

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 13, 2019

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

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

INVOCATION:

Commissioner Harrison gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Parks and Recreation Director Brian Bailey 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, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

1 ABSENT: David Vollrath.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 6, 2019 MEETING:

Commissioner Harrison moved, seconded by Commissioner Yarbrough, to approve the regular minutes of June 6, 2019. Motion carried, no nays.

COMMUNICATION(S):

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

- A resolution from the Gratiot County Board of Commissioners urging our Legislators and Governor to be in compliance with of MCL 35.623a to fully fund the County Veterans Service Fund Grant in FY 2020 and beyond, received on June 6, 2019.
- A communication from Robin Luce Herrmann, Butzel Long, Attorneys and Counselors, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, on a request on the behalf of Zillow Group, Inc., to enter an agreement for a bulk pricing arrangement on obtaining recorded document images, received on June 10, 2019.

PRESENTATION – Berrien Community Foundation:

Parks and Recreation Director Brian Bailey spoke about Rocky Gap County Park. He discussed the barrier free access ramp leading down to the beach area and adding an Access Beach Mat that will allow for individuals with disabilities, including those with wheelchairs, to be closer to Lake Michigan safely and efficiently. The Berrien County Parks Department applied to the Berrien Community Foundation for a \$1,000 grant for an Access Beach Mat for Rocky Gap County Park.

President Lisa Cripps-Downey, and Program Manager Susan Matheny of the Berrien Community Foundation presented the Berrien County Parks Department with a \$1,000 grant to assist in the purchasing of an Access Beach Mat.

The Board has on the Consent Calendar today, Resolution #P1902152, to accept the \$1,000 grant to assist in the purchasing of an Access Beach Mat.

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):

Adolf Pelzer, Hagar Township, stated that the resolutions were not on the County's website last night.

Chairperson Elliott and Administrator William Wolf spoke about errors that were on Resolution #A1906248 - Approve contract with MDOT for road work in Bertrand and Resolution #F1906118 - Road Payables that may have delayed the resolutions being on the website. The resolutions have been corrected for the Consent Calendar.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Commissioner Heugel moved, seconded by Commissioner Scott, to approve today's Consent Calendar as presented:

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F1906033	Approve Weekly Bills
B1906080	Approve Requisitions
F1906118	Road Payables
A1906241	Accept 2019 Marine Grant Agreement
P1906242	Accept Grant for Rocky Gap County Park
A1906243	Approve Easement for Berrien County Road Department
P1906244	Approve Remonumentation Peer Group Members
P1906245	Approve Remonumentation Contracts
A1906246	Renew Contract with DHS for Building Security
A1906247	Approve contract with MDOT for road work Buchanan
A1906248	Approve contract with MDOT for road work Bertrand
A1906249	Approve contract with MDOT for road work St. Joseph

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

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

Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTIONS: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioners presented their outside committee reports.

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):

Jerry Sirk, Benton Charter Township, stated public transportation funds may be cut in the State's budget.

Lynn Schlender, Stevensville and Christine Wilke, Stevensville, thanked Animal Control for doing a good job and working with the community. They spoke about Berrien County Animal Control Give Back Night at the Mark III Restaurant, Paws of Hope and fundraising.

Tony Dlouhy, Lincoln Charter Township, thanked Animal Control for the job they are doing. He spoke about farm equipment on the roadways and people needing to be patient.

Darrin Schaer, Pipestone Township, spoke about the Senior Centers' presentation this morning in the Committee of Whole meeting. He spoke about the County's resolutions and the proposed resolutions needing to be on the website too.

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township, spoke about non-motorized paths on Napier Avenue and new development.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Yarbrough stated they received fifteen applications for one open seat on the Land Bank Authority. Commissioners Chickering, Majerek and Yarbrough will meet after today's meeting to decide how to proceed with the selection.

Chairperson Elliott stated a special board meeting for the Long Range Planning will be held on June 27, 2019 at noon in the Board of Commissioners' room at the Berrien County Administration Center to discuss their strategic priorities and operational objectives for 2019 to 2020. Administrator Wolf stated the Joint Pension Committee and Trust Investment Advisory Committee will be cancelled for that day.

Commissioner Scott responded to the public comment regarding the resolutions not being on the website last night and he can attest that the computer was not allowing her to upload the information onto the site.

Chairperson Elliott spoke about safe travels for farm equipment. They will be working on public awareness and enforcement opportunities. He would like to coordinate this opportunity with local units.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Chairperson Elliott announced the following:

- July 4, 2019 – County Facilities are closed. No board meetings will be held.
- July 11, 2019 – Night meeting at the Niles District Library, 620 East Main St., Niles, Michigan at 6:00 P.M.

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 full board meeting on June 20, 2019.