MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 3, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting in the City of Monroe, on Tuesday, December 3, 2024. Chairman Randy Richardville called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

PRESENT			ABSENT
David Hoffman	Jay Heinzerling	David Swartout	
J Henry Lievens	Randy Richardville	David Vensel	
Dawn Asper (6:03)	Greg Moore, Jr.		

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 Drewior led the Opening Prayer.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Vice-Chairman Lievens, supported by Commissioner Moore to approve the November 19, 2024 Regular Meeting Agenda with an amendment to table the agenda item under communications, section six (6) action number two (2).

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (11/19/2024 Regular Meeting Minutes)

Motion by Vice-Chairman Lievens, supported by Commissioner Swartout to approve the minutes as presented for the November 19, 2024 Regular Meeting and then waived the reading thereof.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT—

1. Jackie Monteer: Ms. Monteer is from the Humane Society and she came to thank the Commissioners and the community for all the help the Humane Society has received. She elaborated on what they have been working on and how far they have come. Ms. Monteer also spoke about some of the animals that were currently there and how dedicated her staff is.

2. Devin Rucker: Mr. Rucker represents the Monroe County News and Sports Network. Mr. Rucker explained MCNN wants to discuss stories that directly affect Monroe as well as wanting to give the people a chance to walk in and

share any news they have heard. He then gave a shout out to Friendly Ford for choosing to spend their marketing dollars in Monroe County. Mr. Rucker finished his comment by discussing an incident that occurred during a high school football game; giving a shout out to the first responders in District 4 and both school districts for responding as quickly and responsibly as they did.

3. Gary Akers: Mr. Akers inquired why the District two (2) Commissioner was sworn in on November 18 and didn't wait until January when the other Commissioners get sworn in.

   Chairman Richardville explained usually this isn't a dialogue but he wanted to inform Mr. Akers that once the election is certified, Commissioners are allowed to be sworn in at any time. He also stated usually it is done before January first for organizing administrative aspects, like insurance.

   Mr. Akers asked if everyone was okay with the fact that Mark Brant will not be available to do his job for twelve (12) to eighteen (18) months. He then thanked the Board.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS, SPECIAL TRIBUTES & PRESENTATION—

1. Monroe County Sewage Disposal System Bonds, Series 2025 in the amount of not to exceed $13,000,000 (Limited Tax General Obligation)

   a. Letter dated November 20, 2024 from Mr. Patrick McGow, Bond Counsel, Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. to Michael Bosanac, Administrator/CFO outlining the bond issue and related matters.
   b. Bond authorizing Resolution under Public Act 342 for Monroe County Sewage Disposal System Bonds, Series 2025 (Limited Tax General Obligation) in the amount not to exceed $13,000,000.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

David Thompson, Drain Commissioner, introduced Patrick McGow, Bond Counsel, and gave a quick summary of the request.

Discussion was held.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Swartout to approve the Bond authorizing Resolution for Monroe County Sewage Disposal System Bonds, Series 2025 (Limited Tax General Obligation) in the amount not to exceed $13,000,000.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

2. County of Monroe Capital Improvement Bonds, Series 2025 in the amount of not to exceed $13,000,000 (Limited Tax General Obligation)

   a. Letter dated November 20, 2024 from Mr. Patrick McGow, Bond Counsel, Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. to Michael Bosanac, Administrator/CFO outlining the bond issue and related matters.
   b. Notice of Intent Resolution Capital Improvement Bonds, Series 2025 (Limited Tax General Obligation) in the amount not to exceed $13,000,000.
   c. Resolution Requesting Issuance of Bonds by County Board of Commissioners

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

Dave Leach, Road Commission Managing Director, and Patrick McGow elaborated on this bond and answered questions.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Moore to approve the Notice of Intent Resolution Capital Improvement Bonds, Series 2025 (Limited Tax General Obligation) in the amount not to exceed $13,000,000 on behalf of the Board of County Road Commission of Monroe County.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

