

**BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**September 1, 2022**

**CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:**

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the regular Board of Commissioners' (BOC) meeting to order at 6:01 P.M. at the Lincoln Charter Township Hall, 2055 West John Beers Road, Stevensville, Michigan.

**INVOCATION:**

Pastor Jim Whitman, Berrien County Baptist Church, Stevensville, gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**

Lincoln Charter Township Supervisor Dick Stauffer 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, Teri Sue Freehling, Robert Harrison, James Martin, Michael Majerek, Ezra Scott, David Vollrath, Julie Wuerfel, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

1 ABSENT: Jon Hinkelman.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 25, 2022 REGULAR MEETING:**

Commissioner Majerek moved and supported by Commissioner Freehling, to approve the BOC regular meeting minutes of August 25, 2022. Motion carried and no nays.

**COMMUNICATION(S):** None.

**REQUISITION REVIEW:**

Executive Administrative Assistant Annette Christie presented the requisitions to the Board for their review and discussion. Requisition #60077 – Spikes Tactical and Requisition #50665 – Hurst Tree Service, will be held until a later date.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:**

Chairperson Elliott introduced elected officials and employees in the audience. Chairperson Elliott stated tonight's meeting is being hosted by Lincoln Charter Township. Lincoln Charter Township Supervisor Dick Stauffer welcomed everyone tonight.

**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:**

Commissioner Harrison moved and supported by Commissioner Scott, to approve today's Consent Calendar as presented:

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F2209045	Approve Weekly Bills & Road Payables
B2209092	Approve Requisition List
F2209325	Accept Land Preservation Easement Grant
A2209345	Accept Mental Health Juvenile Grant

Discussion was held.

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

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

Motion carried, no nays.

**ADDED RESOLUTION(S):** None.

**COMMISSIONER REPORT(S):**

The Commissioners presented their outside committee reports.

**ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

Administrator Brian Dissette gave his Administrator's Report. He spoke about the Salary Study regarding non-union employees and hazardous pay.

**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 are 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:**

Drain Commissioner Christopher Quattrin gave an update on his department regarding grants. Also, he announced an upcoming grant event at Meijer on September 28, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.

Mike Haskin, Pipestone Township, opposes a traffic circle on Napier Avenue and Miami Road due to emergency vehicles and safety issues.

Heidi Manger, Shoreham Village, a former employee at Animal Control, spoke about her grievance with Berrien County and hazardous pay.

Marsha Gorbitz, Niles Charter Township, an employee of District Court Probation, spoke about the Salary Study regarding non-union employees.

Adolf Pelzer, Hagar Township, spoke about the BOC's board room compared to the Lincoln Charter Township's board room.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Bell spoke about personnel issues. Discussion was held.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:**

Chairperson Elliott announced the following:

- Regular Meeting Schedule next Thursday, September 8, 2022: Committee of the Whole 8:35 A.M. – Committee Meetings 9:15 A.M. – Board of Commissioners Meeting 10:30 A.M.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 P.M.

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R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

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Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

***Minutes are to be approved at the next BOC meeting.***