

Van Buren County Board of Road Commissioners

June 3, 2026 - Regular Meeting

BE IT REMEMBERED: That on the 3rd day of June, 2026 at 5:00 PM, E.D.T., the Board of County Road Commissioners for the County of Van Buren met in regular session at the Road Commission Administrative Office in Lawrence, Michigan.

PRESENT:

Road Commissioners Askew, Boze, Burleson, Kinney and Nelson
Managing Director Bret Witkowski
Highway Engineer Barry Anttila
Finance and Human Resources Director Linnea Rader
Operations Director Greg Brucks
Administrative Assistant-Board Secretary Jill Brien

ABSENT:

None

GUESTS PRESENT:

Kurt Doroh, County Commissioner
Vic Pantea, Citizen
Tom Hammond, Tax Payer

Chairman Burleson called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Boze requested that item 10H, Keeler Township's Request for RevShare Advance, be added to the Agenda.

Motion by Boze seconded by Kinney to approve the Agenda, as amended.

YES: 5
NO: 0
MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Kinney seconded by Nelson to approve the Minutes of the May 5, 2026 Regular Meeting as presented by the Board Secretary.

YES: 5
NO: 0
MOTION CARRIED.

The Chairman opened the meeting to first public comment. None was received.

County Commissioner Doroh provided a copy of the May 2026 Board of Commissioners Activity Report for the Board and asked if there were any questions. Witkowski inquired as to ballot proposals on the August ballot and Doroh responded that there were currently none. The Board congratulated Doroh as his grandson is now the State Champion in the high jump.

Department Updates were provided as follows:

Finance and HR Department:

- The final audit report was emailed to each of you directly from the State of Michigan on May 29, 2026, from Michael Forward. If you have any questions, please let me know.

- On Thursday, May 28, 2026, I emailed you the Retirement System Annual Report as required by the State of Michigan. This showed the healthy funding status of both the pension and OPEB plans.
- This week we are interviewing for the Communication and Permit Clerk position. We had 118 applicants for the job.
- Zander Payment, who worked last summer doing traffic control and various summer tasks, has returned to work another summer with the Road Commission. Zander is pursuing his finance degree and will be working as an intern, helping with phones and other tasks in the office.
- The Local Road Research Program (LRRP) is moving right along. RFPs have been received for the chip seal (seal coat) project. I sit on the board for the LRRP as well as the chip seal project. We met early this week to evaluate the RFPs. The LRRP board will meet June 4th to award it.
- The gravel road project through the LRRP is out for bid currently with a due date of June 12, 2026.
- The AI-assisted road condition data collection project is currently in development.
- Operating Budget is attached through June 1, 2026.

The Board was very pleased with the lack of any findings in the FY2025 Audit.

Operations Department:

In-house roadside mowing is progressing very nicely and looking really good. First round is over 75% complete.

Contract gravel is complete in Geneva, Columbia and Waverly. Working now in Pine Grove.

Patching for seal coat continues.

New 2026 pickups are scheduled to arrive late June.

Tree crew staff and the union equipment committee took part in the demo of a new bucket truck in Lawrence on Wednesday. Everyone loved it and it was well under or budgeted number, so we bought it. It had to go back to the dealer for a few finishing touches and minor tweaks, but should be able to take delivery in a week or two. The truck came in substantially under-budget.

Also on Wednesday, the LARGE pipe on 40th Ave. in Arlington was replaced.

Dust Control in Waverly and Bloomingdale are set to begin on Monday.

Two additional pickups were ordered with the savings from the bucket truck purchase.

Various operation programs were discussed by the Board, and updates were provided by Brucks.

Engineering Department:

- 73rd St.; M-43 to CR 388, clearing and restoration, South Haven Twp.; only restoration remains.
- Silver Saddle Rd. in Columbia Twp., project is complete.
- CR 352; 60th St. to CR 681, Keeler Twp., clearing, crush/shape, trench/widen, drainage corrections, paving, & restoration, awarded to Thomas Excavating; tree work and stump removal portion of project continues.
- 31st St.; M-40 to 62nd Ave., Antwerp Twp; paving project is complete.

