

MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 4, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting in the City of Monroe, on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. Chairman David Vensel called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

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

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

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Lamour led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. OPENING PRAYER

Deputy Clerk, Grace Miles led the Opening Prayer.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Vice-Chairman Lievens, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to approve the November 4, 2025 Regular Meeting Agenda with the exception of number nine (9) which will be moved to the next meeting due to attendance.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (10/21/2025 Regular Meeting Minutes)

Motion by Commissioner Swartout, supported by Commissioner Lamour to approve the minutes as presented for the October 21, 2025 Regular Meeting and waive the reading thereof.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT—

1. Ned Birkey: Provided agricultural updates and explained Argentina is a big competitor of the U.S. when it comes to selling corn and soybeans. Explained the U.S. administration bought pesos from Argentina and the farmers aren't happy about it. Mr. Birkey also explained the effect the government shutdown has had on farmers. Stated the USDA is planning to reopen some offices later this week to take care of some of these issues. Stated there is new technology in agriculture and explained some examples used within our County. Shared apps that can be used for identifying weeds and explained a Penn State scab model for wheat.
2. Cheryl Lohmeyer: Explained she is present today to urge the Board to reconsider its vote not to pay our court appointed attorneys. Stated court appointed attorneys are statutorily and constitutionally required to ensure every individual receives fair and effective representation. Without these attorneys, the courts cannot meet their constitutional obligations and justice itself is compromised. Judge Lohmeyer explained these lawyers perform difficult, skilled, emotional, and essential work. Stated to withhold or delay payment for these services is not only inequitable, it is contrary to the County's legal duty and to the principles of justice we all serve. These attorneys have fulfilled their obligations under the law. The County must now fulfill their own obligations by compensating them fully and promptly. Respectfully ask the board to reverse their prior decision and authorize payment to these attorneys.
3. Sean Meyers: Explained the ways he is involved in the community, including the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission. Stated the recent words and actions of members of this Board have been frightening and is affecting his work performance. Shared his concerns regarding four (4) commissioners voting against paying the bills of the County. Despite his no vote, Mr. Meyers thanked and commended Commissioner Heinzerling for discussing this with him. Stated there is no MIDC policy or procedure and no State law that requires attorneys to bill their work monthly or they would lose their pay. Explained he is concerned that Henry Lievens is the one causing this. Explained the defense attorneys on the MIDC roster have all continued to do their duty currently without pay. Explained decisions are being made without having the facts and told the Board if there are questions regarding his bills, ask him.
4. Harry Mihouse: Stated he has been an attorney for twenty (20) years and explained where he attended school. Stated what attorneys do here is critical to the community. Mr. Mihouse encouraged the Board to go to an MIDC meeting and he can introduce them to members so they can ask questions and express their concerns. Mr. Mihouse explained he was one of those disadvantaged kids from a family that didn't have resources so he does this because he believes in it. Explained attorneys used to bill at the end of a case and within circuit court, he still presents his bills at the end of the case. There is a system to review if these billings are correct and ethical. The safeguards are there but even in theory, if one person is wrong, it shouldn't affect the rest of us. Not for services that are critical to this community. Encouraged the Board to reconsider their position from two weeks ago.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION—

1. Closed Session to discuss collective bargaining

Motion by Commissioner Lamour, supported by Commissioner Lievens to go into closed session.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried. Chairman Vensel explained to the public that the Board is going to go two rooms over so members of the public would have a place to sit while the closed session is happening. Closed session began.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by commissioner Lamour to go back on the record.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Lamour to authorize the bargaining team to continue negotiations pursuant to the parameters discussed in closed session.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

IX. RESOLUTIONS, SPECIAL TRIBUTES & PRESENTATION —

1. Presentation from Mr. Chris Westover, Environmental Health Director regarding the Sanitary Code of Appeals Board

The Board moved this item to the next Board meeting.