3. Letter dated November 27, 2024 from Mr. Michael Bosanac, Administrator/ Chief Financial Officer, submitting and requesting approval of Frenchtown Charter Township Tax Increment Sharing Agreement for two (2) Corridor Improvement Authority Areas between Frenchtown Charter Township, Corridor Improvement Authority and the County of Monroe for:

   a. North Dixie Highway Corridor Improvement Authority
   b. US-24/North Telegraph Road Corridor Improvement Authority

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

Michael Bosanac, CFO/Administrator noted that in May of this year the Board approved creating a tax increment financing policy for the County.

Alan VanWashenova, Frenchtown Township Supervisor, explained that this will bring more business and excitement to Monroe County.

Discussion was held.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to approve the Tax Increment Sharing Agreement for North Dixie Highway Corridor Improvement between the Frenchtown Charter Township, North Dixie Highway Corridor Improvement Authority and the County of Monroe.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Asper to approve the Tax Increment Sharing Agreement for US-24/North Telegraph Road Corridor Improvement between Frenchtown Charter Township, US-24/Telegraph Road Corridor Improvement Authority and the County of Monroe.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

IX. FINANCE MATTERS

1. Consideration of Recommended 2025-2026 County of Monroe Annual Line Item Budget Resolution.

Click Here for the 2025-2026 Recommended Annual Line Item Budget, which is posted on the County website.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record and then called on Commissioner Vensel.

Motion by Commissioner Vensel, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to remove the Deputy Administrator Chief Financial Officer position from the funded County departmental positions and accept the remainder of the 2025-2026 Recommended Budget and approve the Resolution to adopt the 2025-2026 Annual Line Item Budget as the General Appropriations Act of the County of Monroe.

Commissioner Moore asked what the motion was.

Chairman Richardville stated the motion is to approve the entire budget with the exception of one line item. That item being funding the Deputy Administrator/CFO position.

Commissioner Asper inquired if they're talking about the salary for the position.

Chairman Richardville explained that positon will be eliminated, along with the salary.

Commissioner Asper asked who was in that position currently.

Chairman Richardville answered that it is Aundrea Armstrong.

Commissioner Asper stated that was what she thought. She then asked if they discussed why they wanted to do this.

Chairman Richardville stated there was some discussion at the last meeting when they tabled the vote so there could be further discussion in between.

Commissioner Asper said she thought the Deputy Administrator position was part of our succession plan.

Chairman Richardville answered yes it is and then explained the amount of money being spent and the timeframe of this succession plan is something they want to revisit sometime next year.

Commissioner Asper inquired what happens in the meantime as far as Aundrea's position and her job.

Commissioner Richardville answered with her position will be eliminated effective January 1, 2025.

Commissioner Asper asked if Aundrea's position as well as she, are being eliminated as of January 1, 2025.

Chairman Richardville said if the position and the funding is gone, then she wouldn't be here.

Commissioner Asper stated she couldn't support that.

Commissioner Moore explained that the Board all voted (except for Heinzerling because he wasn't here) on this three (3) to seven (7) year succession plan. He elaborated that he doesn't believe this is the right time (at the last minute, at the second to last meeting of the year, without previous open discussion) to not vote for the constitutional mandated duty of passing the budget by essentially holding a position hostage. He stated he would be a no vote on this and continued to say it is unfair, not transparent, and he wouldn't agree with it.

Commissioner Swartout explained another aspect he was looking at. Which is the Deputy Administrator/CFO position being included in the Organizational Chart in the budget. He stated the board hasn't changed this chart and said his understanding is, we fund everything on said chart. He asked if he misunderstood something, for someone to please explain it to him. He explained that it is not a matter of eliminating a position like that. He finished his comment by stating, on this chart it says we have that position.

Chairman Richardville stated the motion was to accept the recommended budget with the exception of eliminating the line item and funding for the position.