- CR 653; RAH to 48th Ave., Antwerp Twp; crush/shape, trench/widen, drainage corrections, paving, & restoration - Federal Aid project was awarded to Michigan Paving and Materials. Scheduled to start in June. We have a Grade inspection meeting scheduled for June 1, 2026.
- CR 687; CR 372 to CR 376 in Hartford and Bangor Twps., Federal Aid project is currently advertised and the MDOT bid letting is June 4, 2026.
- Township project requests are ongoing.
- Bids were opened on May 28, 2026 as follows: Crescent Estates Subdivision, Antwerp Township; 28th Street North of Red Arrow Highway, Antwerp Township; 12th Avenue/Mill Lake Road, Bloomingdale Township. We will look to the Board to award these projects later on today's Agenda.
- Bids were opened to repave the parking lot at the Lawrence facility. We will look to the Board to award this project later on today's Agenda.
- 82nd street over Rogers Creek in Covert Twp is moving forward. The preliminary estimate is complete, The township has signed a project sheet approving the project to be let for bid, and we are moving forward with the EGLE permit.
- The railroad crossing on CR 681 north of Red Arrow Highway is complete and open to traffic.
- Engineering and design work is ongoing for the 40th Street bridge over the Paw Paw River in Waverly Twp. 8th Avenue bridge over the Black River in Geneva Twp. has been approved for bridge funding as well through the Neighborhood Road Fund. Engineering and design for both of these bridges was awarded to Scott Civil Engineering.

Anttila added that next week 25th Street and Ye Olde Woods subdivision, both in Antwerp Township, will be crackfilled and readied for paving. He also invited the Board to take a look at Kirby Heindorf's bucket truck used in Traffic Services which was parked out front on display.

Managing Director Witkowski:

- The next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 8th, 2026.
- I have met with all 18 supervisors for my annual one-on-one and attended 9 township night board meetings.
- Attended the Van Buren County Supervisors meeting last week, which was the best turnout in a long time.
- If anyone at township meetings wants a VBCRC facilities tour, please give them my number. Tours typically take about two hours.
- We have the cell tower contract in the home stretch. We are awaiting American Tower's response. Revenue increases by 53%. We will receive a \$30,000 one-time payment. We will also get 20% off any new tenant on the tower. The new contract starts in December 2026.
- The VBCRC was selected by CRA as its featured county in the September quarterly publication. When I receive a date and time for the interview, I will inform the Board.
- As you know, we were blessed when the House passed \$800,000 in funding for the bridge on CR 657. It is now sitting in the Senate. From my conversations, it appears to be moving forward in the Senate. The State budget starts on October 1st.
- VBCRC will be closed on July 2nd and 3rd in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Independence Day (July 4th).

Witkowski expressed his appreciation for each of the Managers in their important role at the VBCRC.

Witkowski reviewed the Vouchers with the Board and those present as follows:

Voucher #2466	\$	1,055,198.54	Accounts Payable
Voucher #2467	\$	207,980.46	Payroll
Voucher #2468	\$	603,105.29	Accounts Payable
Voucher #2469	\$	199,507.05	Payroll
TOTAL	\$	2,065,791.34	

Motion by Nelson, seconded by Boze to approve Vouchers 2466 through 2469, inclusive, in the total amount of \$2,065,791.34.

YES: 5
NO: 0
MOTION CARRIED.

Brucks left the meeting for another previously scheduled meeting at 5:27 PM.

The Board reviewed the proposed certification of Rose Creek Estates subdivision in Antwerp Township, including the proposed certification map, and a Resolution from Antwerp Township approving the proposed acceptance of the subdivision into the certified county local road system. Motion by Boze, seconded by Askew to adopt the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION CERTIFYING ROADWAYS CONTAINED
WITHIN ROSE CREEK ESTATES SUBDIVISION, ANTWERP TOWNSHIP**

Resolution 2026-14

At a regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners for the County of Van Buren, Michigan, held in the offices of the Board, 325 West James Street, Lawrence, Michigan, on June 3, 2026 it was moved by Commissioner Boze and seconded by Commissioner Askew to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Sophie Rose Street and Savannah Street both lie within Rose Creek Estates Subdivision situated in Antwerp Township, Van Buren County, Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, these roadways meet current Road Commission standards for right-of-way; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the residents of Rose Creek Estates Subdivision, as well as the motoring public and the Van Buren County Road Commission, to certify all roadways lying within said Rose Creek Estates Subdivision more particularly described as follows:

PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 13 WEST, ANTWERP TOWNSHIP, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCING AT THE WEST QUARTER CORNER OF SAID SECTION 10; THENCE SOUTH 00° 08' 50" EAST ON THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION 10 A DISTANCE OF 1995.80 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89° 51' 10" EAST 33.00 FEET TO THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF COUNTY ROAD 657 AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE LAND HEREIN DESCRIBED: THENCE CONTINUING NORTH 89° 51' 10" EAST 480.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00° 08' 50" WEST 302.10 FEET; THENCE NORTHEASTERLY 287.45 FEET ON A 183.00 FOOT RADIUS CURVE TO THE RIGHT WHOSE CHORD BEARS NORTH 44° 51' 08" EAST 258.80 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89° 51' 10" EAST 733.32 FEET TO REFERENCE POINT "A"; THENCE NORTH 00° 08' 50" WEST 117.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY 862.37 FEET ON A 183.00 FOOT RADIUS CURVE TO THE RIGHT WHOSE CHORD BEARS SOUTH 45° 08' 50" EAST 258.80 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89° 51' 10" WEST 916.31 FEET; THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY 183.78 FEET ON A 117.00 FOOT RADIUS CURVE TO THE LEFT WHOSE CHORD BEARS SOUTH 44° 51' 10" WEST 165.46 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00° 08' 50" EAST 594.57 FEET; THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY 39.23 FEET ON A 30.00 FOOT RADIUS CURVE TO THE LEFT WHOSE CHORD BEARS SOUTH 37° 36' 44" EAST 36.50 FEET; THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY 311.46 FEET ON A 70.00 FOOT RADIUS CURVE TO THE RIGHT WHOSE CHORD BEARS SOUTH 52° 23' 16" WEST 111.12 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00° 08' 50" WEST 323.03 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89° 51' 10" WEST 480.00 FEET TO THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF SAID COUNTY ROAD 657; THENCE NORTH 00° 08' 50" WEST ON SAID EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE 66.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. EXCEPT COMMENCING AT SAID REFERENCE POINT "A"; THENCE NORTH 89° 51' 10" EAST 66.01 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH 00° 08' 50" WEST 117.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY 551.35 FEET ON A 117.00 FOOT RADIUS CURVE TO THE RIGHT WHOSE CHORD BEARS SOUTH 45° 08' 50" EAST 165.46 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89° 51' 10" WEST 117.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. CONTAINING 5.04 ACRES MORE OR LESS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following roadways: Sophie Rose Street and Savannah Street all lying within Rose Creek Estates Subdivision are hereby certified as county local roads.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Van Buren.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be published once each week for three (3) successive weeks in the *Kalamazoo Gazette*, a newspaper printed and circulated in the County, and the Affidavit of Publication shall be filed with the Clerk of Van Buren County, and the Clerk of Antwerp Township.

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION APPROVED.

Anttila updated the Board and provided the bid tabulation for the VBCRC Lawrence Garage Parking Lot project publicly opened on May 28, 2027. Upon recommendation it was moved by Boze, seconded by Nelson to awarded the project to the as-read low bidding contractor, Michigan Paving and Materials Company in the amount of \$301,670.00, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission.

YES: 5

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Anttila shared the bid tabulation with the Board for roadway improvements on 12th Avenue/Mill Lake Road in Bloomingdale Township which were publicly opened on May 28, 2026. Upon recommendation it was moved by Burleson, seconded by Boze to award the project to the as-read low bidding contractor, Michigan Paving & Materials Company, in the amount of \$261,184.20, contingent upon approval by Bloomingdale Township, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission and Bloomingdale Township.

YES: 5

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Anttila provided the bid tabulation for the Board for roadway improvements in the Crescent Estates Subdivision, Antwerp Township, which were publicly opened on May 28, 2026. Upon recommendation by Anttila it was moved by Nelson, seconded by Kinney to award the project to the as-read low bidding contractor, Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc., in the amount of \$95,790.00, contingent upon approval by Antwerp Township, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission and Antwerp Township.