X. FINANCE MATTERS

1. Payment of the 10/22/2025 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of \$1,333,431.62.

Motion by Commissioner Swartout, supported by Commissioner Lamour to accept the 10/22/2025 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of \$ 1,333,431.62 and approve the Claims for the date and amount presented.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

AYE		NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN
-----	--	-----	---------	---------

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

Motion carried.

2. Payment of the 11/05/2025 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of \$2,427,003.95.

Motion by Commissioner Lamour, supported by Commissioner Swartout to accept the 11/05/2025 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of \$ 2,427,003.95 and approve the Claims for the date and amount presented.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

3. Letter dated October 29, 2025 from Mr. Jesse Stanford, Monroe County Treasurer, submitting the Cash and Investment Report for the quarter ended September 30, 2025.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept and place on file the quarter-ended September 30, 2025 Cash and Investment Report.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

4. Update on status and development of 2026-2027 Budget from Mr. Michael Bosanac, Administrator/Chief Financial Officer.

Michael Bosanac explained the current status of the 2026-2027 budget with no action required on the informational matter.

Discussion was held regarding the 911 surcharge.

XI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Non-Claims
 - a. Check Register dated 10/24/2025 in the amount of \$ 576,947.63
 - b. Check Register dated 10/31/2025 in the amount of \$ 340,508.40

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.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

XII. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Operations Committee – Report of Committee Chairman from 11/04/2025 Meeting. Link to Operations Committee 11/04/2025 Agenda Packet: [HERE](#)
 - a. Letter dated October 22, 2025 from Honorable Michael Brown, 1st District Court requesting additional funding for four (4) years of prior service credit for the new full time Attorney Magistrate candidate. This request would require an additional General Fund allocation of up to \$1,645.00 for 2025 and \$15,104.00 for 2026.

Motion by Commissioner Swartout, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept the communication, place it on file, and approve the request for additional funding for four (4) of years prior service credit for the new full time Attorney Magistrate candidate. This request would require an additional General Fund allocation of up to \$1,645.00 for 2025 and \$15,104.00 for 2026.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

2. Letter dated October 21, 2025 from Honorable Amanda Eicher, District Court Judge & Sobriety Court requesting confirmation of acceptance for a grant award from the State Court Administrative Office for the grant period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 for funding of the Sobriety Court in the amount of \$40,000.00, with a general fund contribution in the total amount of \$240.00. The county contribution of \$40.00 provides for payroll processing costs that cannot be provided by the grant, \$159.00 to cover training, lodging, and mileage expenses also not covered by the grant, and \$5.00 to cover membership fees that are not covered by the grant. An additional appropriation of up to \$149.00 would be required in 2025, with the balance of \$55.00 requested to be included in the 2026 budget.

Motion by Commissioner Lamour, supported by Vice-Chairman Lievens to accept the communication, place it on file and confirm the acceptance of the grant award from the State Court Administrative Office for the grant period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 for funding of the Problem-Solving Court program in the amount of \$40,000.00, with a general fund contribution in the total amount of \$240.00. The county contribution of \$40.00 provides for payroll processing costs that cannot be provided by the grant, \$159.00 to cover training, lodging, and mileage expenses also not covered by the grant, and \$5 to

cover membership fees that are not covered by the grant. An additional appropriation of up to \$149.00 would be required in 2025, with the balance of \$55.00 approved to be included in the 2026 budget.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

- Letter dated October 21, 2025 from Honorable Amanda Eicher, District Court Judge & Mental Health Recovery Court requesting confirmation of acceptance for a grant award from the State Court Administrative Office for the grant period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 for funding of the Mental Health Recovery Court in the amount of \$185,336.00, with a local contribution of \$1,132.00 to provide for payroll processing costs and travel costs that cannot be provided by the grant. An additional appropriation of up to \$181.00 would be required in 2025, with the balance of \$951.00 requested to be included in the 2025 budget.

