



JANUARY 31, 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) 657-8230

Email: Admin@vanburencountymi.gov

As a reminder, all board meeting agendas and minutes can be found here:
<https://www.vanburencountymi.gov/129/Agendas-Minutes>

Highlights for this month:

- BOC continues discussion to develop a strategic plan.
- Randall Peat was elected as the new chairperson and Paul Schincariol was elected as the new vice chair.
- Palisades Community Advisory Panel (PCAP) held their first meeting on 1/26/2022.
- Paul DeYoung re-appointed to Land Bank & Building Authority for three years.
- ARPA Funds were allocated to Projects including \$7 Million for Broadband Expansion.
- \$1,290,725.70 in Grants were accepted.
- Funds approved for updates at the Hartford Human Services Building.
- An employee engagement proposal was approved.
- Claims in the amount of \$2,587,103.29 were approved.



JANUARY 31, 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) 657-8230
Email: Admin@vanburencountymi.gov

Here are the details for this month:

1. Organizational Meeting:

The BOC elected Randall Peat as the new chairperson and Paul Schincariol as the new vice chair. The board also adopted their bylaws and procedures for 2022. More information can be found here: <https://www.vanburencountymi.gov/487/Board-of-Commissioners>

2. Board Appointments:

Paul DeYoung (Register of Deeds) was re-appointed to the Land Bank Authority and Building Authority for a three-year term.

3. American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA):

ARPA Funds were approved for the following projects:

- HVAC system updates for the 911 Operations Center (\$82,000)
- HVAC control upgrades for the Historic Courthouse (\$142,000)
- Broadband Expansion (\$7 million allocation for this effort)
- Essential Worker Pay (A new resolution was adopted to reflect corrected fund use of \$157,448.60, the original resolution was for \$156,389.23)

4. Grants

The board approved the application and award receipt of the following grants:

- Family Court COVID mini-grant of \$16,396.70. This grant aids the court to help families hasten the return of children from foster care back to their home. Allowable expenditures include cell phone minute cards, gas cards, hotspots, and educational courses related to domestic violence.
- Access and Visitation Grant of \$2,250. This grant aids the court to help pay for supervised visitation services.
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) grant for \$696,944. This grant aids the court's Family Reunification program.
- Bureau of Justice (BJA) grant for \$549,990. This grant enhances the court's Drug Court Programs and will be used to fund additional treatment services, program evaluation, peer support and training.
- Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) grant for \$13,145. This grant will help purchase equipment for remote hearings and pretrial supervision software.
- Materials Management Community Engagement Grant for \$12,000. This grant will allow the county to work with West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum to conduct outreach to public and private stakeholders, research current practices, provide educational events and provide an outline for future planning needs.

5. Facilities

The board authorized the use of capital funds in the amount of \$55,000 to conduct upgrades at the Human Services West facility in Hartford (C.R. 681 Complex). The facility was formerly occupied by Public Health and the county is looking to lease a portion of the facility soon.



JANUARY 31, 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) 657-8230

Email: Admin@vanburencountymi.gov

6. Manulife Financial Corporation (John Hancock Dividend)

The board authorized Finance Director, Ryan Post, to be the new contact for this fund. This step allows the county to close out the account and bring the funds back to the general fund in the amount of \$370,371.18.

7. Public Transit

The board approved the annual application with MDOT. The process is required to assist MDOT's process to allocate operational and capital funding to transit agencies throughout the state of Michigan.

8. Contracts

- The board approved a contract renewal with the Local Emergency Planning Committee for Steve Smith to provide up to 100 hours of service at \$20/hour to conduct site visits for the LEPC. Van Buren County is required under the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III, Section 302, to develop, maintain and update hazardous materials emergency response plans. Van Buren County currently has 109 sites that are listed under SARA Title II, 36 sites are classified as Title III which means they have one or more hazardous materials over the threshold which requires an emergency response plan be developed. The Local Emergency Planning Committee oversees these plans for Van Buren County.

9. Personnel

- The board authorized an employee engagement survey at a cost of \$8,170. The Society for Human Resource Management in collaboration with Workforce Science Associates administers the survey.

10. Policies

The board approved and adopted the Van Buren County Public Transit Drug and Alcohol Policy Revision. The revision was due to required stronger zero tolerance language.

11. Claims

The board authorized claims in the amount of \$2,587,103.29.

12. Palisades Community Advisory Panel (PCAP)

The first meeting of PCAP was held on 1/26/2022 at Lake Michigan College. The purpose is related to the decommissioning of Palisades Nuclear Plant in Covert, Michigan. More information can be found here: <https://www.vanburencountymi.gov/737/Palisades-Community-Advisory-Panel>

Are you following us on social media? Stay up to date....like and follow us here:

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

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

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