Commissioner Hoffman stated he believes it is going to narrow down to when Michael Bosanac plans on retiring. He explained Aundrea Armstrong was being prepared to take his position.

Commissioner Swartout explained his concern is how can we change that when it's in our organizational chart. He then stated, we would have had to change the chart first.

Chairman Richardville stated that was not correct. The Board could vote to approve the budget and maintain the constitutional agreement that is a requirement of ours and the budget is approved. He stated after the meeting today, then the Board figures out what to do next.

Commissioner Moore explained he's not clear on what changed since October 19, 2022 when the Board clearly voted of a three (3) to seven (7) year succession and staffing plan with those employees in place, with it being funded, and we all unanimously voted on that. He stated he doesn't understand why it is being discussed two meetings before the end of the year, when we have to pass a budget.

Commissioner Asper stated she keeps thinking about how valuable this particular employee is in doing our contracts and so on and so forth. She stated it's not as if she just does whatever Mike can't do, they have a lot of responsibilities both. Together, they have saved us so much money in their abilities to cover so many things. She brought up when the County lost 125 employees, people stepped up. She explains, these are the people who stepped up immensely over the past few years. States she believes it would really hurt the county at this point to eliminate this position and person.

Commissioner Hoffman inquired if this doesn't get approved, are we not going to be passing the budget today.

Chairman Richardville stated we will deal with that if and when we come to it.

Commissioner Vensel stated that he accepted Commissioner Moore's criticism about voting for the succession plan in 2022 and talked about how he voted for it to pass. His major concerns are centered around the ongoing cost of the plan, the length of the time line for transition, a multiyear schedule with stated transition of three (3) to seven (7) years, and the permanence of the structure of the plan. He explains this leaves the door open to many other questions and concerns. He believes a succession plan has value for temporary solutions, but it has considerably less value if used as a permanent solution. He stated a consistent process needs to be implemented when this Board selects our top Administrator. The current plan removes the Board from the hiring process. Explained that the Board of Commissioners should never forfeit their right or neglect their responsibility to independently select the Administrator/CFO; which is the only employee who reports directly to this Board. He explained his fear is this succession plan will take us out of the mix for as long as it's in place. Stated that is why he supports the removal of the position.

Commissioner Moore stated the succession plan was brought to the Board, presented to the Board, and no one forced anyone to vote for it. The Board all freely voted for it. He explains that nothing's been taken away. Continues with everything was done exactly how it should be. Elaborated the second floor and the people in those positions came to the Board and presented who they thought would be best for the succession plan and when they asked us what we thought, we said yeah we agree with that and we voted for it. He then says, if you have an issue with a succession plan, he would like to know why firing an exemplary employee is the answer. Asked for an explanation of why we should fire Aundrea. Explains that, that is what they are effectively doing with this motion.

Thomas Graham, legal counsel, reminded everyone that if this discussion is going to turn into a review of an employee, that employee has legal rights under the Open Meetings Act for representation, closed door meeting, etc. Stated that so far it has mostly been about the budget, which is fine, but if the Board is going to move into a review of the performance of an employee, we can't do that.

Chairman Richardville stated he has not heard that in the motion nor in the discussion. He explains the Board brought up the name and stated she (Aundrea) does exemplary work, but this is not a review of performance.

Commissioner Asper brought up a time that Mr. Bosanac had to be off and that it was a time they got to evaluate what would happen in that situation. She stated that in the 8 years she has been on this board, all the things that have been done and how things have progressed are because of the people we have been able to maintain. She then explained how the vote for the budget was tabled last meeting and had she and other commissioner known this was why, the vote would have been different. Explains that the Board tries to give commissioners extra time if needed, but to come here tonight and see what has been proposed, she is extremely disappointed. Explains that usually she really enjoys working with this Board but she's disappointed in this coming up at the last minute like this and making our budget hostage basically.

