

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Vice Chairperson Teri Sue Freehling called the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) regular meeting to order at 10:36 A.M. in the BOC's boardroom at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

INVOCATION:

Commissioner Jon Hinkelman gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Rayonte Bell led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

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 THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 11, 2023 MEETING:

Commissioner Curran moved and supported by Commissioner Pitchford, to approve the BOC regular meeting minutes of May 11, 2023. Motion carried and no nays.

COMMUNICATION(S): None.

AGENDA AMENDMENT:

Commissioner Curran moved and seconded by Commissioner Wuerfel, to include Resolution #A2305223 to Added Resolutions.

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

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

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 (including last name) and city, township, or village. (Article III, 3.9 B-C). The public should refer to the resolution # that they are commenting on as a part of their comments: None.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Commissioner Pitchford moved and supported by Commissioner Majerek, to include Resolutions #A2305206, A2305214, A2305216, A2305222 and A2305223 from the Added Resolution(s) to the Consent Calendar, and to approve today's Consent Calendar:

<u>Resolution(s) #</u>	<u>Description</u>
P2305005	Monthly Per Diems
F2305031	Approve Bills
B2305078	Approve Requisitions
P2305208	Complement Change Veterans Office

A2305209	Approve updated facilities project list by category and cost
P2305210	Purchase agreement for the property expansion of Paw Paw River County Park
P2305211	Approve SAM IT Solutions Contract
P2305212	Apply for the 2024 County Veteran Service Fund Grant
A2305206	Approve Swift & Sure Sanctions Program Grant Funding
A2305214	Approve phase 2 for Bacchiocchi Construction Services
A2305216	Approve contract with Brussee/Brady for jail upgrades project
A2305222	Amend Fuel Bid Award Contract
A2305223	

Vice Chairperson Freehling asked Commissioner Curran to read Resolution #A2305223 into the record.

Resolution #A2305223

Commissioner Curran (Chair of the Administration Committee) read Resolution #A2305223:

WHEREAS, the Berrien County Road Department facilities are in need of improvement and expansion; and

WHEREAS, at the January 12, 2023 Board of Commissioners meeting, authorization was given to pursue suitable real estate for the Road Department needs and to negotiate and bring back option agreements for approval; and

WHEREAS, two property owners near the Baroda garage have a desire to grant an option to sell their property to Berrien County; and

WHEREAS, these acquisitions, if exercised, would provide additional land for the future needs of the Road Department; and

WHEREAS, an Option to Purchase Agreement has been written for parcel #11-02-0014-0014-11-0 with Craft Effect, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, an Option to Purchase Agreement has been written for parcel #11-02-0014-0014-12-0 with Fence Masters, LLC; and

WHEREAS, the agreed upon total purchase price of the properties under these Option to Purchase Agreements is \$58,000, with a \$2,000 payment to each property owner for entering into the option to purchase which shall remain in effect for one year from the effective date of the Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the intent to enter into an option to purchase a total of 2.67 acres of property located adjacent to the Road Department-Baroda garage and authorizes the Chairman to execute and enter into these Option to Purchase Agreements for \$4,000.

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

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

Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTION(S):

The following resolution(s) were moved to the Consent Calendar:

<u>Resolution(s) #</u>	<u>Description</u>
A2305206	Approve Swift & Sure Sanctions Program Grant Funding
A2305214	Approve phase 2 for Bacchiocchi Construction Services
A2305216	Approve contract with Brussee/Brady for jail upgrades project

A2305222
A2305223

Amend Fuel Bid Award Contract

COMMITTEE REPORT(S) – Personnel & Human Services, Administration and Finance

Committees:

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

COMMISSIONER REPORT(S):

The Commissioners presented their outside committee reports. Discussion was held.

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 (including last name) and city, township, or village. (Article III, 3.9 B-C):

Melissa Clapper, St. Joseph Charter Township, spoke about the Administration Committee meeting and the Committee meetings would make a good newspaper story.

Adolf Pelzer, Hagar Township, spoke about a county newsletter and the meeting times.

Sheriff Paul Bailey, Berrien Township, stated Niles Charter Township will be paying for eleven personnel to run the Niles Charter Township Sheriff's Office Patrol down in that area. Sheriff Paul Bailey stated the County has a website listing all the services everyone does, that the last speaker had requested.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Vice Chairperson Freehling announced the following:

- Monday, May 29, 2023 – County facilities will be closed for Memorial Day.
- Thursday, June 1, 2023 – Night meeting at 6:00 P.M. at 19 N. by Froehlich's located at 19th North Elm Street, Three Oaks, MI.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Teri Sue Freehling, Vice Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the next BOC meeting.