

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) regular meeting to order at 10:35 A.M. in the BOC's boardroom at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

INVOCATION:

Chairperson Elliott gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Chokwe Pitchford 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:

9 PRESENT: Jim Curran, Teri Sue Freehling, Robert Harrison, Michael Majerek, Chokwe Pitchford, David Vollrath, Julie Wuerfel, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

3 ABSENT: Rayonte Bell, Jon Hinkelman and Alex Ott.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 MEETING:

Commissioner Pitchford moved and supported by Commissioner Freehling, to approve the BOC regular meeting minutes of September 14, 2023. Motion carried and no nays.

COMMUNICATION(S):

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

- A resolution from Tuscola County Board of Commissioners, opposing any legislation preempting local control for solar and wind developments, received on September 14, 2023.
- A resolution from Sanilac County Board of Commissioners, opposing any legislation preempting local control for solar and wind developments, received on September 20, 2023.
- A resolution from Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners, opposing any legislation preempting local control for solar and wind developments, received on September 20, 2023.

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:

Chairperson Elliott spoke about the amended Resolution #A2309297 and explained that the amount for reimbursement per deputy is a higher amount than previously announced.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Commissioner Curran moved and supported by Commissioner Pitchford, to approve today's Consent Calendar:

<u>Resolution(s) #</u>	<u>Description</u>
P2309009	Monthly Per Diems
F2309047	Weekly Bills Approval & Road Payables
B2309094	Weekly Requisitions
A2309282	Accept vehicle donation for shelter animals transport
P2309294	Accept 2024 Veterans Services Grant

A2309297
A2309302

Apply for police academy training reimbursement
Approve Memo of Understanding with MDOT to accept a portion of road into the
County Road System

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

9 YEAS: Curran, Freehling, Harrison, Majerek, Pitchford, Vollrath, Wuerfel, Yarbrough and Elliott.

Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTION(S): None.

Chairperson Elliott introduced Brian Johnston from the Lincoln Charter Township Library, who will be talking about registering for a library card.

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

Committees:

The Finance, Personnel & Human Services (PHSC) and Administration 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):

Brian Johnston, Lincoln Charter Township Library, spoke about Library month and signing up for a library card.

Adolf Pelzer, Hagar Township, spoke about signing up for a library card, replacing the windows in the BOC conference room, two minutes for public comments, night meetings and a newsletter.

Rick Briand, Niles Charter Township, spoke about the two minutes for public comments.

Theresa Briand, Niles City, spoke about the two minutes for public comments and night meetings.

Sheriff Paul Bailey, spoke about the concert in the jail yesterday with gospel rap singer David P Brooks and he will be at the June Woods Memorial Park in Benton Harbor on September 23rd.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chairperson Elliott wished Commissioner Yarbrough a Happy Birthday and sang Happy Birthday to her.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the next BOC meeting.