

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2022

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the regular Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting to order at 8:38 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, James Martin, Ezra Scott, David Vollrath, Julie Wuerfel, Mamie Yarbrough (arrived at 8:41 A.M.) and R. McKinley Elliott.

0 ABSENT.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE APRIL 28, 2022 MEETING:

Commissioner Scott moved and seconded by Commissioner Vollrath, to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes held on April 28, 2022. Motion carried, no nays.

REQUISITION REVIEW - Annette Christie:

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

GUESTS:

Administrator Brian Dissette introduced Public Defender Paul Jancha. Paul Jancha spoke about the Emerging Adult Task Force. He spoke about the Berrien County Public Defender's Office has partnered with the Boys & Girl Club of Benton Harbor, and local law enforcement agencies of Twin Cities to present the Twin Cities 3:3 tourney, a two day youth basketball tournament on June 11 and 12, 2022.

Administrator Dissette introduced Family Division Administrator Elvin Gonzales, who introduced Gregory Skipper, the newly hired Juvenile Center Director. Gregory Skipper gave a brief description of himself.

HEALTH UPDATE – GUY MILLER, ACTING HEALTH OFFICER:

Acting Health Officer Guy Miller gave a brief update on the Health Department and discussed the following:

- COVID-19
- Benton Harbor water, water filters and replacing the lead pipes.
- Abbott Laboratories – baby formula.
- Classes on marijuana health effects and storing marijuana.
- Resolution #C2206288 - Appoint Guy Miller as Berrien County Health Officer on the BOC's Agenda today.
- Benton Harbor Farmers Market and grants.
- Monkeypox

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):

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township, spoke about the County’s telephone system.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Administrator Dissette spoke about today’s meetings and that the Administration Committee will be discussing the Juvenile Center.

Commissioner Curran spoke about the handout the BOC members received today and it will be discussed at the BOC meeting at 10:30 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

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