81

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Swartout 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
David Hoffman	Jay Heinzerling	David Swartout		Greg Moore, Jr.	
Mark Brant	Randy Richardville	J. Henry Lievens			
Dawn Asper	David Vensel				

Motion carried.

2. Operations Committee-Report of Committee Chairman, Randy Richardville from the 06/26/2024 meeting. Link to Operations Committee 06/26/2024 Agenda Packet: [HERE](#)

- a. Letter dated June 17, 2024, from Ms. Jamie Dean, Health Officer/Director, Monroe County Health Department, requesting approval to transition a part-time Public Health Nurse Coordinator to a full-time position and to add two (2) part-time nursing positions to the staff at the Monroe County Health Department (MCHD). The requested positions are 100% funded within the current MCHD budget through the Comprehensive Agreement with Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Ms. Dean explained the request. Chairman of the Operations Committee, Randy Richardville, explained that the Committee unanimously voted to recommend this item.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to approve the recommendations of the Operations Committee as reported and presented.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

Board Action:

1. Letter dated July 8, 2024 from D/Lt. James Jarrett, Michigan State Police MANTIS, requesting approval to apply for a FY2024-2025 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) in the amount of \$84,071 to the Michigan State Police, Grants Management Section, Byrne JAG Unit. No matching funds are required for this grant.

Chairman Brant read the request into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept the communication, place it on file and approve the request to apply for a FY2024-2025 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) in the amount of \$84,071 to the Michigan State Police, Grants Management Section, Byrne JAG Unit with no matching funds required.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

- Letter dated June 28, 2024 from Mr. Michael Bosanac, Administrator/Chief Financial Officer regarding the Government Finance Officers Association Award of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2022.

Chairman Brant read the item into the record. Mr. Bosanac commented on the award. Discussion commenced.

Motion by Commissioner Asper, supported by Commissioner Swartout, to accept the communication and place it and the certificate on file.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

- Letter dated July 16, 2024 from Mr. Jason Berry, Community Planning & Engagement Director, submitting a review/recommendation from the County Planner of an application to the Farmland and Open Space Preservation program (part 361 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act) for property in LaSalle Township.

Chairman Brant read the request into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Vensel, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to accept the communication along with the review/recommendation for an application to the Farmland and Open Space Preservation program for property in LaSalle Township, place it on file and submit the recommendation of the County Planner to the LaSalle Township Board.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried. Commissioner Asper voted no.

4. Letter dated July 16, 2024 from Mr. Jason Berry, Community Planning & Engagement Director submitting the proposed updates to the Village of South Rockwood's Township Master Plan for review and approval of the County Planner's recommendations.

[Link](#) to Master Plan (Draft)

Chairman Brant read the request into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept the communication, place it on file and approve the recommendations of the County Planner and transmit the recommendations to the Village of South Rockwood Council.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

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 June 18, 2024 meeting:
Recognizing MCOP for Achieving Gold Tier Status

XVII. MEMBERS TIME

Commissioner Swartout—Passed

Commissioner Asper—I wish that Dr. Quartey had remained at the meeting. Washtenaw County Community College and Eastern Michigan University do not have signs on the women's bathrooms. Anyone can use them. I think that we need to understand that we need to be understanding to everyone but women do not want to be encountered in the bathroom by people who appear to be men. I wish Dr. Quartey would have addressed that. It sounds like the alarms that he was talking about are for people who are feeling traumatized because they cannot go in the bathroom they want to. With all the things we've covered tonight, I think we see our county is really moving forward. I just appreciated it, especially our financial folks for all that they do to make us look good.

Commissioner Hoffman—I'll just tag on to what Commissioner Asper said. Everybody thanks for coming out tonight and watch the heat out there.

Commissioner Lievens—Tomorrow night there is going to be a candidate forum in Bedford Township at St. Michael Lutheran Church at Whiteford Center and Temperance Road at 7:00 p.m. if anyone wishes to come out and meet the candidates for Township office.

Commissioner Vensel—I appreciate Kojo's willingness to come and address the Board with regard to the concerns that everyone has. I think this gives us an opportunity to invite him to come and speak to us at another time so we could ask questions or engage in discussion.

Commissioner Heinzerling—Passed

Commissioner Moore—Excused.

Michael Bosanac, Administrator/CFO—Want to acknowledge Lisa Sanders. This is her last official duty on behalf of the Board besides maybe some administrative work behind the scenes. I want to thank Lisa for her years of dedicated service. She's an integral part of each and every one of the Board of Commissioner meetings, Committee meetings and other meetings that fall underneath the auspices of this organization. We wish Lisa and her husband Brian good health and a long and enjoyable retirement. Hopefully it's the opportunity to all those things you didn't have time to do because you had to attend a Tuesday night Board meeting and you couldn't take off the next day. Often times Lisa's schedule for vacation and leave time actually worked around the Board of Commissioner meetings so she was always there for the Board. So we certainly appreciate that. We thank the people who came out to recognize Lisa before this evening's meeting to wish her a fond farewell off into the sunset of retirement. Thank you Lisa for your dedicated years of service. We certainly appreciate it.

Commissioner Richardville—In two weeks, which is the fifth Tuesday of month we not meeting but the County Fair will be taking place in between meetings. I'd like to encourage everyone to attend. We have THE single, best County Fair in the Midwest as far as I'm aware. I look forward to being out there as well.

Commissioner Brant—Asked Annamarie Osment, County Clerk, when early voting begins. It starts July 27th of 9 days of early voting. Also can bring in your absentee ballot that is already filled out and put it in the tabulator. Thank Lisa for her many years of dedicated service. We will miss you. We do not relish training a new person but we probably didn't relish you when you came on.

XVIII. CLOSED SESSION

1. Closed Session:

- A. Review Attorney/Client Privileged Communication in the matter of Douglas v. County.
- B. Discuss upcoming collective bargaining with County Employee groups.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to go into Closed Session.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Closed session commenced at 6:36 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to come out of Closed Session.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Open session commenced again at 7:41 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Asper to follow the advice of Legal Counsel in the litigation matter discussed in Closed Session and to direct staff to proceed as discussed in Closed Session with regard to Collective Bargaining.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT—

Chairman Brant adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m. with no further business to conduct.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa E. Sanders".

Lisa E. Sanders

Deputy Clerk/Administrative Assistant

Monroe County Board of Commissioners