MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting in the City of Monroe, on Tuesday, April 21, 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			ABSENT
Jay Heinzerling	Brian Lamour	David Swartout	
David Hoffman	David Vensel	J. Henry Lievens	
Greg Moore, Jr.	Dawn Asper		

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

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Lievens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. OPENING PRAYER

Deputy Clerk, Grace Miles led the Opening Prayer.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Vice-Chairman Lamour to approve the April 21, 2026 Regular Meeting Agenda as presented.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk, as follows:

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

Motion carried.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (04/07/2026 Regular Meeting Minutes)

Motion by Vice-Chairman Lamour, supported by Commissioner Swartout to approve the minutes as presented for the April 7, 2026 Regular Meeting and waive the reading thereof.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT —

1. Ned Birkey: Shared that we are no longer in drought. Discussed issues regarding farmland owners as well as prices. Mr. Birkey also shared information regarding cattle prices and informed the public of biofuel and biodiesel. Discussed John Deere's settlement and explained farmers are not happy about it.

2. Michael Davison: Explained his credentials and stated he knows what a proper investigation looks like and the Board's investigation is not it. Quoted his letter to the Board and shared his concerns with the credibility of the investigation due to the lack of evidence. Stated the public is entitled to know what has been paid, what specific services were provided, and why the level work was deemed acceptable.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS, SPECIAL TRIBUTES & PRESENTATION

1. CASA Presentation

   Jerica Sharp shared the goals and mission of CASA and informed the Board of their progress over the years.

   Discussion was held.

2. Emergency Management Presentation by Mr. Bradley Smith, Interim Director

   Mr. Smith provided the Board with updates regarding Emergency Management. Shared the current staffing and stated his main task has been working with Fermi and focusing on the HAB exercises.

   Discussion was held.

3. Presentation of 2025 Monroe County Central Dispatch Annual Report by Central Dispatch Director, Donna Kuti.

   Motion by Commissioner Hoffman supported by Vice-Chairman Lamour to accept the 2025 Monroe County Central Dispatch Annual Report and place the report on file.

   Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

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

   Motion carried.

4. Resolution to Establish Monthly Surcharge Rate for Central Dispatch 9-1-1 System Funding:
   a. Letter dated April 15, 2026 from Mr. Michael Bosanac, Administrator/ Chief Financial Officer, recommending approval of the Resolution to establish the surcharge at $2.00 per line, per month.

   b. Letter dated March 31, 2026 from Ms. Donna Kuti, Director, Central Dispatch providing recommendation from the 9-1-1 District Authority Board for the 2026-

2027 9-1-1 Surcharge.

c. Resolution to Establish Monthly Surcharge Rate for Central Dispatch 9-1-1 System Funding Effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Motion by Commissioner Swartout, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to approve the Resolution to establish Surcharge Rate for Central Dispatch 9-1-1 at $2.00 per line, per month effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Commissioner Asper stated the Board has previously talked about using money from taxes instead of doing this surcharge. Explained it is an old argument but she believes the Board should consider it.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

5. Resolution declaring May 10-16, 2026 as Police Week in Monroe County, Michigan

Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to approve adoption of the Resolution to declare May 10-16 as Police Week in Monroe County Michigan.

Commissioner Asper informed the Board and the public of a Candlelight Vigil in Lansing on May 4, 2026 for police officers that have been lost in the last year.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

IX. FINANCE MATTERS

1. Payment of the 04/22/2026 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of $1,347,068.95.

Discussion was held.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to approve the 04/22/2026 Accounts Payable Current Claims Report in the amount of $1,347,068.95 and approve the Claims for the date and amount presented.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

AYE		NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN

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

Motion carried.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Non-Claims
   a. Check Register dated 04/10/2026 in the amount of $ 1,101,119.59
   b. Check Register dated 04/17/2026 in the amount of $ 276,498.23

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

Motion carried.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter Operations Committee – Report of Committee from 04/16/2026 Meeting. Operations Committee 04/16/2026 Agenda Packet included.
   a. Change Order Agreement dated April 14, 2026 from Mr. Dan Merritt, Rehmann to provide professional supporting services to the County's fiscal services at an hourly rate of $200.00 and a total cost not to exceed $63,000.00 within the Finance Department for services up to June 30, 2026.

Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Vice-Chairman Lamour to approve having Rehmann provide professional supporting services to the County's fiscal services at an hourly rate of $200.00 and a total cost not to exceed $63,000.00 within the Finance Department for services up to June 30, 2026.

