

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 22, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) regular meeting to order at 10:32 A.M. in the BOC's boardroom at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

INVOCATION:

Commissioner James Curran gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Teri Sue Freehling led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

ROLL CALL:

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

12 PRESENT: Rayonte Bell, Jim Curran, Teri Sue Freehling, Robert Harrison, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, Alex Ott, Chokwe Pitchford, David Vollrath, Julie Wuerfel, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

0 ABSENT.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 15, 2023 MEETING:

Commissioner Bell moved and supported by Commissioner Majerek, to approve the BOC regular meeting minutes of June 15, 2023. Motion carried and no nays.

COMMUNICATION(S):

County Clerk Sharon Tyler received and distributed to the Board of Commissioners (BOC) the following communication:

- A resolution from Mackinac County Board of Commissioners, in opposition to legislative proposals on establishing a statewide septic code, received on June 20, 2023.
- A resolution from St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners, in opposition to Michigan Senate Bills 76-86 or any similar bill in which the state restricts the individual right of citizens as protected by the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, received on June 21, 2023.
- Received the following two resolutions from Delta County Board of Commissioners on June 21, 2023:
 - Opposing Proposed Changes to the Statewide Septic Code (HB 4479 & 4480, SB 299 & 300).
 - Reaffirming Delta County to be a Second Amendment Sanctuary 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 (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 Harrison, to approve today's Consent Calendar:

<u>Resolution(s) #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F2306036	Approve Bills
B2306083	Approve Requisitions
A2306225	Approve annual Act 51 report for submission to the State of Michigan
P2306243	Renew agreement for loss prevention services
P2306246	Approve County Administrator Contract
A2306247	Approve SWMBA application for funding of Drug Court programs
P2306248	Approve operating agreement with Watervliet Charter Township
P2306249	Approve DLZ Agreement (Part II) for design services related to the Silver Beach County Park Playground Project

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

12 YEAS: Curran, Freehling, Harrison, Hinkelman, Majerek, Ott, Pitchford, Vollrath, Wuerfel, Yarbrough, Bell and Elliott.

Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTION(S): None.

COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

- **Administration Committee**
- **Finance Committee**
- **Personnel & Human Services Committee**
 - **Board Appointment Recommendation –Southwest Michigan Planning Commission**

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

COMMISSIONER REPORT(S):

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

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Administrator Brian Dissette gave his Administrator's Report. Discussion was held.

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):

Michael Hoyd, Benton Harbor City, spoke about the Benefit Car Show to be held at the Maiden Lane Park on June 24, 2023 and his father's dragster will be displayed that was the fastest car in 1968 to 1971.

Adolf Pelzer, Hagar Township, spoke about the Benefit Car Show, Ironman 70.3 Steelhead and having a County newsletter.

Jess Minks, Buchanan City, spoke about the Buchanan Area Senior Center and they are not mis-spending monies. He talked about the Buchanan Pride event on June 25, 2023 and distributed to the BOC the Buchanan Area Senior Chronicle.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chairperson Elliott stated that PHSC recommends appointing Marge Durm-Hiatt to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission to fill a vacancy for a 2 year term that will expire on December 31, 2024.

Motion:

Commissioner Harrison moved and seconded by Commissioner Majerek, to appoint Marge Durm-Hiatt to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission to fill a vacancy for a 2 year term that will expire on December 31, 2024.

Motion carried, no nays.

Commissioner Harrison mentioned that Commissioner Freehling attended the Lest We Forget Event and worked at the Baroda Lions Pancake Breakfast.

Commissioner Vollrath announced the Area Agency On Aging will be having an Ice Cream Social on Monday, June 26, 2023.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Chairperson Elliott announced the following:

- Thursday, June 29, 2023 – No BOC meetings – 5th Thursday.
- Thursday, July 6, 2023 – No BOC meetings – Holiday week.
- Thursday, July 13, 2023 – Night meeting 6:00 P.M. – MSU Extension Office, 1737 Hillandale Road, Benton Harbor.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the next BOC meeting.