

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Virtual Board Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2020

Staff Present: County Clerk Sharon Tyler
Annette Christie, Executive Assistant to the Administrator
Mike Henry, Interim County Administrator
Captain Rockey Adams
Sheriff Paul Bailey

BOC Present: Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott
Commissioner David Vollrath

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the regular meeting to order at 10:32 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) room at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

INVOCATION:

Commissioner Mamie Yarbrough gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Interim County Administrator Mike Henry led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

ROLL CALL:

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

12 PRESENT: R. McKinley Elliott, Robert Harrison, Ezra Scott, Don Meeks (arrived at 10:35 A.M.), Michael Majerek, David Vollrath, Mamie Yarbrough, Jon Hinkelman, Jim Curran, Christopher Heugel, William Chickering and Teri Freehling.

0 ABSENT.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 11, 2020 MEETING:

Commissioner Heugel moved and supported by Commissioner Vollrath, to approve the BOC virtual meeting minutes of June 11, 2020.

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

11 YEAS: Yarbrough, Harrison, Hinkelman, Scott, Chickering, Vollrath, Freehling, Curran, Heugel, Majerek, and Elliott.

Motion carried, no nays.

COMMUNICATION(S):

County Clerk Sharon Tyler received the following communications:

- Ingham County Board of Commissioners, a resolution in response to declare racism as a public health crisis in the County of Ingham, received on June 11, 2020.
- Muskegon County Board of Commissioners, a resolution in the statement of Love Lives Here, received on June 15, 2020.
- Friends of Berrien County Animal Control Board of Directors, a communication announcing a new nonprofit corporation, to support the well-being of at-risk animals in our community by raising and

distributing funds to supplement the care provided by Berrien County Animal Control, dated May, 2020.

- Richard Schinkel, Berrien Springs, Berrien County Parks & Recreation Chairman, congratulating Brian Bailey on his retirement, dated May 13, 2020.

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 through the You Tube chat during public comments shall identify themselves by name (including last name) and city, township, or village: None.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Chairperson Elliott explained Resolution #B2006285 - Extend State of Emergency Declaration. Discussion was held. Commissioner Scott requested that Resolution #B2006285, to be pulled from the Consent Calendar and be presented separately.

Commissioner Curran moved, seconded by Commissioner Freehling, to pull Resolution #B2006285 and to present it separately; and to approve today's Consent Calendar as presented:

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
P2006006	Monthly Per Diems
F2006035	Weekly Bills
B2006081	Approve Weekly Requisitions
A2006277	Accept grant for COVID funding for Sheriff

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

12 YEAS: Yarbrough, Harrison, Hinkelman, Scott, Chickering, Vollrath, Freehling, Curran, Heugel, Majerek, Meeks and Elliott.

Motion carried, no nays.

Resolution #B2006285 - Extend State of Emergency Declaration:

Commissioner Scott moved and supported by Commissioner Curran, to approve Resolution #B2006285 – Extend State of Emergency Declaration.

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

12 YEAS: Yarbrough, Harrison, Hinkelman, Scott, Chickering, Vollrath, Freehling, Curran, Heugel, Majerek, Meeks and Elliott.

Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTION(S): None.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioners introduced themselves to the Interim County Administrator Mike Henry. Commissioners presented their Commissioner Reports.

Commissioner Majerek presented a request from the Berrien Mental Health Authority to use the Health Department's conference room. Discussion was held.

Chairperson Elliott discussed that the next Board of Commissioners meeting will still be a Zoom virtual meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Interim County Administrator Mike Henry gave his report. He announced the following:

- Administration building will be opened on June 22, 2020.
- Animal Control will be opened on July 6, 2020.

Interim County Administrator Henry and Chairperson Elliott recognized Harold Borilik who died on June 13th for his past service to Berrien County.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS – Those speaking through the You Tube chat during public comments shall identify themselves by name (including last name) and city, township, or village.

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township, spoke about the Road Department's project bid settlements.

Adolf Pelzer, Hagar Township, asked when the Board of Commissioners meetings will allow the public to be present at the meeting, instead of a virtual meeting.

Eric Lester, St. Joseph Charter Township, asked what the funding level of the pension plan is.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Chairperson Elliott made the following announcements:

- A Finance Committee meeting will be held next week, Thursday, June 25, 2020.
- The virtual BOC meeting will be held next week, Thursday, June 25, 2020, unless changes are made by the Governor.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:14 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the next BOC meeting.