Commissioner Asper explained she does not see this as a good solution when the Finance Office is down three (3) employees. Inquired if Rehmann does the County's auditing as well as what the cost comparison is. Further explained this is a more expensive temporary fix than working on getting employees we are going to need anyways.

Mr. Bosanac explained whatever services are provided from Rehmann, as managers, the County is ultimately responsible for the work product. Further explained grant administration and reporting is what this individual would be working on. Stated Finance needs this assistance right now. This is buying the County time to address the needs in the office. Further explained in this instance, he would rather not have to do this, but tonight we have to do this in order to continue to provide the financial services to this organization and contractors.

Chairman Vensel thanked Mr. Bosanac for explaining the role Rehmann will play.

Commissioner Asper asked if we are going to be posting for the positions.

Chairman Vensel explained he thinks the Board needs to have some conversations and the original solution was on a fast track. He doesn't believe enough information got out in a timely manner.

Commissioner Asper stated you can't find people overnight so she is wondering if we know that we are actually posting for this and looking for someone in the meantime.

Chairman Vensel stated they are going to have detailed conversations about the prospects of solving this problem long term.

Commissioner Moore inquired what the conversations are including if it is not hiring someone for that department. Asked what other solutions would you have?

Chairman Vensel stated there is more to come on that. We were missing information when it was originally brought to Operations. Explained what the short-term issue was and stated we are going to try to get a fix on this in the very near future.

Commissioner Moore stated that is an expensive stopgap. $63,00 for about fifty days' worth of work and the Finance Office is currently down three employees, which is one hundred and twenty hours a week. Stated he would like to have some type of conversation moving forward for a permanent replacement. Stated he will vote for this tonight with hopes of further conversations, even though this is not his first choice.

Commissioner Asper stated a county job can get stressful and brought attention to employees protecting their mental health and their physical health. Stated she wants to make sure this is expeditious.

Vice-Chairman Lamour stated he agrees with comments made about the Finance Office. Stated we want to keep our employees. Stated with the short notice they had of bringing up a new employee, they thought it would be best to bring in professional help.

Commissioner Lievens stated the proposal prior to this was actually $40,000 more to accomplish the same task. His understanding is when it came before Operations, the proposal was $100,000 and didn't encompass talent that could hit the ground running.

Commissioner Moore stated the actualized cost over time would be less expensive for a permanent employee instead of paying someone $200 an hour for 55 days of work.

Susan Maier, Director of Fiscal Services explained the original proposal was around $100,000 to get the Finance office through the end of the year. Further explained that would have retained the 20-year employee within the Finance Department. Shared Finance recently converted the financial software and are working on converting the budget software as well, which are very big lifts. Stated she appreciates this stopgap measure but it doesn't compare to what Finance would have had.

Commissioner Asper asked if this would satisfy the problem. Stated she wants to go along with what Mr. Bosanac needs and wants to be assured we are taking care of the problem.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

2. Funding recommendation dated April 7, 2026 for Infrastructure Investment under Monroe Link Plan 2.0 in the amount of $1,081,000.00 from American Rescue Plan Act funds toward a stormwater management project in Frenchtown Township as part of an economic development project.

   Mr. Bosanac provided further information regarding this project.

   Dave Uhl, Public Safety/Economic Development Director, strongly encouraged support for funding the Grandview project and stated it is a strategic investment.

   Discussion was held.

   Motion by Commissioner Heinzerling, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to accept the communication, place it on file and approve funding the Infrastructure Investment under Monroe Link Plan 2.0 in the amount of $1,081,000.00 of American Rescue Plan Act funds toward a stormwater management project in Frenchtown Township as part of an economic development project.

   Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

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

   Motion carried.

3. Funding request dated April 15, 2026 for Infrastructure Investment under Monroe Link Plan 2.0 in the amount of $750,000.00 toward the St. Mary Academy historic rehabilitation/preservation and economic development project as a public partner with the City of Monroe. Funding from interest earned on American Rescue Plan Act funds.

   Mark Cochran, Acting City Manager, presented further details regarding this project.

   Motion by Commissioner Swartout, supported by Commissioner Lievens to accept the communication, place it on file and approve funding the Infrastructure Investment under Monroe Link Plan 2.0 in the amount of $750,000.00 toward the St. Mary Academy historic rehabilitation/preservation and economic development project with funding from interest earned on American Rescue Plan Act funds.

   Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

AYE		NAY	EXCUSED	ABSTAIN

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

Motion carried.

