



MAY 2022
VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION MONTHLY ACTIVITY

Administration Address
219 E Paw Paw Street - Suite 201, Paw Paw, MI 49079
Website: www.vanburencountymi.gov

Telephone No.
(269) 657-8253
Email: Admin@vanburencountymi.gov

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Broadband** - mapping continues, it began 4/4/2022. See press release: <https://www.vanburencountymi.gov/749/Broadband-Expansion-Efforts>
- **Audit** - The auditors presented the county audit report for 2021. Total fund balance: \$9,233,983
- **Wine & Harvest Festival** - The request to Use County Property was approved.
- **DLZ Architectural and Engineering Design Services** - The As-Needed Agreement was approved.
- **MVAA Grant** - The Board approved the FY2023 Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency grant submission.
- **Research Attorney Position and Creation of a Law Clerk** - The board approved the reclassification creation of positions for Circuit Court.
- **Claims** - in the amount of \$2,480,034.04 were approved.
- **PC Refresh** - The budgeted 2022 PC refresh request, made by IT, was approved.
- **OCC Grant** - The Board approved the Office of Community Corrections Grant Application and Budget.
- **Children's Advocacy Center** - The startup funds were approved for a Van Buren County Children's Advocacy Center.
- **Cybersecurity Insurance** - The Board approved an increase in insurance coverage.
- **Medical Examiner Report** – The Board heard the annual report from the Medical Examiner. The printed report can be provided upon request.
- **Resignation** - The Board accepted the resignation of Frank Hardester as County Administrator.
- **Appointment** - The Board appointed Ryan Post as Interim County Administrator. Ryan is the County Finance Director. He will serve as Interim County Administrator until the search and appointment of a new County Administrator is complete.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

1. The board approved the request to use the county park during the Wine and Harvest festival for Arts & Crafts booths and two food booths on the dates of September 9, 2022 through September 11, 2022.
2. The County has used DLZ for architectural and design services for several years on a variety of projects. The renewal of this agreement was approved by the board. Services may include:
 - Re-design of the Hartford Facility
 - HVAC design and engineering
 - Capital Improvement Design Buildings for Cost estimating
 - Floor Plan Creation (Evacuation Charts, etc.)
3. The following committee appointments were made:
 - Community Corrections Advisory Board Appointments (2-year terms):
 - Lindsay Marshall and Kate Hosier
 - Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (2-year terms):
 - Rick Catherman
 - Economic Development Corporation (6-year terms):
 - Robert Smith
 - Van Buren County Planning commission (3-year terms):
 - Tom Motyka and William Pugsley
4. The request was for approval of the FY2023 MVAA grant submission and for approval of the strategy for funding which includes:
 - Dental Program \$50,000.00
 - Advertising and Promotion \$15,000.00
 - Emotional Support Program \$25,000.00
 - Emergency Relief \$12,000.00
5. The request was for approval of the reclassification of the Research Attorney position from the court association scale R27 to the court association scale R30, and for the creation of a full-time, temporary, Law Clerk position at the non-union scale R26.
 - The responsibilities of the Research Attorney have increased to include supervising court staff.
 - The hiring of a Law Clerk would address the workload that has drastically increased.
 - The total financial impact of both requests is: \$93,687.83
6. The request was for approval of the 2022 PC refresh. Every year the IT Department purchases up to 50 end user computers to replace aged and outdated devices across the County. The most cost-effective quote is \$54,360.91. This is a budgeted expense.
7. The request was for approval of the OCC Funding Grant Application and Budget. The approval allows the Van Buren County Office of Community Corrections to continue to screen individuals for pretrial services, provide supervision, electronic monitoring and substance abuse testing to individuals ordered to participate in pretrial services pending the outcome of their case.

8. The request was for approval for \$350,000.00 in Van Buren County funds for one-time startup costs of creating a satellite Children's Advocacy Center in Van Buren County. This request includes rent free use of space in the county owned DHHS building.
 - Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center provides a lifeline for child abuse and neglect victims.
 - The CAC will renovate and use space at the DHHS building in Hartford.
 - The funding will assist with renovation costs, furniture and staffing costs to initiate the program.
 - With a designated space for child-friendly interviews there will be a cost savings of more than \$1,000 for each case, per research by the National Children's Advocacy Center.

9. The Van Buren Conservation District is holding a Recycle Roundup
 - Items accepted: household hazardous waste, electronics, paint, passenger and semi tires
 - Date: June 11, 2022 ~ 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
 - Location: Van Buren Community Mental Health
801 Hazen Street
Paw Paw, MI 49079

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/VanBurenCountyMI/> 

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/van-buren-county-government> 

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/VanBurenCoMI> 

Watch us on our [YouTube page](#). 

All board meeting agendas and minutes can be found on the county website:

<https://www.vanburencountymi.gov/129/Agendas-Minutes>