Commissioner Swartout inquired shouldn't this have gone back to the Operations Committee before it ever came here. Since the Operations Committee is the one that put this program together going forward with the succession plan. States he believes this is being done out of order.

Chairman Richardville asked for any other discussion.

Commissioner Moore stated he is a hard no. Explains he believes it will be a travesty for anyone to vote for it. To eliminate a position from an employee who's been phenomenal.

Commissioner Asper asked Commissioner Vessel if he would be willing to modify his motion to remove that portion and allow us to vote on the budget in its entirety.

Commissioner Vensel stated he is not willing to modify this motion. He explained that two weeks ago when this vote was tabled, he clearly stated that he had questions regarding the succession plan. He said he does not believe it is a surprise that it is being laid out the way it is.

Chairman Richardville asked for any further discussion and then asked for a roll call.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

2. Payment of the 12/04/2024 Accounts Payable Claims Report in the amount of $1,069,178.82.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Hoffman, supported by Commissioner Vensel to accept the 12/04/2024 Accounts Payable Claims Report for $1,069,178.82 and approve the Claims for the date and amount presented.

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
David Hoffman	David Swartout	David Vensel			
Greg Moore, Jr.	Randy Richardville	Jay Heinzerling			

Dawn Asper	J. Henry Lievens				

Roll call by Clerk as follows:
Motion carried.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Non-Claims.
   a. Check Register dated 11/22/2024 in the amount of $528,068.94
   b. Check Register dated 11/27/2024 in the amount of $1,254,315.64

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

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

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter dated November 20, 2024 from Chief Judge Michael Brown, First Judicial District Court requesting approval of the appointment of Ms. Kristi A. Liechty as a non-attorney magistrate for the 1st District Court per Local Administrative Order 2024-03.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Asper, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept the communication, place it on file, and approve the appointment of Ms. Kristi A. Liechty as a non-attorney magistrate for the 1st District Court.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

2. Letter dated November 21, 2024 from Judge Amanda L. Eicher, District Court requesting acceptance and support establishing a Driving While Impaired Treatment Court in First District Court.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to accept the communication, place it on file, and accept and support establishing a Driving While Impaired Treatment Court in First District Court.

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
David Hoffman	Jay Heinzerling	David Swartout			
David Vensel	Randy Richardville	J. Henry Lievens			

Dawn Asper	Greg Moore, Jr.				

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

Motion carried.

3. Letter dated November 15, 2024 from Mr. Jason Berry, Community Planning & Engagement Director, requesting acceptance of the FY25 County Veteran Service Fund Grant in the amount of $134,745.04 with no local match required.

   Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

   Motion by Commissioner Asper, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to accept the communication, place it on file, and accept the FY25 County Veteran Service Fund Grant in the amount of $134,745.04 with no local match required.

   Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

4. Letter dated November 21, 2024 from Ms. Jamie Dean, Health Director, requesting approval to apply for and accept the Local Health Department Staff Wellbeing Grant in the amount of $4,000 from the Michigan Association of Local Public Health (MALPH). There are no matching funds required.

   Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

   Motion by Vice-Chairman Lievens, supported by Commissioner Vensel to accept the communication, place it on file and approve the request to apply for and accept the Local Health Department Staff Wellbeing Grant in the amount of $4,000 from the Michigan Association of Local Public Health (MALPH). There are no matching funds required.

   Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

5. Letter dated December 3, 2024 from Mr. Jacob Perry, Director of Information Technology, requesting approval to submit an application to The Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB) for an appropriation of FY 2023 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) funds.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record and inquired why the amount was not listed.

Jacob Perry, Director of Information Technology, explained to the Board they will not know the amount until every municipality has applied.

Motion by Commissioner Vensel, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept the communication, place it on file, and approve the request to submit an application to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB) for an appropriation of FY 2023 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) funds.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

6. Letter dated November 26, 2024 from Mr. Michael Bosanac, Administrator / Chief Financial Officer recommending the compensation for elected non-judicial officials and Road Commissioners for 2025 and 2026 along with supporting resolutions.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

Discussion was held.

