

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Board Meeting Minutes
June 23, 2022

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the regular Board of Commissioners' (BOC) meeting to order at 10:34 A.M. in the BOC's room at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

INVOCATION:

Commissioner Rayonte Bell gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Commissioner Robert Harrison 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, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, James Martin, Ezra Scott, David Vollrath and R. McKinley Elliott.

2 ABSENT: Julie Wuerfel and Mamie Yarbrough.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 16, 2022 REGULAR MEETING:

Commissioner Scott moved and supported by Commissioner Majerek, to approve the BOC regular meeting minutes of June 16, 2022. Motion carried and no nays.

COMMUNICATION(S):

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

- Iron County Board of Commissioners, a resolution opposing Michigan House Bills 4729, 4730, 4731, and 4732, received on June 21, 2022.
- Elizabeth Sapp, Stevensville, an email in regards Juneteenth, received on June 21, 2022.
- Livingston County Board of Commissioners, a resolution optimizing election integrity as it pertains to the acceptance of unregulated private monies for funding elections, received on June 21, 2022.
- Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners, a resolution opposing Michigan House Bills 4729, 4730, 4731, and 4732, received on June 22, 2022.
- Branch County Board of Commissioners, a resolution opposing Michigan House Bills 4729, 4730, 4731, and 4732, received on June 22, 2022.

REQUISITION REVIEW - Annette Christie:

Executive Administrative Assistant Annette Christie presented the requisitions to the Board for their review.

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). 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 Freehling, to approve today's Consent Calendar with Added Resolution #F2206295 as presented:

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F2206036	Weekly Bills and Road Payables
B2206083	Weekly Requisitions

A2206125	Department Technology Management Budget Agreement
A2206289	22-23 Snowmobile Grant Application
B2206025	Honorary Resolution
P2206292	2023 Aerial Photography MiSail Agreement GIS
A2206293	Drug Treatment Court Grant Amendment
F2206295	Cost Sharing Agreement for Assessment Appeal

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

10 YEAS: Curran, Freehling, Harrison, Hinkelman, Majerek, Martin, Scott, Vollrath, Bell and Elliott.

Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTION(S):

The following resolution was moved to the Consent Calendar:

<u>Resolution #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F2206295	Cost Sharing Agreement for Assessment Appeal

BOARD APPOINTMENTS: None.

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

The Personnel & Human Services, Administration, and Finance Committees presented their Committee Reports. Discussion was held. 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 and city, township, or village. (Article III, 3.9B-C):

Adolf Peltzer, Hagar Township, spoke about the Administrative Center building, democracy and what time the meetings should be held.

Annie Brown, South Haven, introduced herself as a candidate for State Representative, District 38.

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township, spoke about the Board's meeting schedules.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Hinkelman thanked Administrator Dissette for his assistance in obtaining a permit for Watervliet Public Schools.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

The following announcements were made:

- Special meeting of the BOC on Thursday, June 30, 2022 at 10:30 A.M. to honor former Sheriff Forrest "Nick" Jewell.
- BOC night meeting will be held at 19 North Froehlich's, 19th North Elm Street, Three Oaks, Michigan, on July 7, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.
- Next week, Sgt. Ronald Bush will have a retirement event for his 25 years of service to Berrien County.
- No Land Bank Authority meeting today and is rescheduled for June 30th.

Commissioner Majerek left the meeting at 11:06 A.M. and returned at 11:09 A.M.

CLOSED SESSION – MCL 15.268 (c) – Quarterly Litigation Report by Corporate Counsel Thaddeus Hackworth - “To consult with its attorney regarding trial and settlement strategy in connection with pending litigation:

Commissioner Scott moved and supported by Commissioner Martin, to recess the public meeting and go into Closed Session at 11:07 A.M., to consult with its attorney regarding trial and settlement strategy in connection with pending litigation.

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

9 YEAS: Freehling, Harrison, Hinkelman, Martin, Scott, Vollrath, Bell, Curran and Elliott.

Motion carried, no nays.

Chairperson Elliott left the meeting at 11:08 A.M.

The Board recessed at 11:11 A.M. to go into Closed Session.

Vice Chairperson Freehling reconvened to Open Session at 11:36 A.M.

Commissioner Hinkelman moved and seconded by Commissioner Scott, to approve the Closed Session minutes of February 10, 2022. Motion carried, no nays. 1 Abstain: Martin (Commissioner James Martin was appointed as the Commissioner of District #3 at the Special Board meeting held on May 19, 2022.)

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the next BOC meeting.