GRATIOT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE OFFICIAL STATEMENT REGARDING COMPATIBLE RENEWABLE ENERGY ORDINANCE

RESOLUTION NUMBER 26-450
ADOPTED AUGUST 11, 2026

WHEREAS on August 6, 2018, the Gratiot County Board of Commissioners amended the Gratiot County Zoning Ordinance to include requirements for solar energy systems and solar farms for county-zoned townships including Sumner Township; and

WHEREAS on December 31, 2023, House Bill 5120 was signed into law as Public Act 233 of 2023, the Clean and Renewable Energy and Energy Waste Reduction Act (the Act), to in part authorize certification by the State of Michigan before the construction of certain solar energy facilities, and to regulate certain local ordinances; and

WHEREAS in a July 14, 2026, certified letter, ibV Energy Partners offered to meet with Board of Commissioners Chairperson Dave Owens to discuss the proposed Honeyoey Creek, LLC solar energy project in Sumner and Seville Townships as required under section 223 of the Act; and

WHEREAS Chairperson Owens, along with several other Gratiot County officials, met with representatives of the Honeyoey Creek project on July 22, 2026, to review their proposed solar energy facility; and

WHEREAS to Act defines a "compatible renewable energy ordinance" as an ordinance that provides for the development of energy facilities within the local unit of government, the requirements of which are no more restrictive than the provisions included in section 226(8) of the Act; and

WHEREAS, at the July 22 meeting, Honeyoey Creek project representatives identified four instances where renewable energy provisions of the Gratiot County Zoning Ordinance are in fact more restrictive than the provisions included in section 226(8) of the Act; and

WHEREAS within 30 days following the July 22 meeting with Honeyoey Creek representatives, the Act requires that the Chairperson notify Honeyoey Creek project representatives that the County has a compatible renewable energy ordinance; and

WHEREAS the Board desires to create an official record of its finding of non-compliance with the Act.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gratiot County Board of Commissioners hereby determines that certain solar energy system and solar farm provisions of the Gratiot County Zoning Ordinance are more restrictive than the provisions included in section 226(8) of the Clean and Renewable Energy and Energy Waste Reduction Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners is authorized to sign any notification to Honeyoey Creek, LLC consistent with this resolution.

The resolution set forth was offered by Commissioner Sopocy and supported by Commissioner Gay.

A vote was thereupon taken on the foregoing resolution and the vote for such resolution was as follows:

AYES: Sopocy, Bailey, Bunting, Gay and Owens

NAYS: _____

A majority of the members-elect having approved such resolution deems the resolution APPROVED.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)ss
COUNTY OF GRATIOT)

I certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of the resolution adopted by the Gratiot County Board of Commissioners, that such resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting held on the 11th day of August 2026, and that notice of such meeting was given as required by law.

Angie Thompson

Angie Thompson, Gratiot County Clerk