Motion by Commissioner Lamour, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept the communication, place it on file, and confirm the acceptance of the grant award from the State Court Administrative Office for the grant period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 for funding of the Mental Health Recovery Court in the amount of \$185,336.00, with a local contribution of \$1,132.00 to provide for payroll processing costs and travel costs that cannot be provided by the grant. An additional appropriation of up to \$181.00 would be required in 2025, with the balance of \$951.00 approved to be included in the 2025 budget.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

- Letter dated October 21, 2025 from Honorable Michael Brown, 1st District Court Chief Judge requesting confirmation of acceptance for a grant award from the State Court Administrative office for the grant period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 for funding of the Veterans Treatment Court in the amount of \$35,840.00 with a general fund contribution in the amount of \$382.00. An additional appropriation of up to \$23.00 would be required in 2025, with the balance of \$359.00 requested to be included in the 2026 budget.

Motion by Commissioner Swartout, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to accept the communication, place it on file, and confirm acceptance of the grant award from the State Court Administrative Office for the grant period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 for funding of the Veterans Treatment Court in the amount of \$35,840.00 with a

general fund contribution in the amount of \$382.00. An additional appropriation of up to \$23.00 would be required in 2025, with the balance of \$359.00 approved to be included in the 2026 budget.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

- Letter dated October 31, 2025 from Judge Mark Braunlich, Chief Judge, 38th Judicial Circuit Court and Judge William Paul Nichols, Adult Drug Treatment Court Judge, requesting approval to accept a grant award from the State Court Administrative Office for the grant period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 for funding of the Adult Drug Treatment Court in the amount of \$83,000.00, with a general fund contribution in the total amount of \$698.00. This includes \$400.00 for payroll processing costs that cannot be provided by the grant and would require an allocation of \$100 in the 2025 budget with the remaining balance of \$300.00 be allocated in the 2026 budget. Additionally, this total contribution includes an allocation of \$134.00 in the 2025 budget and \$164 in the 2026 budget.

Motion by Commissioner Lamour, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept he communication, place it on file, and confirm acceptance of the grant award from the State Court Administrative Office for the grant period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 for funding of the Adult Drug Treatment Court in the amount of \$83,000.00, with a general fund contribution in the total amount of \$698.00. This includes \$400.00 provides for payroll processing costs that cannot be provided by the grant and would require an allocation of \$100 in the 2025 budget with the remaining balance of \$300.00 be allocated in the 2026 budget. Additionally, this total contribution includes an allocation of \$134.00 in the 2025 budget and \$164 in the 2026 budget.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

- Letter dated October 22, 2025 from Chief Deputy Mike Preadmore, requesting approval to accept the FY2026 MCOLES Justice Training Grant Award in the amount of \$21,009.35 with a minimum local match of 25% or \$7,003.12. The match will be funded from the Sheriff's Office 2026 budget.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Swartout to approve the acceptance of FY2026 MCOLES Justice Training Grant Award in the amount of \$21,009.35 with a minimum local match of 25% or \$7,003.12. The match will be funded from the Sheriff's Office 2026 budget.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

7. Letter dated November 4, 2025 from Mr. Jason Berry, Community Planning & engagement Director requesting approval to accept a FY26 County Veterans Service Fund grant through the Michigan Veterans Affairs agency in the amount of \$67,048.06 to cover approved costs between October 1, 2025, and September 30, 2026. Accepting this grant obligates the Veteran Affairs cost center to cover \$899.00 for the Veterans Coordinator general liability insurance, which is not allowable per the grant. The 2025 amount of \$215.00 can be funded from current budget funds; the 2026 amount of \$684.00 is requested to be included in the 2026 budget.

