

# MINUTES

## Committee of the Whole

DRAFT

County of Saginaw  
Board of Commissioners  
2023 Strategic Planning Session  
Friday, April 21, 2023 § 3:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
**Horizons Conference Center**  
**6200 State St., Saginaw, MI 48603**

Present: Jack Tany – CoW Chairman, Christopher Boyd – Chairman, Lisa Coney, Denny Harris, Dennis Krafft, Gerald Little, Sheldon Matthews, Mark Piotrowski, Tracey Slodowski, Rich Spitzer, Michael Webster

Others: Robert Belleman, Jaime Ceja, Jennifer Broadfoot, Chief Judge Jackson, Suzy Koeplinger, Marissa Sawdon, and Dave Gilbert

3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

- I. Call To Order/Welcome/Roll-Call ---**Tany at 3:30 p.m.**
- II. **Commissioner Little gave an invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
- III. Public Comment (Speakers limited to 3 minutes)
  - **Chief Judge Jackson expressed his excitement to move forward in the budgeting process as a team and explained his priorities and goals of reducing backlog, maintaining an effective workforce, and cultivating a practical relationship with the Board of Commissioners.**
- IV. Review of 2019 Board Priorities  
**Robert Belleman, Controller/CAO, reviewed the 2019 Board Priorities and offered updates on the progress of the county's goals. The committee reflected on the outcomes of the 2019 strategic planning and Commissioner Tany asked the committee which items they felt didn't see as much progress as expected. Commissioner Webster stated that moving forward the committee should consider the priorities they held prior to Covid-19 and ask themselves how the knowledge from the pandemic might shape perspectives looking forward.**
- V. Strategic Planning Priorities
  1. BUDGET
    - A. Review of Departmental Goals (Short/Intermediate/Long-term)  
**Common themes among departmental goals relate to employee retention, difficulty with the Odyssey system and burnout due to heavy workload. Discussion was held regarding Odyssey problems linking to burnout. The committee discussed potential strategic partnerships where local organizations could assist the county with services to ultimately save money and resources, as well as assist with employee morale from being overwhelmed with a heavy workload.**

Note: Upon completion of discussion, only motions to refer to an organized committee or to postpone indefinitely shall be allowed - Article IX, Section 9.5, and 2023 Board Rules.

B. ARPA – Implementation of ARPA Funding

The committee discussed Guidehouse managing the risk assessment phase of the external ARPA sub-recipients. The Neighb will be included in the assessment as a prerequisite for any potential funding.

*---Moved by Boyd, seconded by Krafft, to refer discussion of the \$1 million of ARPA funding set aside for affordable housing assistance and other outstanding, potential ARPA funding to the May Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried.*

[Dinner Break 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.]

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

C. Recruitment/Retention of Employees

Discussion considered county employees' salaries and benefits. Current benefits are competitive in the job market, but salaries are becoming less competitive. Ideas for more accessible transportation and budget adjustments were discussed.

D. Commissioner Travel Policy & Budget

*---Moved by Krafft, seconded by Little, to refer discussion of commissioner travel and potential budget adjustments to the May Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried.*

***To be continued at the Saturday, April 22, 2023 Strategic Planning Session***

~~2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS~~

~~A. County Facility Needs~~

~~B. Memorial Cup~~

~~3. COUNTY PROGRAMS/SERVICES (limiting low priority services)~~

VI. Adjournment *---Moved by Matthews, seconded by Harris, to adjourn. Motion carried, time being 8:15 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jack B. Tany, Committee Chair  
Marissa Sawdon, Committee Clerk

Note: Upon completion of discussion, only motions to refer to an organized committee or to postpone indefinitely shall be allowed - Article IX, Section 9.5, and 2023 Board Rules.