

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2020

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott 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 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 (Arrived at 8:37 A.M.), Ezra Scott, Dave Vollrath, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

0 ABSENT.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 9, 2020 MEETING:

Commissioner Vollrath moved, seconded by Commissioner Majerek, to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes of January 9, 2020. Motion carried, no nays.

REQUISITION REVIEW:

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

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):

Dick Bertog, Benton Harbor, handed out information to the Board and discussed Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Ordinance #24, a public hearing on Rolling Prairie Excavating for special land use to operate an Excavation Business at 10747 US – 12, and his property.

Michael Haskins, Pipestone Township, spoke about the MDOT meeting on January 15th regarding Empire Avenue and thanked the Board members who attended.

Darrin Schaer, Pipestone Township, asked for the Road Department Chair to standup.

SCHEDULED DISCUSSION:

Parks and Recreation Commission:

Parks and Recreation Commission Director Brian Bailey gave a PowerPoint presentation and discussed the following:

- 2020 Priority Project Types of the MNRTF
- Paw Paw River County Park
 - Enders Property Proposed Concept Plan
- Red Arrow Corridor – Berrien County Linear Park
- Madeline Bertrand County Park/Linear Trail
- Recycling

Discussion was held.

Road Department:

Road Department Director Jason Latham gave a PowerPoint presentation and discussed the following:

- Weekend Storm Impacts:
 - Saturday, January 11, 2020 and Sunday, January 12, 2020
 - Rain
 - Wind
 - Flooding
 - Ice
 - Snow
 - Additional Cost
 - Approximately \$40,000
 - Budgeted vs Reactionary
- Road Closure Recap:
 - Galien-Buchanan Road (Buchanan Township/Bertrand Township)
 - Lakeside Road (New Buffalo Township/Three Oaks Township)
 - Buffalo Road (Galien Township)
 - Fedore Road (Buchanan Township)
 - Lubke Road (New Buffalo Township)
- 2019 PASER Distribution on Primary Roads
- Berrien County Road Department Plan
 - Three-Year Transportation Plan
 - 2019 - 2021
 - 2020 - 2022
- Asset Management
- Berrien County Road Department Contact Information

Discussion was held.

Administration:

Annette Christie presented a list of night meeting locations. South County will hold a night meeting in 2021. Discussion was held and the Board concurred on the following dates and locations for night meetings at 6:00 P.M.:

- Thursday, May 7, 2020 1839 Courthouse, Historic Courthouse Square County Park, 313 N. Cass Street, Berrien Springs, MI
- Thursday, June 4, 2020 Chikaming Township Hall, 13535 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, MI
- Thursday, July 9, 2020 Michigan State University Extension Office, 1737 Hillandale, Benton Harbor, MI
- Thursday, August 6, 2020 Buchanan Area Senior Center, 810 Ryneerson, Buchanan, MI
- Thursday, September 10, 2020 Hagar Township Hall, 3900 Riverside Road, Riverside, MI

911 Administration:

911 Administrator Dave Agens gave a PowerPoint presentation and discussed the following on Public Safety Radio Projects:

- Radio Projects
 - Plan B – 2020 County Pager Grant
 - MPSCS 800MHz Coverage Enhancement

- Paging Coverage – VHF vs. MPSCS 7/800MHz Today
- N/E County MPSCS Signal Coverage Enhancement
- Hospital ASR
- 3 MI 95% In-Street Coverage Model

Discussion was held.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the full board meeting on January 23, 2020.