

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2019

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the regular meeting to order at 10:33 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners' room at the Berrien County Administration Center in St. Joseph, Michigan.

INVOCATION:

Commissioner Teri Freehling gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott 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:

12 PRESENT: William Chickering, Jim Curran, Teri Freehling, Robert Harrison, Christopher Heugel, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, Don Meeks, Ezra Scott, Dave Vollrath, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

0 ABSENT.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 17, 2019 MEETING:

Commissioner Yarbrough moved, seconded by Commissioner Scott, to approve the regular minutes of January 17, 2019. Motion carried, no nays.

COMMUNICATION(S):

County Clerk Sharon Tyler distributed to the Board a resolution from the Jackson County Board of Commissioners regarding the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission received on January 17, 2019.

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

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F1901015	Weekly Bills
B1901062	Approve Requisitions
F1901108	Approve Road Payables
F1901143	FY2020 Transportation Funding Applications
A1901144	Authorize Contract with State of Michigan for Bridge Project
P1901145	Acquire Land for Expansion of Paw Paw River County Park
F1901146	FY2019 Agency contracts for Transportation Services
A1901147	Hazardous Materials Emergency Prep Grant Application
A1901150	Accept grant from Michigan Animal Fund for Spay/Neuter Program

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

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

Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTION: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The Administration, Finance, and Personnel and Human Services 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):

Adolf Pelzer, Hagar Township, spoke about having a printed agenda and resolutions available to the public prior to the meeting date.

Jerry Sirk, Benton Charter Township, commented on resolutions to be presented next week.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner/Chaplain Yarbrough discussed the plans to hold the invocation on a weekly basis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Chairperson Elliott announced the following:

- There will be no regular Board of Commissioner meetings on Thursday, January 31, 2019 (5th Thursday).
- A Board of Commissioners' Strategic Planning Session will be held Thursday, January 31, 2019.

Chairperson Elliott stated the Board will be going into Closed Session and the only business that will be taken after returning to Open Session will be the approval of the Closed Session minutes.

**CLOSED SESSION – Corporate Counsel James McGovern – Quarterly Litigation Update
MCL 15.268 (c) “To consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation.”**

Commissioner Curran moved, seconded by Commissioner Vollrath, to recess the public meeting and go into Closed Session at 11:04 A.M., to consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation.

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

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

Motion carried, no nays.

The Board returned to Open Session at 11:53 A.M.

Commissioner Vollrath moved, seconded by Commissioner Scott, to approve the closed minutes from the November 15, 2018 meeting. 4 ABSTAIN: Curran, Harrison, Heugel and Hinkelman. (Not present at the November 15, 2018 Closed Session). Motion carried, no nays.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the full board meeting on February 7, 2019.