Motion by Commissioner Swartout, supported by Commissioner Asper to accept the communication, place on file and approve and adopt the Resolution approving compensation amounts for elected non-judicial officials for 2025 and 2026.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

The Resolution approving compensation amounts for elected County Board of Commissioners for 2025 and 2026 has been tabled until the next Regular Board Meeting per Vice-Chairman Livens request at the beginning of this meeting.

Chairman Richardville read the third compensation action for appointed County Board of Road Commissioners for 2025 and 2026 into the record.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to accept the communication, place on file and approve and adopt the Resolution, approving compensation amounts for appointed County Board of Road Commissioners for 2025 and 2026.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

7. Letter dated November 26, 2024 from Mr. Michael Bosanac, Administrator / Chief Financial Officer recommending the compensation adjustments for all non-union employees for 2025 and 2026 along with the applicable policies for approval and amendment effected by the compensation adjustments recommended.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept the communication, place on file and approve the compensation adjustments for all non-union employees for 2025 and 2026 along with the applicable policies for approval and amendment effected by the compensation adjustment recommendations for 2025 and 2026.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

8. Letter dated December 3, 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 Milan and Dundee Township.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

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

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

9. Letter dated November 26, 2024 from Mr. Jeff McBee, Director, Human Resources, recommending approval of the tentative collective bargaining agreement between the County of Monroe, the Monroe County 9-1-1 District Board, and the Monroe County Central Dispatch Association with a term expiring December 31, 2027.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Swartout, supported by Commissioner Asper to approve the recommendation and ratify the collective bargaining agreement between the County of Monroe, the Monroe County 9-1-1 District Board and the Monroe County Central Dispatch Association with a term expiring December 31, 2027 and authorize the Chairman to execute the same on behalf of the County.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

10. Letter dated November 26, 2024 from Mr. Jeff McBee, Director, Human Resources, recommending approval of the tentative collective bargaining agreements, District Court Unit I and District Court Unit II, between the County of Monroe, the 1st District Court, and the 1st District Court Employees Association with terms expiring December 31, 2026.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Hoffman, supported by Commissioner Vensel to approve the recommendation and ratify the collective bargaining agreements, District Court Unit I and District Court Unit II, between the County of Monroe, the 1st District Court, and the 1st District Court Employees Association with terms expiring December 31, 2026.

AYE			NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
David Hoffman	Jay Heinzerling	David Swartout			
David Vensel	Randy Richardville	J. Henry Lievens			

Dawn Asper	Greg Moore, Jr.				

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

Motion carried.

11. Letter dated November 26, 2024 from Mr. Jeff McBee, Director of Human Resources, recommending approval of the tentative collective bargaining agreements between the County of Monroe, the 1st District Court, the 38th Circuit Court- Family Division, and the Technical, Professional & Office workers of Michigan (TPOAM) with terms expiring December 31, 2026.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Vensel, supported by Commissioner Swartout to approve the recommendation and ratify the collective bargaining agreements between the County of Monroe, the 1st District Court, the 38th Circuit Court- Family Division, and the Technical, Professional & Office workers of Michigan (TPOAM) with terms expiring December 31, 2026.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

12. Letter dated November 26, 2024 from Mr. Jeff McBee, Director of Human Resources, recommending approval of the tentative collective bargaining agreement between the County of Monroe, the 38th Circuit Court- Family Division, and the Technical, Professional & Office workers of Michigan (TPOAM) with a term expiring December 31, 2026.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

Motion by Commissioner Asper, supported by Commissioner Vensel to approve the recommendation and ratify the collective bargaining agreement between the County of Monroe, the 38th Circuit Court- Family Division, and the Technical, Professional & Office workers of Michigan (TPOAM) with a term expiring December 31, 2026.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

13. Appointments/ Reappointments of Monroe County Board/Commission

Members.