Motion by Commissioner Lamour, supported by Commissioner Hoffman accept the communication, place it on file and approve the acceptance of FY26 County Veterans Service Fund grant through the Michigan Veterans Affairs agency in the amount of \$67,048.06 to cover approved costs between October 1, 2025, and September 30, 2026. Accepting this grant obligates the Veteran Affairs cost center to cover \$899.00 for the Veterans Coordinator general liability insurance, which is not allowable per the grant. The 2025 amount of \$215.00 can be funded from current budget funds; the 2026 amount of \$684.00 is approved to be included in the 2026 budget.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

8. Letter dated October 21, 2025 from Ms. Holly Flint, Community Corrections Coordinator requesting approval to accept the FY2026 Community Corrections Grant in the amount of \$295,500.00 with an approximate local share of \$132,512.00 with a 25% (\$33,878.00) included in the 2025 budget and the remaining 75% (\$101,634.00) requested to be included in the 2026 budget.

Motion by Commissioner Hoffman, supported by Commissioner Lamour to accept the communication, place it on file and approve the acceptance of FY2026 Community Corrections Grant in the amount of \$295,500.00 with an approximate local share of \$132,512.00 with a 25% (\$33,878.00) included in the 2025 budget and the remaining 75% (\$101,634.00) approved to be included in the 2026 budget.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

9. Letter dated October 17, 2025 from Ms. Donna L. Kuti, Monroe County Central Dispatch Director, submitting the Reinstated Inter Governmental Communication Tower Site Agreement with Lucas County requesting approval for continued co-location of the County radio system equipment.

Discussion was held regarding the changes of the agreement.

Motion by Commissioner Lamour, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept the communication, place it on file, and adopt the Resolution for the Reinstated Inter Governmental Communication Tower Site Agreement with Lucas County.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

10. Letter dated October 17, 2025 from Ms. Donna L. Kuti, Monroe County Central Dispatch Director, submitting the Part II – Amended and Restated Final Integration Agreement requesting approval to continue participation with the Michigan Public Safety Communication System.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Lievens, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept the communication, place it on file, and adopt the Resolution for the Integration Agreement (Part II - Amended and Restated Final Integration Agreement).

Commissioner Hoffman stated Donna Kuti is doing a great job.

Roll call by Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

XIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS — None

XIV. OLD BUSINESS—

1. MIDC Forensic Audit Informational Update

Vice-Chairman Lievens read the preliminary update of the forensic audit from Plant Moran into the record.

Vice-Chairman Lievens stated that the firm notes additional documentation may be required from these attorneys to reach final conclusions. The proposed target completion date is December 19, 2025. Explained to date, their work validates our earlier concerns expressed and shows that the County's current review procedures may have been inadequate for the scale and complexity of the MIDC Program.

Vice-Chairman Lievens further explained the Board has been struggling with this process for over two years. It has tested their patience, relationships, and confidence in a system meant to safeguard public funds. Vice-Chairman Lievens stated from the beginning he has sensed a lack of genuine cooperation from some of the stakeholders in this process. Stated he cannot recall a single comprehensive report from our own financial leadership that has treated this matter with the seriousness it deserves. Asked for the Boards continued persistence on this.

Commissioner Hoffman stated he agrees with Vice-Chairman Lievens 100%.

Commissioner Lamour announced the resignation of Paul Simonton from the Commission on Aging Board. Stated he will be looking for the next person to fill his spot. Commissioner Lamour explained that he served on the Board for nineteen (19) years and he will be missed. Wish him health and a speedy recovery.

XV. NEW BUSINESS—

XVI. PUBLIC COMMENT—

1. Sean Meyers: Stated he was concerned at first with the vote on the bills that Mr. Lievens and Mr. Hoffman both voted no on and is glad they both got around to commenting. Mr. Meyers believes Vice-Chairman Lievens left something out that is very important regarding the audit just mentioned. He explained neither of the attorneys mentioned remain on the MIDC list. Further explained they left the list months ago. Stated what was done last meeting was a political stunt and not due to either of those attorney's conduct.
2. Bill Lavoy: Stated he is intrigued by the idea of getting rid of the 9-1-1 assessment. It is interesting whether the Board decides to drop it or get rid of it. As far as a fiscal responsibility, especially with the recent discussion on millages. Mr. Lavoy stated that regardless of the outcome of the election tonight, he still thinks there needs to be a more comprehensive ethics policy or something that the Board comes up with.

