



September 2025 Board of Commissioners Activity Reports

Administration Address
219 E Paw Paw Street - Suite 302, Paw Paw, MI 49079
Website: www.vanburencountymi.gov

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

HIGHLIGHTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

- 1. Facilities Master Plan Update** – Ryan Archer from Tower Pinkster presented a review of the Facility Assessment Report during the September 8, 2025, Committee of the Whole meeting. The report summarized current facility conditions across county departments and outlined a proposed timeline for modernization and space optimization planning.
- 2. Broadband Update: DCS & Comcast** – Chris Scharrer (DCS), joined by Brian Sapita and Jeff Snyder from Comcast, delivered an update on ongoing broadband expansion efforts during the September 23, 2025, Committee of the Whole meeting. They discussed deployment progress, current coverage gaps, and anticipated infrastructure improvements to enhance internet access across rural and underserved areas of Van Buren County.
- 3. FY 2025/2026 Final Budget** – The Board adopted the County's comprehensive budget for the 2025/2026 fiscal year, totaling over \$32 million in General Fund revenues and expenditures during the September 8, 2025, Board of Commissioners meeting.
- 4. County Full Faith & Credit - McConnell & Olcott Intercounty Drain** – The Board approved a resolution pledging Van Buren County's limited tax full faith and credit for the McConnell and Olcott Intercounty Drain Project, covering 62% of the project cost attributed to the county during the September 8, 2025, Board of Commissioners meeting.
- 5. Opioid Settlement Agreement – Purdue** – Authorization was granted for Van Buren County to participate in the Purdue Opioid Settlement and to designate the County Administrator as the Authorized Representative for current and future opioid settlements during the September 8, 2025, Board of Commissioners meeting.
- 6. Region IV Area Agency on Aging - MI Choice Waiver Resolution** – The Board endorsed a resolution supporting the MI Choice Waiver Program and called upon state legislators to ensure full and sustainable funding for in-home care services for seniors and individuals with disabilities during the September 8, 2025, Board of Commissioners meeting.
- 7. OTM Cyber – Cybersecurity Services Agreement** – A three-year agreement with OTM Cyber was approved to enhance the county's cybersecurity capabilities. The contract includes 24/7 monitoring, incident response support, and the development of response plans, reflecting proactive investment in IT security infrastructure during the September 8, 2025, Board of Commissioners meeting.
- 8. MSU Extension Memorandum of Agreement Renewal FY 2025 – 2026** - The 2025–2026 Memorandum of Agreement with Michigan State University Extension was approved, allocating \$212,800 for educational and outreach services in Van Buren County during the September 23, 2025, Board of Commissioners meeting.

- 9. Domestic Violence Coalition Services Agreement Renewal FY 2025 – 2026** - A \$25,000 services agreement renewal with the Domestic Violence Coalition was approved to support emergency shelter and advocacy for victims of domestic and sexual violence during the September 23, 2025, Board of Commissioners meeting.
- 10. Van Buren Conservation District - Resource Recovery Services Agreement Renewal FY 2025 – 2026** – The Board approved a \$100,000 services agreement renewal with the Van Buren Conservation District to support countywide recycling and hazardous waste programs for FY 2025–2026 during the September 23, 2025, Board of Commissioners meeting.
- 11. Rural Readiness Grant Application** – The Board approved a \$50,000 grant application to support the development of the Digital Innovation Collaborative Exchange (DICE), a joint initiative with St. Joseph County. This program aims to build digital tools for permitting, communications, FOIA processing, and other services, especially for smaller rural governments during the September 23, 2025, Board of Commissioners meeting.
- 12. August 2025 Claims** – During the September 23, 2025, BOC meeting, the Board approved claims totaling \$5,645,635.26 for the month of August 2025.
- 13. Resolution - Revenue Sharing Cuts** – A resolution was passed urging state legislators and the Governor to oppose proposed House cuts to statutory county revenue sharing and support the Senate’s budget proposal, which increases funding and preserves board discretion over public safety allocations during the September 23, 2025, Board of Commissioners meeting.

Appointments/Reappointments

- 1. Board of Canvassar Appointment - Janssen, J. and Seymour, M.** – The Board appointed Judy Janssen (Republican) and Michael Seymour (Democrat) to four-year terms on the Van Buren County Board of Canvassers. These appointments were made in accordance with Michigan Election Law and ensure bipartisan oversight of election results certification during the September 23, 2025, Board of Commissioners meeting.



[Scan the QR code](#) for updates, news, live Board meetings, agendas, minutes, and more!