Chairman Richardville read the request into the record.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Lievens, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to confirm the Chairman's nominations to the Boards and Commissioners and place the roster of appointments/reappointments communication on file.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS—None

XIII. OLD BUSINESS— None

XIV. NEW BUSINESS—None

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT—

1. Alan VanWashenova: Thanked the Board for approving the bond with the Sewer Plant and emphasized the importance of it. Mr. VanWashenova thanked them again for helping and for their support on this matter.

2. Bill Lavoy: Thanked the Board for not voting themselves a raise today, he believes that is pretty prudent. Mr. Lavoy then stated the Board still has a chance to restore the public's faith in government by getting rid of the Administrator.

XVI. ANNOUNCEMENTS—

1. Copies of any Tributes or Certificates issued since the November 19, 2024 meeting: None

XVII. MEMBERS TIME –

Commissioner Moore – Explained that he is disappointed in how the majority of this Board acted on the budget vote. He believes they set a horrible precedent for their employees. He stated that on one side of the board, commissioners are saying how important the second floor is and how they couldn't do anything without them and then if someone has a personal vendetta or a little politics come up, they will just eliminate that job position. Explains this is what we have told our employees at the county. He brought up how we are going through this issue with Mark Brant with transparency and restoring faith in county government and then we pull something like this. Elaborated on the fact that he was not informed of this. When he talked to Commissioner Vensel two days ago, he stated he just couldn't vote for the budget as is. Commissioner Moore stated that, to him, this was very political and the eight (8) years he has been on this Board, very few political issues have come up. The past six

(6) months or so have been very political and he is extremely disappointed in that. He explained how he enjoyed this Board not being political because it is rare for Boards to be that way, but it's a new day and a new age.

Commissioner Swartout – Stated that he agreed with everything Commissioner Moore just said. Thanks.

Commissioner Vensel – Stated he had one correction to what Commissioner Moore said. He explained that he did say he wasn't supporting the budget but he also said it was because of the succession plan.

Commissioner Heinzerling – Passed.

Commissioner Asper – Stated that the succession plan is not just that particular employee, it is more than that. She said she is glad she didn't vote in favor of postponing the vote on the budget last meeting because it has helped her realize her mistrust in what was done. The Board had all the information and enough time to vote for the budget last meeting but some were unprepared. This left this issue for now and basically holds our budget hostage instead of talking about it at the last meeting. She talked about how this was a reason the County did the survey of multiple different counties to see if we were paying people properly because we wanted to keep people that were extraordinary for us. Elaborates that she doesn't know what happened between Commissioner Vensel and the Administration but it is sad that this has come about. She continues to explain, we certainly have the funds to give to the people that work extraordinarily hard here. States she is very disappointed in him and what has been done to the Board over the past six (6) months. Elaborated that she is nonpartisan but it has felt very political lately. She then explains, in her eight (8) years, this has been the most disappointing night she has had on this Board.

Commissioner Hoffman – Explains that this is all sticky but right is right. Brought up how Dave Leach is a hero for people that drive on Monroe County Roads. States he has spent his entire life on these roads and this man has really brought the team around. Lot of hard work you guys are doing. He then thanked them for it.

Commissioner Lievens – Explains he's been railing for years for a Sobriety Court. Congratulated District Court for taking that first step to begin a well needed and deserved program complimenting the various special courts we have: Veterans, Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and now a Sobriety Court to help people better their lives. Hats off to District Court.

Chairman Richardville – States that he appreciates the fact that people were open and sharing things in a respectful manner. This is the way we have to disagree moving forward. Explained we only have two more weeks to go before our last meeting and he thinks there are a few more things to be accomplished. Stated getting this budget done was a lot of work and he appreciates the work put into it.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT - Chairman Richardville adjourned the meeting at 7:08 p.m. with no further business to discuss.

Respectfully submitted by:

Grace Drewior

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