4. Letter dated April 21, 2026 from Mr. Jason Berry, Community Planning & Engagement Director requesting approval to accept the Adult Drug Treatment Court Application for Opioid Settlement Funds in the total amount of $9,826.00.

   Motion by Commissioner Lievens, supported by Commissioner Asper to approve the acceptance of the Adult Drug Treatment Court Application for Opioid Settlement Funds in the total amount of $9,826.00.

   Chairman Vensel explained he was invited to a Drug Court Treatment Session and he was thoroughly impressed by this tremendous resource.

   Commissioner Asper inquired what type of treatment is being provided. Shared her concerns with medicine being used as treatment.

   Mr. Berry explained if referred by a doctor, they can receive medication, but abstinence from any medicine is the goal.

   Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

5. Letter dated April 14, 2026 from Chief Deputy Michael Preadmore requesting approval to submit the FY2027 MCOLES Justice Training Grant application. The total project has a proposed cost of $28,062.00 with a 25% match of $7,015.50 requested to be funded in the 2027 Sheriff's Office budget.

   Motion by Commissioner Swartout, supported by Commissioner Hoffman to approve the submission of the FY2027 MCOLES Justice Training Grant application. The total project has a proposed cost of $28,062.00 with a 25% match of $7,015.50 requested to be funded in the 2027 Sheriff's Office budget.

   Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

6. Letter dated April 21, 2026 from Mr. Jason Berry, Planning & Engagement Director requesting approval to accept the 2026 Michigan Public Safety Critical Incident Mapping

Competitive Grant in the amount of $11,955.00 with no matching funds.

Motion by Commissioner Asper, supported by Commissioner Heinzerling to approve the acceptance of the 2026 Michigan Public Safety Critical Incident Mapping Competitive Grant in the amount of $11,955.00 with no matching funds.

Commissioner Hoffman stated this is a great help to first responders so they can see the lay outs of buildings.

Commissioner Moore echoed Commissioner Hoffman. Stated this is not a very flashy thing but if you talk to first responders this is extremely important for on-site volatile situations. Thanked Mr. Berry for working to get this grant.

Roll call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

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

Motion carried.

XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS — None

XIII. OLD BUSINESS — None

XIV. NEW BUSINESS — None

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT—

1. David Edwards: Expressed his appreciation for the resolution declaring Police Week. Shared his involvement with law enforcement and thanked the board.

2. TC Clements: Thanked the Board for their support of the two projects presented tonight. Stated this County is so far out compared to other counties when it comes to development to our community and it is appreciated.

XVI. ANNOUNCEMENTS — None

XVII. MEMBERS TIME –

Commissioner Asper – Reminded the public this month is Autism Awareness month. Stated she appreciates the service Mr. Edwards and his family have done. Shared the Candlelight Vigil at the capital on May 4th. Asked the public to pray for the mental health of officers since they see things and do things we never could.

Commissioner Moore – Thanked the different forms of leadership for being here tonight. Thanked Mr. Davison for asking some questions he and other commissioner have been asking. Thanked him for keeping the Board honest and transparent.

Commissioner Swartout – Stated the presentations were great tonight. Invited everyone to Earth Day at 11 a.m. this Saturday at Gerald Welch Health and Education Building. Stated the Drain Commissioner, the Sheriff, and himself will be presenting.

Commissioner Heinzerling – Passed.

Commissioner Lievens – Recognized the different forms of leadership and stated it is nice to see everybody.

Commissioner Hoffman – Stated he appreciates everyone here and it is a great community other than the beginning of the mess we got. Stated this is in the Attorney General hands now but shame on the character here that could have walked out and then the County wouldn't be in any of this. Stated 3,000 plus people voted for Mr. Biniecki and he should be sitting up here. Stated it is sad it had to come to this.

Vice-Chairman Lamour – Thanked everyone for being here and thanked Dave Uhl and Mark Cochran for their presentations. Stated economic development is what he is here for and it is what's going to help our children in the future. Stated this is truly impressive and he wants to keep it going.

Michael Bosanac – Explained the County has invested $10.5 million in ARPA money. As it stands today, the local units of government have contributed $17.2 million and that number is going to rise because some of the projects aren't done and there's some cost escalation. Stated he is sure that number is going to hit $30 million because of infrastructure. Explained this is for long term development and for creating opportunities.

Chairman Vensel – Thanked, recognized, and congratulated all the leadership in attendance and the willingness to partner to make Monroe County better. Stated he is very excited about what's happening tonight.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT - Chairman Vensel adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m. with no further business to discuss.

Respectfully submitted by:

Grace Miles

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