

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2021

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Vice Chairperson Ezra Scott called the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) regular meeting to order at 10:31 A.M. in the BOC 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 Dave Vollrath led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

ROLL CALL:

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

11 PRESENT: Rayonte Bell, Jim Curran, Teri Sue Freehling, Robert Harrison (Left the meeting at 11:16 A.M.), Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, Don Meeks, David Vollrath, Julie Wuerfel, Mamie Yarbrough and Ezra Scott.

1 ABSENT: R. McKinley Elliott.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 5, 2021 MEETING:

Commissioner Harrison moved and supported by Commissioner Wuerfel, to approve the BOC regular meeting minutes of August 5, 2021. Motion carried and no nays.

COMMUNICATION(S):

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

- Trisha Kovac, St. Joseph, Michigan, an email regarding Berrien County return to school concerns, received on August 4, 2021.
- Missaukee County Board of Commissioners, a resolution regarding the American Rescue Plan Act and the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, received on August 6, 2021.
- Desmond Murray, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, an email regarding Dr. Wilce Cooke's funeral arrangements, received on August 8, 2021.

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). Those speaking should reference the resolution # that they are speaking about:

Darrin Schaer, Pipestone Township, asked about Resolution #P2108293 - Complement Change Public Defender's Office and why they are adding people.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Commissioner Majerek moved and supported by Commissioner Meeks, to approve today's Consent Calendar as presented:

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F2108042	Weekly Bills
B2108089	Weekly Requisitions
P2108293	Complement Change Public Defender's Office

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

11 YEAS: Curran, Freehling, Harrison, Hinkelman, Majerek, Meeks, Vollrath, Wuerfel, Yarbrough, Bell and Scott. Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTION(S): None.

BOARD MEETING CALENDAR:

Executive Assistant to the Administrator Annette Krieger-Christie updated the Board regarding the September 2021 Board Meeting Schedule. Discussion was held.

Motion: Commissioner Curran moved and supported by Commissioner Vollrath, to approve the amended Board Meeting Schedule with the cancellation of the Thursday, September 2, 2021 meetings. Motion carried and no nays.

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

The Finance, Personnel & Human Services, and Administration 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 Commissioners' 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, 3.9 B-C):

Annette Krieger-Christie, Keeler Township, thanked the BOC for their compliments on her work with the Senior Centers and on the amended September 2021 Board Meeting Calendar.

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township, commented on the swing bridge in Benton Harbor that is out of order and spoke about the bus tour prior to the BOC meeting next week.

Mark Anderson, Lake Charter Township, spoke about COVID-19 and the vaccinations.

Amy Foster, Stevensville, spoke about COVID-19 and COVID-19 in the schools.

Darrin Schaer, Pipestone Township, spoke about COVID-19 requirements.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Vice Chairperson Scott announced the following:

- The August 19, 2021 Board of Commissioners' meeting will be at 6:00 P.M. at the Chikaming Township Fire Department, 13535 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, Michigan. The Committee of the Whole meeting and committee meetings will not be held. This meeting will not be streaming on YouTube. A bus tour will be held prior to the meeting and the BOC will be in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Discussion was held.

Vice Chair Scott asked Commissioner Hinkelman about the crops. Commissioner Hinkelman gave an update on agriculture.

Commissioner Freehling gave an update on the Berrien County Youth Fair to be held next week.

Commissioner Freehling announced the Brownfield Development Authority Board will be meeting at 1:30 P.M. today.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 A.M.

Ezra Scott, Vice Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the next BOC meeting.