

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Kimberly L. Murphy
County Administrator

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MEMBERS

Committee of the Whole
301 N. Main St.,
Adrian, MI 49221

MEETING LOCATION
Chambers

Minutes: Saturday, March 7, 2026

I. Call to Order

Present: Commissioners: David Aungst, Beth Blanco, Terry Collins, Dustin Krasny, Ralph Tillotson, James Van Doren

Also Present: Kent County Administrator Al Vanderberg, Administrator Kim Murphy, Deputy Administrator Shannon Elliott, Administrative Coordinator Carissa Zubke, Community Engagement Quinn Wilt

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am by Comm. Van Doren, followed by an invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

Administrator Murphy introduced our special guest, Al Vanderberg, Kent County Administrator.

Al Vanderberg was a former Lenawee County employee, almost 40 years ago and graciously offered to lead the Commissioners through their Strategic Planning process.

II. Strategic Planning - Al Vanderberg, Kent County Administrator

Mr. Vanderberg introduced himself and opened the meeting with an icebreaker exercise by evaluating frequently used words that are commonly used during planning.

A S.W.O.T. analysis was completed next, which included naming Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats.

Commissioner Krasny had to leave the meeting at approximately 10:48 am.

The SWOT analysis resulted in 19 items that were then grouped into five categories including:

- *Economic Development*
- *County Facilities/Services*
- *Communication/Engagement*
- *Organizational Improvement*
- *Quality of Life*

Each of the commissioners ranked each of the 5 categories and the 19 items within those categories.

The top categories were:

- 1. County Facilities/Services*
- 2. Economic Development*

Vanderberg highlighted the top seven items out of the nineteen that were ranked.

- 1. Completing a solid plan for the Judicial Building in the County Facilities/Services Category*
- 2. Develop a County Vision, Mission, Values, and Overarching Goals in the Organizational Improvement Category*
- 3. Identifying a Medical Examiner solution in the County Facilities/Services Category*
- 4. Completing a Jail Bed Utilization study/plan in County Facilities/Services Category*
- 5. Working with Economic Development for a Business Attraction Plan in the Economic Development Category*
- 6. Starting interactive online communication in the Communication/Engagement Category*

Vanderberg discussed how to incorporate these plans during the budget planning process and recommended reviewing on an annual basis.

III. Public Comment

No public comment.

Commissioners and Administrator Murphy thanked Mr. Vanderberg for his time and well thought out plan/direction for this planning session.

IV. Adjournment

Motion by Tillotson, seconded Aungst to adjourn the meeting at 11:49am. Motion carried.