YES: 5

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Anttila provided the bid tabulations for the Board for roadway improvements on 28th Street North of Red Arrow Highway to the dead-end in Antwerp Township which were publicly opened on May 28, 2026. Upon recommendation by Anttila it was moved by Nelson, seconded by Boze to award the project to the as-read low bidding contractor, Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc., in the amount of \$65,103.00, contingent upon approval by Antwerp Township, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission and Antwerp Township.

YES: 5

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Witkowski discussed requests received from two contractors who were awarded Contract Gravel contracts in 2026. H&H Contract Haulers and StoneCo of MI have requested \$0.50 per ton fuel surcharge due to the high cost of diesel fuel. The request has been reviewed by Brucks who found the requests to be reasonable based upon the cost of diesel fuel at the time the bid was let (\$3.50/gallon) versus current diesel costs (\$6.50/gallon). Motion by Boze, seconded by Askew to authorize H&H Contract Haulers' and StoneCo's request for a fuel surcharge in the amount of \$0.50 per ton for contract gravel due to the escalated costs of diesel fuel.

YES: 5

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Witkowski reviewed the proposed policy regarding the Installation of Private Utilities Within County Road Right-of-Way. The Road Commission has experienced an increase in requests to install private utilities such as irrigation lines, private water lines, drain tiles, wells, and septic components within the public ROW. Historically, these requests were rare and handled individually, however, the growing frequency and complexity of requests has highlighted the need for consistent, clear guidance. The rationale for policy adoption is as follows:

- **Protection of Public Infrastructure:** The Road Commission is responsible for maintaining and preserving the roadway and drainage system. Private utilities in the ROW can interfere with maintenance, future improvements, and public utilities if not properly regulated.
- **Public Safety and Risk Management:** Unrecorded or improperly documented private utilities have been damaged during public utility and road work, creating safety risks and service disruptions. A policy helps reduce these risks through clearer standards and documentation.
- **Legal Clarity and Consistency:** Unlike public utilities, private utilities do not have a statutory right to occupy the ROW. A formal policy establishes objective approval criteria, promotes consistent decision-making, and strengthens the Road Commission's legal defensibility.
- **Use of ROW as a Last Resort:** The public ROW exists primarily for transportation and public benefit. The proposed policy clarifies that private utilities should only be considered when no feasible alternatives exist and not merely for convenience or cost savings.
- **Avoidance of Property and Ownership Disputes:** Past installations have led to disputes between adjoining landowners or abandoned facilities, requiring Road Commission involvement after the fact. Policy requirements help ensure ownership clarity and long-term responsibility.

It is therefore the recommendation of staff that the Board adopt the proposed policy, as presented. This Policy has been reviewed and approved by Attorney Bill Henn. The Board asked questions which were responded to by staff. Motion by Boze, seconded by Askew to adopt Policy 2026-02 as presented.

Installation of Private Utilities Within County Road Right-of-Way

Overview

All county roads are located on land that is referred to as the road right-of-way (ROW). The VBCRC is responsible by statute for maintaining a county road network of approximately 1,313 miles. Regulation and control of activities and work in the ROW is necessary to provide efficient and safe operations of the county road network.

Michigan Statutes allow for the installation of public utilities upon, over, across, or under any public road, bridge, street, or public place. Public utilities include telegraph, telephone, power, and other public utility companies, cable television companies, broadband companies, and municipalities, subject to the approval of the Road Commission.

From time to time the VBCRC receives permit applications for the installation of private utilities - utilities that do not meet the criteria of a municipal or public utility - within the ROW. This Policy provides guidance for evaluating such requests.

Permit Review Process

1. Each request for a permit to install private utilities within the ROW shall be reviewed individually by the VBCRC. Private utilities shall include, but not necessarily be limited to sewage disposal systems, septic drain field, water wells and/or water lines. The following private utilities shall NOT be permitted: electric, gas, or telecommunication.
2. For existing installations, whether expressly permitted or not, any substantial maintenance, repair, or replacement will require new authorization from the VBCRC, including the issuance of a new permit and payment of applicable fees.

3. If the private utility is permitted by the VBCRC, the applicant shall follow all VBCRC rules, requirements, guidelines, and procedures for working within the county road right of way.

Criteria for Approval

1. Applicants must demonstrate that they possess the legal right to locate the installation on the subject property (e.g., fee ownership, easement, etc.).

2. Applicants must also demonstrate proof of unusual hardship if alternative solutions are not feasible. The following do not qualify as unusual hardship:

- A. Increased construction costs.
- B. Increased construction time or delays.
- C. Increased complexity of facility placement.

