

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2019

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. in the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) room at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

County Clerk Sharon Tyler led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

INVOCATION:

Executive Administrative Assistant Annette Christie gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL:

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

7 PRESENT: William Chickering, Jim Curran, Robert Harrison, Christopher Heugel, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek and R. McKinley Elliott.

5 ABSENT: Teri Freehling, Don Meeks, Ezra Scott, Dave Vollrath and Mamie Yarbrough.

COMMUNICATION(S):

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

- A resolution from the Menominee County Board of Commissioners, supporting the Enbridge's Line 5 Tunnel, received on September 25, 2019.
- A resolution from the Lake County Board of Commissioners who are opposed to the Trial Court Funding Commission Interim Report dated April 8, 2019, sub topic section that would change the County Clerks constitutional duties to Circuit Court, received on September 26, 2019.
- A resolution from the Mackinac County Board of Commissioners, supporting the Enbridge's Line 5 Tunnel, received on September 27, 2019.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2019 MEETING:

Commissioner Chickering moved, seconded by Commissioner Heugel, to approve the regular minutes of September 26, 2019. Motion carried, no nays.

COMMISSIONER INTRODUCTIONS:

The Commissioners introduced themselves and the districts they represent.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS – Interview Committee:

Commissioner Harrison moved, seconded by Commissioner Curran, to approve the following recommendations by the Interview Committee (Vollrath, Meeks and Harrison):

- Appoint Dr. Kenneth Edwards replacing Dr. Carter on the Board of Health, to fill a term ending April 2020 and one (1) term for five (5) years.
- Appoint David Rogers replacing Lynn Todman on the Mental Health Authority, to fill a term ending March 2020 and one (1) term three (3) years.
- Appoint James Bednar replacing Julia Lasata on the Parks and Recreation Commission, to fill a term ending January 1, 2022.

Motion carried, no nays.

REQUISITION REVIEW:

Annette Christie presented the requisitions to the Board for review.

SCHEDULED DISCUSSION:

Administrator William Wolf gave a PowerPoint presentation and discussed the following:

- Jail Intake Project/Capital Update
 - Started in June 2017, expected completion to occur in Spring 2020.
 - Cost of the Work.
- Lakeland Building (Juvenile Center) Demo.
- Windows for the 1839 Courthouse.
- General Fund project requests for 2020.
- Capital Fund project requests.
- 2019 Project Update.

Sheriff Paul Bailey was present for the discussion to answer any questions on the Jail Intake project.

Annette Christie spoke about the Berrien County Senior Centers and their Terms of Appropriation. She discussed their audits.

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):

Darrin Schaer, Pipestone Township, spoke about Resolution #C1910312 - Appoint Special Counsel.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Commissioner Heugel moved, seconded by Commissioner Harrison, to include Resolution #A1910313 to the Consent Calendar from the Added Resolutions, and to approve today's Consent Calendar as presented:

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F1910047	Weekly Bills
B1910094	Weekly Requisitions
F1910127	Approve Road Payables
A1910313	Authorize to Apply for a Spay/Neuter Grant for Animal Control

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

7 YEAS: Chickering, Curran, Harrison, Heugel, Hinkelman, Majerek and Elliott.

Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #A1910313 - Authorize to Apply for a Spay/Neuter Grant for Animal Control was moved to the Consent Calendar.

Resolution #C1910312 - Appoint Special Counsel

Commissioner Curran moved, seconded by Commissioner Majerek, to approve Resolution #C1910312.

Commissioner Hinkelman asked that Resolution #C1910312 be addressed separately for discussion. He asked for clarity and the goals of the resolution, talking to employees and the Drain Commissioner, and the attorney-client privilege. Chairperson Elliott, Commissioner Chickering and Corporate Counsel James McGovern responded to the questions and addressed the concerns. Discussion was held.

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

7 YEAS: Curran, Harrison, Heugel, Hinkelman, Majerek, Chickering and Elliott.

Motion carried, no nays.

COMMISSIONER REPORT(S):

Commissioners presented their Commissioner 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):

Melissa Clapper, St. Joseph Charter Township, spoke about night meetings.

Adolf Pelzer, Hagar Township, spoke about the Road Department.

Jerry Sirk, Benton Charter Township, spoke about the Special Counsel reviewing the bylaws.

Darrin Schaer, Pipestone Township, spoke about Eastern Equine Encephalitis and the communities opting out of the aerial spraying program to kill the mosquitoes.

Tony Droughy, Lincoln Charter Township, spoke about the newspapers and advertising the meetings.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Hinkelman spoke about Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). He discussed the aerial spraying of the organic pesticide called Merus 3.0 and the communities opting out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Chairperson Elliott acknowledged his daughter in the audience today.

Chairperson Elliott announced the following:

- Regular meeting schedules are in place for October 10, 17, and 24, 2019. At 8:30 A.M., the Committee of the Whole Meeting; 9:15 A.M., Individual Committee Meetings (Administration – Personnel – Finance); and at 10:30 A.M., the regular Board of Commissioners' Meeting.
- No meeting will be held on October 31, 2019, as it's a 5th Thursday.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 P.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the full board meeting on October 10, 2019.