

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) regular meeting to order at 10:31 A.M. in the BOC's boardroom at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

INVOCATION:

Commissioner Jon Hinkelman gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Drain Commissioner Christopher Quattrin 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: 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: Rayonte Bell.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 9, 2023 MEETING:

Commissioner Freehling moved and supported by Commissioner Vollrath, to approve the BOC regular meeting minutes of November 6, 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):

- An email from the Berrien County MSU Extension, on the Michigan State University Extension's Upcoming Events in Berrien County, received on November 9, 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: None.

RESOLUTIONS - CONSENT CALENDAR:

The following resolutions are considered routine and will be adopted by one motion unless a request for removal, discussion or explanation is received from a County Commissioner.

Commissioner Pitchford moved and supported by Commissioner Vollrath, to move Added Resolutions #A2311362 and #A2311363 to the Consent Calendar and to approve today's Consent Calendar:

<u>Resolution(s) #</u>	<u>Description</u>
P2311011	Monthly Per Diems
F2311055	Weekly Bills Approval & Road Payables
B2311102	Weekly Requisitions
P2311345	Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health Contract Renewal with Health Dept.
A2311347	Adopt Updated Road Department Fee Schedule
A2311354	Accept Grant Funds for Jail Study
F2311356	FY24 Budget Approval
P2311358	St. Joe/Benton Harbor Rotary Grant Acceptance Silver Beach County Park Playground Replacement Project
F2311360	Designation of Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for Materials Management Plan and multi-county memo of understanding
A2311361	Grant Application for Sheriff's K9 Training Bite Suit

A2311362 Approve Jail Medical Contract with VitalCore
A2311363 Approve Public Defender Contracted Services Agreement for Indigent Juveniles
F2311364 Amend Apportionment Report to include November millages
P2311365 Accept Clean Sweep Grant

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

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

Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTION(S):

The following resolution(s) were moved to the Consent Calendar:

<u>Resolution(s) #</u>	<u>Description</u>
A2311362	Approve Jail Medical Contract with VitalCore
A2311363	Approve Public Defender Contracted Services Agreement for Indigent Juveniles
F2311364	Amend Apportionment Report to include November millages
P2311365	Accept Clean Sweep Grant

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

Committees:

The PHS, Administration and Finance Committees presented their Committee Reports. Parent Committee minutes are available at www.berriencounty.org. Discussion was held.

Motion

Commissioner Harrison moved and supported by Commissioner Freehling, to appoint Al Pscholka to the Board of Health to fill the vacancy (Strohl), term expires April 19, 2024.

COMMISSIONER REPORT(S):

The Commissioners presented their outside committee reports.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Administrator Brian Dissette presented the 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):

Adolf Pelzer, Hagar Township, spoke about wanting a hard copy of the 2024 Budget and public comments should be longer than two minutes. Chairperson Elliott stated limited hard copies of the 2024 Budget are available.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chairperson Elliott announced that it is Corporate Counsel Thaddeus Hackworth’s birthday. The BOC and the general public sang “Happy Birthday” to him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Chairperson Elliott announced the following:

- No BOC meetings on Thursday, November 23rd in observance of Thanksgiving.
- County facilities will be closed on Friday, November 24th for the Thanksgiving holiday.
- No BOC meetings will be held on Thursday, November 30th, as it is a 5th Thursday.
- Land Bank Authority will be meeting today.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the next BOC meeting.