

City – Kalla Langston-Weiss – City of Buchanan

Kalla Langston-Weiss has served as the City Clerk for the City of Buchanan since 2021, with a total of 12 years of municipal experience. With more than a decade of experience in local government, she is recognized for her steady leadership, commitment to compliance, and dedication to strengthening public trust.

Kalla is a member of the Berrien County Clerks Association, where she serves as Chair and past Treasurer, as well as a member of the MAMC, IIMC, and Michigan Association of Municipal Cemeteries.

Dedicated to elevating the Clerk profession, Kalla actively mentors new and aspiring clerks, shares best practices, and creates meaningful opportunities for professional development. After recognizing that several clerks in her county were unable to attend conferences due to cost or travel limitations, she took initiative and developed a low-cost, one-day “Clerking 101” program for Berrien County Clerks. By coordinating presenters and personally teaching sessions, she ensured essential knowledge and training remained accessible to her peers.

Tony McGhee, City Manager of the City of Buchanan, stated, “Kalla is widely known and highly respected throughout the Buchanan community for her steady, thoughtful leadership and deep commitment to public service. Her ability to inspire participation and collaboration has had a lasting impact on Buchanan, both inside and outside City Hall, and her dedication continues to strengthen the fabric of the community she serves.”

In 2025, Kalla demonstrated professional commitment beyond her own municipality by serving as the Election Administrator for a neighboring township that unexpectedly found itself without a clerk leading into the August election. While continuing her full-time responsibilities, and without reducing services to Buchanan, she successfully administered elections in two jurisdictions simultaneously.

Under Kalla’s direction, her community achieved national recognition by placing its historic cemetery on the National Register of Historic Places. She also modernized cemetery operations by bringing archival records into the 21st century through the creation of a comprehensive digital archive, ensuring preservation and accessibility for future generations.

Kalla states, “I do not see above average performance as doing something extraordinary, but rather as consistently doing the job thoroughly, ethically, and with a willingness to help when needed. I take pride in maintaining compliance, protecting public trust, and serving both my municipality and the community to the best of my ability.”

Kalla was nominated by Buchanan City Manager Tony McGhee.

