

## BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the February 11, 2021 Personnel and Human Services Committee Meeting.  
Meeting held Virtually via ZOOM. Attendance was as follows:

| NAME            | PRESENT | ABSENT | ALSO PRESENT                       |
|-----------------|---------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Bob Harrison    | X       |        | Brian Dissette, Annette Christie   |
| Rayonte Bell    | X       |        | Nicki Britten (via ZOOM from BCHD) |
| Michael Majerek | X       |        |                                    |
|                 |         |        | Shelley Jasper                     |

### COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

- Meeting called to order at 8:04 a.m.
- Attendance was taken:
  - Commissioner Harrison: Present via ZOOM Lincoln Township
  - Commissioner Majerek: Present via ZOOM Niles
  - Commissioner Bell: Present via ZOOM St Joseph

### HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Health Officer Nicki Britten introduced and discussed the following Resolutions:

- P2102152: Double Up Food Bucks Program
- P2102153: CPBC Amendment #2
- P2102154: Accept funding of grant award from LARA for outreach and education related to Medical Marihuana (\$48,220)
- P2102166: Update to P2102153, accepts \$691,000 for COVID vaccination effort/response

Motion by Commissioner Majerek, supported by Commissioner Bell to recommend forwarding the Resolutions to the Full Board for formal action. Roll call was taken and three yeas were recorded.

Nicki then provided a COVID 19 update. Highlights follow:

She is encouraged by the following:

- Number of positive cases is decreasing
- Percent positivity is under 7%
- Daily testing averages 700-800
- Decrease in number the deaths

She reminded the Committee that the variant strain from the UK has been identified in Cass County and is most likely also present in Berrien County. She said it is imperative that individuals avoid large gatherings, continue wearing masks and practice social distancing. Nicki highlighted that the Health Department's current focus is multi-pronged and is comprised of the following activities:

- Covid 19 vaccination
- Case Investigation & Tracing
- Customer Service (communications; hotline; community partners)
- Core Response Planning (being proactive vs reactive)
- Continuity of key operations
- Cluster investigations and support (congregate settings)

Finally, Nicki provided an update on the current vaccine administration efforts:

- Approximately 9500 does administered so far; 75% of that has been provided to age 65+ individuals
- Large scale clinics at BCHD
- Drive thru clinics at fire stations
- Pop-up clinics at senior centers, churches, etc...
- On site facility clinics (Nursing homes)

### COUNTY ADMINISTRATION:

- Resolution P2102164, a Resolution approving a complement change in the Sheriff's Emergency Management Office was reviewed and approved to move forward for Full Board action on February 18, 2021.
- Annette Christie explained the public comment process
- Motion by Commissioner Majerek, supported by Commissioner Bell to approve the minutes dated 01/28/2021. Commissioner Majerek – yea; Commissioner Bell – yea, Commissioner Harrison, yea. 3 yeas 0 nays, motion carried.

- Motion by Commissioner Majerek, supported by Commissioner Bell to approve the monthly pension refunds as presented. Commissioner Bell – yea, Commissioner Majerek – yea, Commissioner Harrison – yea, 3 yeas, 0 nays, motion carried.
- Motion by Commissioner Majerek, supported by Commissioner Bell to approve the annual retirements as presented. Commissioner Bell – yea, Commissioner Majerek – yea, Commissioner Harrison – yea, 3 yeas, 0 nays, motion carried
- Administrator Brian Disette introduced Resolution P2102169, appointing Neil Coulston as Interim Road Department Director and relayed that County policy requires the hiring of an interim be approved by Board Resolution. He added that this a short term placement (expected three month duration) and is intended to ensure continuity of operations. Motion by Commissioner Majerek, supported by Commissioner Bell to forward the Resolution to the Full Board for action at today's meeting. 3 yeas were recorded.
- Resolution P2102002, per diem payments for the month of January will be resent to the Committee members and action will occur at the Full Board today.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Emily Boehm, Lincoln Township, voiced concern over a Road Department personnel matter

Kelsey Schoenwitz, Stevensville, voiced concern over a Road Department personnel matter

Debbie Boothby, Treasurer of Benton Township, voiced concern over a Road Department personnel matter

Adjourned 8:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Jasper  
Human Resources Director