

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2020

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Vice Chairperson Ezra Scott called the regular meeting to order at 10:35 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) room at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Commissioner Don Meeks led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

INVOCATION:

Commissioner Michael Majerek gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL:

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

10 PRESENT: William Chickering, Jim Curran, Teri Freehling, Robert Harrison, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, Don Meeks, David Vollrath, Mamie Yarbrough and Ezra Scott.

2 ABSENT: Christopher Heugel and R. McKinley Elliott.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 20, 2020 MEETING:

Commissioner Curran moved, seconded by Commissioner Majerek, to approve the BOC meeting minutes of February 20, 2020. Motion carried, no nays.

1 ABSTAIN: Chickering.

COMMUNICATION(S):

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

- MI-Journey, Benton Harbor - Postmarked February 18, 2020 – Invitation to their Open House on Friday, April 3, 2020.
- Kris Martin, Southwest Michigan Planning Commission – Received via email on February 20, 2020 – Letter with information on a 2020 matching grant opportunity from the Coastal Zone Management Program and the Land Information Access Association.
- Marquette County Board of Commissioners – Received via email on February 20, 2020 - Resolution to request the Great Lakes Shoreline to be declared a disaster area and to seek assistance.
- Wexford County Board of Commissioners – Received via email on February 20, 2020 - Resolution to declare Wexford County as a sanctuary county.
- Kalkaska County Board of Commissioners – Received via email on February 21, 2020 - Resolution opposing Governor Whitmer's \$3.5 billion road bond debt.
- Melinda Gruber on behalf of the Healthy Berrien Consortium – Received via email on February 24, 2020 – Letter in support and advocacy for continued work to improve public transportation in the County.

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:

Commissioner Harrison moved, seconded by Commissioner Meeks, to approve today's Consent Calendar as presented:

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F2002020	Weekly Bills
B2002067	Weekly Requisitions
C2002188	Approve Hiring of Chief Public Defender

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

10 YEAS: Chickering, Curran, Freehling, Harrison, Hinkelman, Majerek, Meeks, Vollrath, Yarbrough and Scott.

Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTION(S): None.

PARENT COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The Finance, Administration, and Personnel and Human Services Committees presented their Parent Committee Reports. Parent Committee minutes are available at www.berriencounty.org.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioners presented their Commissioner Reports.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: 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):

Eric Lester, St. Joseph Charter Township, spoke about the coronavirus.

Adolf Pelzer, Hagar Township, spoke about the t-shirts the Board received regarding the census and a letter to the editor in the Herald-Palladium on the Board's benefits.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Administrator Wolf announced the following:

- Joint Pension Committee and Trust Investment Advisory Committee will meet at noon today.
- Land Bank Authority will meet at 2:00 P.M. today.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 A.M.

Ezra Scott, Vice Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the full board meeting on March 5, 2020.