3. The Highway Engineer or Managing Director, or their designee, shall review the application and supporting documentation. A recommendation shall then be made by them to the Board of County Road Commissioners. The Board shall make a final decision during a duly noticed public meeting, and the decision shall be communicated to the applicant within a reasonable timeframe following the meeting.

4. If the requested installation is not approved, the Property Owner may work to identify and explore viable alternative solutions.

5. If the requested installation is approved, Applicant agrees to maintain an MCL 224.19b permit from the Road Commission and to abide by all standard and special terms and conditions.

6. This Policy is subject to revision and does not guarantee approval of any application.

YES: 5

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Anttila led a discussion regarding a request by Nobel Family Dairy to direct bore under 30½ Street in Pine Grove Township about 1,300 feet North of 10th Avenue for an underground irrigation line. The irrigation line will run from an existing irrigation well on the east side of 30 ½ Street on parcel 80-15-017-021-02, to parcel 80-15-017-003-30 for irrigating crops on the west side of the road. Nobel Dairy has an existing Contract to farm said parcel and has provided a permission letter for the irrigation line from property owner Taylor France. The underground line would be bored by DeWitt Trenching Contractors. A Single Site Permit to Work Within the County Road Right of Way, Permit Fee, and Certificate of Insurance have been submitted which meet VBCRC requirements. Both landowners will have to sign a Permissive Use Agreement with the VBCRC for us to allow this encroachment within the public road right of way as well as obtain and maintain an Annual Working Within the Road Right of Way permit with the Road Commission for the extent the private utility remains within the road right of way. It is our recommendation that the Board allow this installation of underground irrigation. We have attached the letter of permission from the adjacent property owner, and a map of the location, as well as the single site ROW permit application and certificate of insurance from the proposed contractor. Motion by Boze, seconded by Nelson to authorize the Managing Director to enter into a Permissive Use Agreement with property owners Nobel Family Dairy and Taylor France for the direct bore of an underground irrigation line under 30½ Street in Pine Grove Township approximately 1,300' North of 10th Avenue with the Agreement to be recorded with the Van Buren County Register of Deeds.

YES: 5

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Rader discussed the VBCRC's request for Engineering Reimbursement with the Board and those present. Motion by Askew, seconded by Nelson to authorize the signature of MDOT Form 2044, Engineering Reimbursement, by the Chairman and two members of the Board

for submission to the MDOT together with copies of billings to justify reimbursement by the State.

YES: 5
NO: 0
MOTION CARRIED.

Anttila discussed the MDOT Contract for Federal Aid work on CR687 which includes hot mix asphalt base crushing, shaping and resurfacing from CR372 to CR376 in Bangor and Hartford Townships. Motion by Boze, seconded by Askew to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION 2026-15

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Managing Director, Bret Witkowski (BretWitkowski@vbcrc.org), and the Highway Engineer, Barry Anttila (BarryAnttila@vbcrc.org), are hereby AUTHORIZED to execute M.D.O.T. Contract No. 5208, Control Section STL 80000; Job Number 224003CON for work as follows:

Hot mix asphalt base crushing, shaping and resurfacing along County Road 687 from County Road 372/52nd Avenue to County Road 376/42nd Avenue, including earthwork and trenching, subbase, aggregate base, drainage improvements, concrete curb and gutter, riprap, guardrail, permanent signing and pavement markings; and all together with necessary related work.

YES: 5
NO: 0
RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

Witkowski outlined a request by Keeler Township that the Board consider an advance of the Township's 2027 RevShare Allocation in the amount of \$33,027.29 for a project on 84th Avenue between 70th Street and 68th Street (489.3828). Motion by Boze, seconded by Nelson to approve Keeler Township's request for an advance of its 2027 RevShare Funds in the amount of \$33,027.29 to be allocated to project 489.3828.

YES: 5
NO: 0
MOTION CARRIED.

The Board reviewed a proposed Policy on Withdrawal or Rescission of Low Bid by Contractor. Witkowski outlined the Policy which has been discussed previously by the Board, and has now been approved by Attorneys Clay Prickett and Bill Henn. Motion by Boze, seconded by Burleson to adopt Policy 2026-03, as presented.

