

Van Buren County Planning Commission  
County Administration Building – 219 E Paw Paw St, Suite 201, Paw Paw, MI 49079  
July 23, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.

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- 1. Call to Order and Attendance** - The meeting was called to order at 6:56 p.m. by Chair Alyssa Hosbein. **Present:** Alyssa Hosbein, Nick Carlson, Kurt Doroh, Tom Motycka, Barbara Rose, Scott Cedarquist and Lisa Ransler (staff). **Absent:** Tony Hemenway, Will Pugsley, Jan Petersen.
- 2. Approval of Agenda** - Motion by Motycka, supported by Motycka, to approve the July 23, 2025 agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- 3. Approval of Minutes from May 28, 2025** - Motion by Motycka, supported by Rose, to approve the minutes from May 28, 2025. Motion carried unanimously. Cedarquist abstained.
- 4. Public Comment** - None.
- 5. Reports**
  - **County Board of Commissioners (BOC):** Doroh reported he had worked on the Emergency Response Practice for Palisades and the final emergency response drill will be completed next week.
  - **Land Preservation Board (LPB):** Ransler reported on the 2025 PA 116 application process.
  - **Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (SWMPC):** No meeting.
  - **Local Visits:** Rose highlighted new developments in Covert Township. Doroh and Motycka gave brief updates on local zoning changes and developments.
  - **Staff Report:** Ransler shared updates including the upcoming Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) assessments and staff coordination efforts.
- 6. Unfinished Business**
  - **Van Buren County Renewable Energy Academy Workshop:** The Planning Commission discussed hosting a fall workshop to engage local officials on renewable energy planning. Motion by Carlson, supported by Doroh, to proceed with organizing the workshop. Motion carried unanimously.
  - **St. Joseph County Joint Master Plan:** The Commission formally received the plan for review and with no comment.
- 7. New Business**
  - **Paw Paw Township Off-Site Accessory Buildings Zoning Amendment:** Ransler provided an overview of the amendment. Motion by Motycka, supported by Hosbein to recommend approval of the zoning amendment. Motion carried unanimously.
  - **City of Gobles – Intent to Plan:** The Commission acknowledged receipt of the City of Gobles’ notice of intent to update their Master Plan. No action taken.
  - **City of Bangor – Intent to Plan:** The Commission acknowledged receipt of the City of Bangor’s notice of intent to update their Master Plan. No action taken.
- 8. Adjournment** - Motion to adjourn by Carlson, supported by Motycka. The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for August 27, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.