

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Board Meeting Minutes
October 20, 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:

Commissioner Jim Curran gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Commissioner Julie Wuerfel 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:

10 PRESENT: Rayonte Bell, Jim Curran, Teri Sue Freehling, Robert Harrison, James Martin, Michael Majerek, David Vollrath, Julie Wuerfel, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

2 ABSENT: Jon Hinkelman and Ezra Scott.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 13, 2022 REGULAR MEETING:

Commissioner Vollrath moved and supported by Commissioner Curran, to approve the BOC regular meeting minutes of October 13, 2022. Motion carried and no nays.

COMMUNICATION(S):

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

- Cathy McNeil, Spectrum Health Lakeland, an email regarding the Community Grand Rounds event to be held on October 27, 2022 at Lake Michigan College Mendel Center from 2:00 P.M. until 4:30 P.M. The Community Grand Rounds team invites you to the first CGR Social on the evening of October 27th following the main event.

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 Wuerfel, to approve today's Consent Calendar as presented:

<u>Resolution(s) #</u>	<u>Description</u>
P2210010	Monthly Per Diems
F2210051	Approve Weekly Bills and Road Payables
B2210098	Weekly Requisitions
P2210348	Approve application for Spark Grant
F2210368	Submit annual Appropriation Report
A2210375	Amend agreement with Wightman
P2210376	Approve MOU with Van Buren Conservation District
F2210377	Amend agreement with Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
A2210378	Accept the FY22 Emergency Management Performance Grant
A2210379	Approve MDOT Contract for Oronoko Township
P2210380	Approve Health Department contract with SWMBH
F2210381	Approve Master Plan amendment distribution
A2210382	Amend State Trunkline Agreement

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

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

Motion carried, no nays.

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

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

COMMISSIONER REPORT(S):

The Commissioners presented their outside committee reports.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Administrator Brian Dissette gave his Administrator's Report.

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:

Jerry Mast, Galien Township Supervisor, wanted to express his appreciation to County Clerk Sharon Tyler and her staff for their work on elections. He commented that the BOC meetings are very soothing to members of the general public.

Adolf Pelzer, Hagar Township, spoke about the County Public Safety Millage, on his Absentee ballot and stated he did not like how it was written. Chairperson Elliott noted it was written as prescribed by the state statute and what the law requires.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Administrator Dissette stated there will be a BCBIT meeting today at 12:30 P.M. and Berrien County will be hosting the meeting.

Commissioner Wuerfel reported on some of the new developments that are happening in our community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Commissioner Curran announced that Niles Township Supervisor James Stover resigned as the supervisor due to his health issues. Commissioner Curran was sworn in as the new Niles Township Supervisor on October 17th.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the next BOC meeting.