

**BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 10, 2022**

**CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:**

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the regular Board of Commissioners' (BOC) meeting to order at 10:41 A.M. in the BOC's room at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

**INVOCATION:**

Sheriff Paul Bailey gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**

Commissioner Robert Harrison led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

**ROLL CALL:**

The Chair instructed the Clerk to take a roll call with the following results:

11 PRESENT: Rayonte Bell, Jim Curran, Teri Sue Freehling (Arrived at 10:46 A.M.), Robert Harrison, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, Ezra Scott, David Vollrath, Julie Wuerfel, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

1 ABSENT: Don Meeks.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 3, 2022 MEETING:**

Commissioner Bell moved and supported by Commissioner Wuerfel, to approve the BOC regular meeting minutes of March 3, 2022. Motion carried and no nays.

**COMMUNICATION(S):**

County Clerk Sharon Tyler received and distributed to the Board of Commissioners (BOC) the following communication:

- Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners, a resolution supporting the Community Mental Health Authority and Opposing Current State Legislation to Change the CMHA, received on March 2, 2022.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING RESOLUTIONS – Public comments at this portion of the meeting must be related to resolutions listed on today's agenda only. Those speaking during public comments may do so no longer than two minutes and shall identify themselves by name and city, township, or village. (Article III, 3.9B-C). The public should refer to the resolution # that they are commenting on as a part of their comments:** None.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Commissioner Harrison moved and supported by Commissioner Scott, to approve today's Consent Calendar as presented:

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F2203022	Weekly Bills
B2203069	Weekly Requisitions
A2203209	Renew Contract with Riverwood for Court Liaison position sharing
A2203210	Renew Contract with Riverwood for MST program
A2203211	Renew Contract with Riverwood for FFT program
P2203214	Approve complement change Community Development

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call the roll with the following results:

10 YEAS: Curran, Harrison, Hinkelman, Majerek, Scott, Vollrath, Wuerfel, Yarbrough, Bell and Elliott.

Motion carried, no nays.

**ADDED RESOLUTION(S):** None.

**COMMITTEE REPORT(S) - Finance, Administration and Personnel & Human Services Committees:**

The Finance, Administration and Personnel & Human Services Committees presented their Committee Reports. Discussion was held. Parent Committee minutes are available at [www.berriencounty.org](http://www.berriencounty.org).

**COMMISSIONER REPORT(S):**

The Commissioners presented their outside committee reports.

**ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

Administrator Brian Dissette gave his Administrator's Report.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS - Those speaking during public comments may do so no longer than two minutes and shall identify themselves by name and city, township, or village. (Article III, 3.9B-C):**

Adolf Pelzer, Hagar Township, spoke about the water fountain, where to hang your coat in the building and location of the coffee machine in the conference room.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Scott spoke about the Berrien County Broadband Internet Task Force (BCBIT) that needs direction from the BOC on the ARPA funds. Administrator Dissette stated we have two applications shovel ready. He recommended up to \$6 million in spending on the ARPA funds for projects now and can have a resolution ready within two weeks. He discussed the scoring method and stated the information for the applications have been given to the municipalities and to the public. Discussion was held.

Commissioner Freehling announced she abstained on Resolution #B2203069 on requisition #57634 for REV Excavating in the amount of \$15,000. Commissioner Freehling requested a moment of silence for Lake Township Supervisor John Gast, who passed away. A moment of silence was held.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:**

Chairperson Elliott stated the following announcements are on today's Agenda:

- Berrien County ARPA Broadband Grant Application Workshop at the Berrien County Administration Center: Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 12:30 P.M. and again on Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 9:00 A.M.
- No Board of Commissioner meetings on Thursday, March 31, 2022.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 A.M.

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R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

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Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

***Minutes are to be approved at the next BOC meeting.***