XVII. ANNOUNCEMENTS—

XVIII. MEMBERS TIME –

Commissioner Moore –Explained that in no way is he unhappy with the performance of 9-1-1. Explained they do a phenomenal job and it is extremely important that this service is available in Monroe County. Stated he is not saying the surcharge should be eliminated or anything like that, he is just looking at the mechanism of funding and what the taxpayers were promised. Stated he does not know Mr. Meyers but he appreciates him coming up here and speaking his mind. Stated coming in here insinuating that commissioners are colluding is ignorant as well as to be emotional about something you have no knowledge of. Explained Mr. Meyers doesn't

know what documents the Board has reviewed, what attorneys they've talked to, what state officials they've talked to, etc. Commissioner Moore stated he knows there was no collusion because his no vote was made thirty (30) seconds before the Board took that vote based on a conversation between himself and a person in that office earlier that day. Stated it was to garner the attention of that department so that we could have these discussions. Explained this has been going on for a very long time with a new story ever couple months. Stated his job is to protect his constituents and serve at their pleasure so he agrees with Commissioner Lievens. He would like to see an end to this.

Commissioner Swartout – Passed.

Commissioner Lamour – Explained he voted yes to pay the bills but he is in unity with the commissioners that voted no as well. Commissioner Lamour agrees that there are too many problems in the billing. He voted yes because there are other people that are dependent on those payments and it makes the County stronger when we pay the bills. When we see these irregularities, it is our job to make sure that they stop. If we don't stop them, who does. It is our job to oversee how it's getting paid out.

Commissioner Heinzerling – Passed

Commissioner Asper –

Commissioner Hoffman – Stated sometimes the ice is thin but you have to step on it to protect the public. Explained a lot is going on and it's hard to understand but the good will prevail and the evil will fail.

Vice-Chairman Lievens – Stated he is proud to defend the taxpayers and if ruining his so call reputation is the price for defending against waste and excess, let it be. He didn't become an attorney to be part of the problem, he wanted to be part of the solution. It's unfortunate that a few with so many cases damage the system for the whole but as a fiduciary, he can't pass ominous claims where there has been financial mismanagement. Stated he will continue to be a no vote until he receives an audit that confirms everything is up to procedure and protocol and that taxpayers' dollars are being properly utilized for actual claims. Explained this preliminary audit has indications that claims were paid for court cases that didn't exist. Stated he is glad to defend the taxpayers and he will continue to do it

Chairman Vensel – Explained he concurs with his colleagues on the board regarding the concerns with the assigned counsel system. Explained these are concerns that were brought up when he first got on the Board, almost three (3) years ago. Stated he requested we looked at different systems and never got a response. Another concern he has is if these attorneys are billing sixteen (16) or twenty (20) hour days, what kind of representation are they providing to the indigent clients. Chairman Vensel doesn't know how they would be effective with spreading their representation that thin. We were given assurance eight (8) or nine (9) months ago that new practices would be taking place. Changes would be made by the County office to the practices, assignment procedures, case load distribution, billing software, tracking monthly, along with reporting to the regional MIDC office. He doesn't see any of this happening now. Stated he is very underconfident in the current system. There is going to be a feasibility study that he hopes MIDC will take seriously and listen to our concerns. Stated he shares the sentiments of his colleagues on the board and this needs to be fixed.

Chairman Vensel explained the upcoming Board meeting dates will be changing. The next

Board meeting will be Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. which is when Mr. Bosanac would come back with 9-1-1 surcharge information. The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.. This is when the Board will be voting on the budget for the upcoming year. If all goes well, we can handle our business for the month of December at this meeting.

- XIX. ADJOURNMENT - Chairman Vensel adjourned the meeting at 8:21 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 light-colored background.

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