

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN: Your County Administration Committee recommends the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, two distinct and separate responsibilities fall under the Berrien County Animal Control Department: 1) enforcing state and local laws/ordinances dealing with animal control including but not limited to issuing citations for violations of the same; and 2) kennel operations division; and

WHEREAS, certain responsibilities of an Animal Control Officer mirror that of a Sheriff's Officer in that an Animal Control Officer acts as a peace officer for the purposes of the Animal Control Ordinance and is legally authorized to issue appearance tickets, citations or summonses to those persons owning, keeping or harboring animals, investigate suspected cases of animal abuse and/or neglect as well as investigate animal bite complaints and complaints of dangerous animals at large; and

WHEREAS, an Animal Control Officer must be certified by the State of Michigan, must be deputized by the Sheriff, must pass a criminal background check and must possess and maintain a valid Concealed Pistol License; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Berrien County would be better served if the Animal Control Officers were placed under the umbrella of the Berrien County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS the citizens of Berrien County would also be better served if oversight of the kennel operations was provided by an Animal Shelter Manager; and

WHEREAS, a thorough review of the proposed changes listed below was completed by the County Administrator, Sheriff, Human Resources Director, and Corporate Counsel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners approve the following complement changes effective on May 8, 2022:

Delete under Animal Control

(4) Animal Control Officers
Union Group: M
Grade: 05

Create under Sheriff's Office

(5) Animal Control Officers
Union Group: M
Grade: 05

Delete under Animal Control

Animal Control Director
Appointed Official
Grade: 06

Create under Animal Control

Animal Shelter Manager
Non-Union
Grade: 12

A2204254

April 28, 2022

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, effective May 8, 2022, the Berrien County Board of Commissioners appoints the Berrien County Sheriff as the Animal Control Officer.

**Respectfully submitted,
BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Jim Curran, Chair

David Vollrath, Vice Chair

Don Meeks

Julie Wuerfel

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Date: 4-27-22

Date: 4/27/22

Date: _____