

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2019

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. at the 1839 Courthouse, Historic Courthouse Square County Park, 313 North Cass Street, Berrien Springs, Michigan.

INVOCATION:

Pastor Ron Kelly from the Village Seventh Day Adventist Church, Berrien Springs, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Historical Association Executive Director Kathy Cyr 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: William Chickering, Jim Curran, Teri Freehling, Robert Harrison, Christopher Heugel, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, Don Meeks, Ezra Scott, Dave Vollrath and R. McKinley Elliott.

1 ABSENT: Mamie Yarbrough.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

Chairperson Elliott recognized state, local, and former officials and special guests in the audience and thanked them for being in attendance today.

Executive Director Kathy Cyr introduced the Board of Directors of the Berrien County Historical Association.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 28, 2019 REGULAR MEETING:

Commissioner Heugel moved, seconded by Commissioner Vollrath, to approve the regular minutes of March 28, 2019. Motion carried, no nays.

COMMUNICATION(S):

County Clerk Sharon Tyler received and distributed to the Board the following:

- Resolution from the Jackson County Board of Commissioners requesting that legislation be created and passed, to move the administration and oversight of local Michigan Indigent Defense Commission offices to the State of Michigan, received on March 29, 2019.
- Communication from Kelly Stelter, Berrien County 4-H Program Coordinator, the Berrien County Spotlight, 4-H Family News – April/May 2019 issue.

REQUISITION REVIEW:

Annette Christie presented the requisitions to the Board for their review.

PRESENTATION –Berrien County Historical Association Presentation – Kathy Cyr, Executive Director:

Kathy Cyr gave a presentation on the history of the Berrien County Historical Association (BCHS) and the Historic Courthouse Square. The BCHS operates the History Center at the Courthouse Square and collects, preserves and interprets the history of Berrien County through exhibits, tours, publications, research, educational and community outreach programs, and a variety of special events they offer throughout the year.

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 and city, township, or village. (Article III, 3.9B-C): None.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Commissioner Harrison moved, seconded by Commissioner Freehling, to approve today's Consent Calendar as presented:

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F1904024	Weekly Bills
B1904071	Weekly Requisitions
F1904113	Approve Road Payables
F1904187	FOC & Prosecutor Audit Assessment Contract
A1904194	Accept MMRMA RAP Grant
F1904199	Support of High Speed Internet and E-connectivity infrastructure
P1904200	Approve contract for Certified Prevention Specialist
F1904202	Approve Continuation of AEP Easements for Napier/Euclid

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call the roll resulting as follows:

11 YEAS: Chickering, Curran, Freehling, Harrison, Heugel, Hinkelman, Majerek, Meeks, Scott, Vollrath and Elliott.

Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTIONS: None.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioners presented their outside committee reports.

SPECIAL GUESTS REPORTED:

Berrien Springs Village President Milt Richter gave a brief report on Berrien Springs Village.

Berrien Township Supervisor Bryan Bixby, former County Commissioner, gave a brief report on Berrien Township.

Former County Commissioner Dick Bartz spoke about the Courthouse Square and gave the history of the location of the current Berrien County seat.

State Representative Brad Paquette, District 78, gave a brief report on the current affairs in Lansing.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS - Those speaking during public comments may do so no longer than two minutes and shall identify themselves by name and city, township, or village. (Article III, 3.9B-C): None.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Scott added to the history regarding District #9, made by former County Commissioner Dick Bartz.

Chairperson Elliott and Administrator William Wolf spoke about the history between Berrien County and the Berrien County Historical Association (BCHA) regarding the buildings being sold to Berrien County. They discussed the operating agreement with BCHA to manage the programs and events at the Courthouse Square. Administrator Wolf discussed the building improvements and grounds.

Sheriff Paul Bailey spoke about when he was first sworn in as the new Berrien County Sheriff at the Courthouse Square and shared his personal stories of events held here.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Chairperson Elliott announced the following:

- April 11, 2019 – Strategic Planning at Noon to 5:00 P.M., Berrien County Administration Center.
- April 19, 2019 – County facilities closed for the Spring Holiday.
- April 25, 2019 – Strategic Planning at Noon to 5:00 P.M., Berrien County Administration Center.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 P.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the full board meeting on April 11, 2019.