

**BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**  
**March 3, 2022**

**CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:**

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the regular COW meeting to order at 8:36 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) room at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

12 PRESENT: Rayonte Bell, Jim Curran, Teri Sue Freehling, Robert Harrison, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, Don Meeks, Ezra Scott, David Vollrath, Julie Wuerfel, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

0 ABSENT:

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 17, 2022 MEETING:**

Commissioner Scott moved and seconded by Commissioner Majerek, to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes held on February 17, 2022. Motion carried, no nays.

**REQUISITION REVIEW:**

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

**WEBSITE OVERVIEW – Annette Christie:**

Executive Administrative Assistant Annette Christie updated the Board on changes that were made on the County's website. Discussion was held.

**PRESENTATION – MSUE Annual Report – Julie Pioch:**

Administrator Brian Dissette introduced Julie Pioch, Michigan State University Extension District 13 Director.

District 13 Director Julie Pioch, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Michigan State University Extension Annual Report and discussed the following:

- 4-H and Youth Development
  - Science Literacy in the Classroom
  - 4-H Gives Back to the Community
- Agriculture
  - MI AG Ideas to Grow With
  - Field Crops Webinar Series
  - Berrien Animal Control Partners for Emergency Training
- Horticulture
  - Great Lakes Expo Face to Face in 2021
  - Peach Research at SWMRC
  - Extension Master Gardner
  - What is "Ask Extension"?
- Government & Community Vitality
  - Citizen Planner
  - Keeping Elected Officials in the Know
  - ARPA Funds Training
  - Financial Best Practices Series

- Assistance to the City of Bridgman
- Health and Nutrition
  - Nutrition and Physical Education
  - Health Team
  - Food Safety

Swine Educator Elizabeth Ferry, 4-H Program Coordinator Clara Jungermann, Integrated Pest Management Educator Mike Reinke and Community Nutrition Instructor Yolanda Thrash discussed their departments.

Commissioner Hinkelman and Commissioner Freehling thanked MSUE for their presentation and their services. Discussion was held.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – Per the Berrien County Board of Commissioners’ Bylaws 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):**

Melissa Clapper, St. Joseph Charter Township, thanked the BOC for today’s presentation. She spoke about a breakdown on the redistricting maps.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Scott assisted Melissa Clapper in her request.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 A.M.

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R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

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Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

***Minutes are to be approved at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.***