Withdrawal or Rescission of Low Bid by Contractor

Policy No. 2026-03

Purpose: To establish procedures and consequences when the apparent lowest responsible bidder rescinds or withdraws its bid after bid opening in public procurement projects.

Scope: Applies to all competitive sealed bids for goods, services, and construction projects solicited by the Van Buren County Road Commission.

Policy Statement: Binding Nature of Bids.

All bids submitted are considered firm offers and binding for the period stated in the solicitation. The bidder may not withdraw the bid after the deadline for bid submissions.

Rescission After Award:

If the lowest responsible bidder rescinds its bid after award but before contract execution:

- The bidder's bid bond or security shall be forfeited to the Van Buren County Road Commission unless the bidder clearly and convincingly satisfies the criteria for non-payment of the bid guaranty as defined in §102.16 of the 2020 MDOT Standard Specifications for Construction.
- Any costs or damages due to the rescission incurred by the Road Commission in excess of, or not covered by, a bid bond or security may be recovered directly from the defaulting bidder.
- The bidder may be removed from the approved bidders list and declared ineligible for reinstatement for a period of one (1) year.
- The bidder may be declared ineligible to participate as a subcontractor, supplier, or trucker on the project.

Award to Next Lowest Responsible Bidder:

The Van Buren County Road Commission reserves the right to award the contract to the next lowest responsible bidder or to re-bid the project, at its sole discretion.

YES: 5
NO: 0
MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Updates and Reports:

W.C. Askew, Sr.

Covert Township, no problems. Greg and Bret attended with him. Geneva Township, no issues. South Haven Township, no issues. Supervisors' meeting on 5/28.

Rick Boze

Keeler Township on 5/4. Southwest Council Meeting on 5/11. Hamilton Township on 5/12. Hartford Township on 5/14. Supervisors' Meeting on 5/28.

Greg Kinney

Decatur Township on 5/14 with Bret.

Wayne Nelson

Met with Porter Township Supervisor and Clerk together with Bret. Attended Antwerp Township Board meeting with Bret. Attended Van Buren Supervisors' Meeting.

Nelson noted the recent passing of Attorney Kelly Page and offered the following Resolution, which was seconded by Askew:

RESOLUTION - 2026-16

WHEREAS: The Board is deeply saddened by the passing of Attorney Kelly Page, a former Road Commissioner in Van Buren County; and,

WHEREAS: Kelly Page served as a Road Commissioner for Van Buren County from January 1969 through June 1975; and,

WHEREAS: He served as Chairman of the Board of County Road Commissioners from 1974-1975; and,

WHEREAS: In addition to his service as a Road Commissioner, Mr. Page served for many years as legal counsel to the Board, providing guidance on matters relating to road operations and ensuring compliance with applicable state law; and,

WHEREAS: His dedication to public service and his contributions to the Board and the community will be long remembered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby extends its deepest sympathy to his wife, Linda, and their children and extends its sincere condolences to all who knew and admired him.

YES: 5

NO: 0

RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

Doug Burleson

Bloomington Township on 5/20, the Township Clerk resigned effective 6/19/26.

The Chairman opened the meeting to second public comment. Commissioner Doroh and Anttila discussed the accident that occurred on CR681 at Red Arrow Highway. A utility pole was extensively damaged by one of the vehicles and had to be replaced which took closing the roadway.

Rader acknowledged the passing of two MDOT employees who were killed while working on a road project last week. And at the beginning of this week an Illinois DOT staff member was also tragically killed on the job. Rader reminded the Board and all present how important it is to recognize the hazards that our employees face on the job, and that the VBCRC do what it can to keep our staff as safe as possible.

Vic Pantea, 47078 Woodland Drive, Scott Lake addressed the Board. He expressed that he was sorry Greg Brucks left the meeting as he wanted to thank him for attending Arlington Township's last meeting. His presence and explanations to the Township Board were appreciated. He also asked for information regarding the Arlington Township project that was approved on 52nd Street, such as the scope and cost. Witkowski advised that he would contact Mr. Pantea.

Tom Hammond introduced himself to the Board. He complimented the Operations Department for the new gravel on 28th Avenue East of 46th Street in Waverly Township.

Motion by Boze to adjourn the Call of the Chair at 6:06 PM.

YES: 5

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Board Secretary

Board Chairman