

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Organizational Meeting Minutes
January 2, 2020

CHAIRPERSON TO CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the Organizational meeting to order at 8:38 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) room at the Berrien County Administration Center in St. Joseph, Michigan.

INVOCATION:

Commissioner Yarbrough gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Chairperson Elliott led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

ROLL CALL:

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

12 PRESENT: William Chickering, Jim Curran, Teri Freehling, Robert Harrison, Christopher Heugel, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, Don Meeks, Ezra Scott, David Vollrath, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

0 ABSENT.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 19, 2019 MEETING:

Commissioner Majerek moved, seconded by Commissioner Scott, to approve the regular minutes of December 19, 2019. Motion carried, no nays.

COMMUNICATION(S):

County Clerk Sharon Tyler received and distributed to the Board the following communications:

- An email from Reverend Dr. Sid Mohn, Director of Interfaith Action of SW Michigan, Buchanan, Michigan, requesting that Berrien County affirms the continuation of refugee resettlement in the County, dated December 20, 2019.
- A letter from Vilma Eviltyte, Union Pier, Michigan, regarding an incident on December 19, 2019 in New Buffalo, Michigan, dated December 26, 2019.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR:

Chairperson Elliott opened the floor for nominations for Board Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Meeks moved, seconded by Commissioner Curran, to nominate Commissioner Scott as Vice-Chair of the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Chickering nominated Commissioner Yarbrough as Vice-Chair. Commissioner Yarbrough declined.

Commissioner Vollrath nominated Commissioner Chickering as Vice-Chair. Commissioner Chickering declined.

Commissioner Curran moved, seconded by Commissioner Meeks, to close the nominations for Vice-Chair of the Board of Commissioners and to elect Commissioner Scott to the one-year term as Vice-Chair.

Voice Vote: Motion carried, no nays.

REQUISITION REVIEW:

Annette Christie presented the requisitions to the Board for their review and discussion.

CHAIRPERSON APPOINTMENTS OF COMMITTEES (Discussion):

Chairperson Elliott stated the parent committees will continue with the same committee assignments.

APPROVAL OF CALENDAR FOR 2020 COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS:

Annette Christie presented the Board with a draft of 2020 Commissioners' meetings and background information. Discussion was held regarding night meetings on how many, location, time and attendance.

Commissioner Vollrath moved, seconded by Commissioner Freehling, to approve the Calendar for 2020 of the Committee of the Whole and 2020 Regular Board of Commissioners Meetings, including five night meetings (May through September) to be held at 6:00 P.M. The night meeting locations will be addressed in the future. Voice Vote: Motion carried, no nays.

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): None.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

The following resolutions are considered routine and will be adopted by one motion unless a request for removal, discussion, or explanation is received from a County Commissioner.

Commissioner Heugel moved, seconded by Commissioner Curran, to approve today's Consent Calendar as presented.

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F2001013	Weekly Bills Approval
B2001060	Weekly Requisition Approval
F2001107	Road Department Payables

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call the roll resulting as follows:

12 YEAS: Chickering, Curran, Freehling, Harrison, Heugel, Hinkelman, Majerek, Meeks, Scott, Vollrath, Yarbrough and Elliott. Motion carried, no nays.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST WAIVERS (Discussion):

Chairperson Elliott discussed the Conflict of Interest and the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form. Forms were distributed with instructions to return to Annette Christie by next Thursday's meeting.

PARENT COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The Finance Committee presented their Committee Report. Committee minutes are available at www.berriencounty.org.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioners presented their outside committee reports. Employee evaluation for Corporate Counsel needs to be completed and returned by January 16th. The evaluation will done in February.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT (Of meetings attended - Administrator's option): None.

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): None.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chairperson Elliott stated the Personnel and Human Services Committee will be discussing the hiring of a new County Administrator.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Chairperson Elliott announced the following:

- Committee meetings will take place following the Organizational meeting.
- No regular Board of Commissioners' meeting will be held today.
- The Board of Commissioners' will resume their regular meeting day schedule next Thursday, January 9, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the full board meeting on January 9, 2020.