

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Board Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2022

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the regular Board of Commissioners' (BOC) meeting to order at 10:37 A.M. in the BOC's room at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

INVOCATION:

Executive Administrative Assistant Annette Christie gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Commissioner James Martin 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:

11 PRESENT: Rayonte Bell, Jim Curran, Robert Harrison, Jon Hinkelman, James Martin, Michael Majerek, Ezra Scott, David Vollrath, Julie Wuerfel, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

1 ABSENT: Teri Sue Freehling.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 11, 2022 REGULAR MEETING:

Commissioner Scott moved and supported by Commissioner Bell, to approve the BOC regular meeting minutes of August 11, 2022. 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 Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, to amend the Michigan No-Fault Auto Insurance Reform Act to address a sustainable fee cap for home health providers, received on August 16, 2022.

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, 3.9B-C). The public should refer to the resolution # that they are commenting on as a part of their comments: None.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Chairperson Elliott would like to pull Honorary Resolution #B2208031 from the Consent Calendar and to have it be presented separately.

Commissioner Curran moved and supported by Commissioner Vollrath, to approve today's Consent Calendar, and to pull Honorary Resolution #B2208031 to be presented separately:

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
P2208008	Monthly Per Diems
F2208043	Approve Weekly Bills & Road Payables
B2208090	Weekly Requisitions
P2208307	Prosecutor's Office Complement Change
P2208328	Mosaic Isolation & Quarantine Agreement
P2208330	Monkeypox Vaccine Response

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

11 YEAS: Curran, Harrison, Hinkelman, Majerek, Martin, Scott, Vollrath, Wuerfel, Yarbrough, Bell and Elliott.

Motion carried, no nays.

Honorary Resolution #B2208031:

Chairperson Elliott read Honorary Resolution #B2208031:

WHEREAS, Charles L. "Mickey" Yarbrough's family moved from Missouri to Michigan when he was a young child and he went on to attend Benton Harbor Area Schools; and

WHEREAS, he was an award winning 3-sport athlete for the Benton Harbor Tigers, graduating in 1959; and

WHEREAS, he joined the Army in 1963, serving in the 101st Airborne, and was honorably discharged in 1965; and

WHEREAS, an active community member, Mr. Yarbrough served on the Benton Harbor City Commission from 1971 – 2003 as a Commissioner and Mayor; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his longtime public service, the Benton Harbor City Commission authorized renaming a park in honor of him "Charles L. Yarbrough Park" located off of Riverview Drive; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Mr. Yarbrough was a Juvenile Probation Officer from 1970 – 2001, guiding, influencing and mentoring hundreds of youth over his 31-year career at Berrien County; and

WHEREAS, Berrien County Trial Court Chief Judge Mabel Mayfield, who had the pleasure of working with Mr. Yarbrough for almost 10 years in her capacity as Attorney Referee and Judge stated, "It's not coincidental that his paths as Juvenile Probation Officer and Mayor of Benton Harbor were parallel. As an active leader and City Commissioner, "Mickey" demonstrated his commitment to his community. He understood that the hope for the future of the community were its youth and their families. He was fully engaged to identify and understand their needs and desires as he served them by providing effective probation and family services and governance for the city;" and

WHEREAS, sadly, Mr. Yarbrough passed away on June 21, 2022 at the age of 82.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissions deems it appropriate to formally recognize and honor Charles L. "Mickey" Yarbrough who spent a good portion of his life serving the citizens of the Benton Harbor community, the County of Berrien, and our country and expresses their condolences to his family.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mr. Yarbrough's life, actions, and contributions reflect most favorably upon himself, his family, the Benton Harbor community, the County of Berrien, the State of Michigan, and United States of America.

*Respectfully submitted,
BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS*

Motion:

Commissioner Wuerfel moved and supported by Commissioner Scott, to approve Honorary Resolution #B2208031.

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

11 YEAS: Harrison, Hinkelman, Majerek, Martin, Scott, Vollrath, Wuerfel, Yarbrough, Bell, Curran and Elliott.

Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTION(S): None.

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

The Personnel & Human Services, Administration and Finance 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.

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). The Board of Commissioners embraces diverse points of view as the Board considers a wide variety of policy challenges. The right to be heard is a central democratic value. That said, public comments is most productive when it is civil and respectful. Personal attacks have no place in reasoned discourse. We urge all commenters to share their viewpoints in a manner that is respectful and courteous, and to refrain from making comments that are abusive, defamatory or obscene: None.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Board Chair Appointments

Chairperson Elliott made the following appointments:

- Appoint Commissioner Bell to the Mental Health Authority to replace Don Meeks. Term expiring on December 31, 2022.
- Appoint Commissioner Vollrath to the Public Works Board to replace Don Meeks. Term expiring on December 31, 2022.
- Appoint Commissioner Wuerfel to the Workforce Development Board to replace Don Meeks. Term expiring on December 31, 2022.
- Appoint Commissioner Harrison to the Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health – Substance Abuse Disorder Oversight Policy Board to replace Don Meeks. Term expiring on December 31, 2022.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

The next BCBIT Zoom meeting will be held on September 15, 2022 at 12:30 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the next BOC meeting.