

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2023

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Vice Chairperson Teri Sue Freehling called the regular Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting to order at 8:35 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) room at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

ROLL CALL:

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

10 PRESENT: Rayonte Bell, Jim Curran, Teri Sue Freehling, Robert Harrison, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, Alex Ott, Chokwe Pitchford, David Vollrath and Julie Wuerfel.

2 ABSENT: Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 23, 2023 MEETING:

Commissioner Pitchford moved and seconded by Commissioner Vollrath, to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes held on February 23, 2023. Motion carried, no nays.

REQUISITION REVIEW - Annette Christie:

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Per the Berrien County Board of Commissioners' Bylaws, 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, 3.9 B-C):

Sheriff Paul Bailey, Berrien Township, stated he will be leaving the COW meeting soon and he will be escorting his grandson to the MHSAA Wrestling Individual Championship tournament. His grandson was the only wrestler from Eau Claire Public Schools who had qualified. Undersheriff Chuck Heit will be attending the meetings today.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

CLOSED SESSION – MCL 15.238 (c) “For strategy and negotiations connected with a collective bargaining agreement if either negotiating party requests a closed hearing:”

Commissioner Wuerfel moved and supported by Commissioner Bell, to recess the public meeting and go into Closed Session at 8:40 A.M., for strategy and negotiations connected with a collective bargaining agreement if either negotiating party requests a closed hearing.

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

10 YEAS: Curran, Harrison, Hinkelman, Majerek, Ott, Pitchford, Vollrath, Wuerfel, Bell and Freehling.

Motion carried, no nays.

The Board recessed at 8:41 A.M. to go into Closed Session.

Vice Chairperson Freehling reconvened to Open Session at 9:12 A.M.

Commissioner Bell moved and seconded by Commissioner Harrison, to approve the Closed Session minutes of February 2, 2023. Motion carried, no nays.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Teri Sue Freehling, Vice Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.