

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2019

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Vice Chairperson Teri Freehling called the regular meeting to order at 8:35 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners' room at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

ROLL CALL:

The Vice 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 (Arrived at 9:19 A.M.) and R. McKinley Elliott (Arrived at 8:39 A.M.).

0 ABSENT.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 14, 2019 MEETING:

Commissioner Meeks moved, seconded by Commissioner Vollrath, to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes of November 14, 2019. Motion carried, no nays.

REQUISITION REVIEW:

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

Annette Christie stated the Road Department's website has been updated to take requests and request forms are available at the Administration Center. She gave an update on the Puppy Preventer and Feline Fix Fundraiser – Spay/Neuter "Fur" Raiser.

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): None.

SCHEDULED DISCUSSION:

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

- Communication: Resolution from the Manistee County Board of Commissioners to declare the Great Lakes coast a disaster area and seeking assistance.
- Proposed Resolution #B1912343.
- Purpose for this morning:
 - A visual appreciation for shoreline erosion as it affects County infrastructure.
 - Why is it occurring?
 - Where is the County shoreline most at risk?
 - What some communities are doing about it long term.
- Example for Discussion:
 - Dune Lane, Lincoln Charter Township.
 - Oak Lane, Lincoln Charter Township.
- High Risk Erosion Areas (HREA) – Map.
- HREA & Critical Dune Areas in Hagar Township – Map.
- HREA & Critical Dunes Areas in Benton Charter Township and the City of Benton Harbor – Map.
- HREA & Critical Dune Areas in St. Joseph Charter Township, City of St. Joseph and Village of Shoreham – Map.
- HREA & Critical Dune Areas in Lincoln Charter Township – Map.
- HREA & Critical Dune Areas in Lake Charter Township and City of Bridgman – Map.
- HREA & Critical Dune Areas in Chikaming Township – Map.
- HREA & Critical Dune Areas in New Buffalo Township and City of New Buffalo – Map.
- Shoreline Erosion Ordinances:
 - Chikaming Township's Ordinance.
 - City of St. Joseph's Edgewater Beach Overlay District.
 - Hagar Township's Ordinance.

- New Buffalo Township's Ordinance.

Road Department Director Jason Latham assisted with the discussion.

Sheriff Paul Bailey and Captain Rockey Adams gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Emergency Declaration Process and discussed the following:

- Lake Michigan
 - Lake Michigan – Huron.
- Local Government
 - Local disaster relief forces are utilized to their maximum potential, (including use of local contractors, activation of mutual aid, and use of nearby resources).
 - Request County Assistance.
- County
 - Implement EOP.
 - Employ disaster relief forces to full extent.
 - Request Assistance from State.
 - Complete Damage Assessment within 72 Hours.
- State
 - Confirm Damage Assessment.
 - Assess if Disaster Contingency Grants are appropriate.
 - Request EMAC Assistance.
 - Request Presidential or Department Level Emergency/Disaster.
- Background Note
 - The chief executive official of a county is not authorized to make such a request for state assistance for an incident occurring solely within the confines of a township, city, or village within the county unless requested to do so by the chief executive official of the affected township, city, or village.
- Required Elements/Format
- 1st Assessment Criteria
- Damage Assessment
- State Grant Assessment Criteria
- Federal IA
- Comparison between Berrien County and Statewide
- Haz Mit
- Ongoing Actions

Discussion was held.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the full board meeting on December 5, 2019.