

**Van Buren County Planning Commission**  
**August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010**  
**219 Paw Paw Street Paw Paw, MI. 49079**  
**Minutes**

Call to Order: 6:32 pm

**Members in Attendance:** Kurt Doroh, Richard Corwin, Jeff Radtke, Dick Godfrey, Pam Stermer, Tony Hemenway, Scott Cedarquist, Ryan Miller

**Absent:** Connie Selles, Celinda Gilmore, Ted Thar

**Public Present:** Dave Foerster

**Agenda:** Doroh/Corwin, Motion to approve agenda – unanimous vote

**Minutes of June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010:** Stermer/Corwin, Motion to approve agenda – unanimous vote

**Public Comment:** None

**Reports:**

*County Commissioner* – Commissioner Godfrey reported that the County has a budget shortfall of approximately \$450K. He stated that there will be a budget hearing held on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010 to discuss the deficit.

*Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (SWMPC)* – No meeting this month

*Local Visits* – Scott Cedarquist attended the International Code Council conference in Chicago. Jeff Radtke stated that Hamilton Township has interest in being involved with in the County-Wide Land Use Plan.

**Unfinished Business:**

*Discussion regarding County Land Use Planning* - The application has been sent to LIAA. Waiting on a response from them. There was a request to receive an updated list of municipalities who had sent letters of support.

**New Business:**

*Waverly Township Zoning Ordinance Amendments* – Motion by Doroh/Selles, unanimous vote to concur with the Waverly Township Zoning Ordinance Amendments. Scott Cedarquist added that there was good progress in the content of the ordinance. Kurt Doroh suggested that there should be discussion about medical marijuana on a County-wide basis.

*Almena Township Zoning Ordinance Amendments* – Motion by Stermer/Doroh, unanimous vote to concur with the Almena Township Zoning Ordinance Amendments. There was discussion regarding the medical marijuana ordinance. There was discussion on **Section 24.04 (Township Board Review and Approval Procedure), Subsection C**. The Van Buren County Planning Commission suggests that the Almena Township board should provide reasons for denial in the basis of their decisions. There was discussion on **Section 11.02 (Notes to Schedule of Regulations), Subsection 11**. The Van Buren County Planning Commission has concerns about well and septic issues on small lots, and suggests that a visit be made to the Health Department as well.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:20pm Motion by Doroh / Corwin – unanimous vote.