

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Virtual Board Meeting Minutes
June 25, 2020

Staff Present: County Clerk Sharon Tyler
Annette Christie, Executive Assistant to the Administrator
Mike Henry, Interim County Administrator
Dan Fette, Community Development Director

BOC Present: Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott
Commissioner William Chickering

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the regular meeting to order at 10:33 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) room at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

INVOCATION:

Executive Assistant to the Administrator Annette Christie gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Commissioner William Chickering 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, Michael Majerek, David Vollrath, Mamie Yarbrough, Jon Hinkelman, Jim Curran, Christopher Heugel, William Chickering and Teri Freehling.

0 ABSENT.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 18, 2020 MEETING:

Commissioner Majerek moved and supported by Commissioner Heugel, to approve the BOC virtual meeting minutes of June 18, 2020.

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.

COMMUNICATION(S):

County Clerk Sharon Tyler received the following communications:

- Gielle Kuhn, Berrien Springs, an email requesting accountability regarding multiple issues in Berrien County, received on June 23, 2020.
- Eaton County Board of Commissioners, a resolution to declare racism as a public health crisis in the County of Eaton, received on June 23, 2020.
- Menominee County Board of Commissioners, a resolution in support of the 2020 Upper Peninsula State Fair, received on June 24, 2020.
- Arenac County Board of Commissioners, a resolution supporting the Enbridge's proposed tunnel replacement project, received on June 24, 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:

Commissioner Curran requested that Resolution #C2006287 be pulled from the Consent Calendar and be presented separately.

Commissioner Scott offered to explain Resolution #A2006281 - Approve MDOT agreement Red Arrow Highway - road improvement project. Commissioner Yarbrough supported and seconded by Commissioner Scott, that Resolution #C2006287 be pulled from the Consent Calendar and be presented separately.

Commissioner Scott moved and supported by Commissioner Harrison, to pull Resolutions #A2006281 and #C2006287, to be presented separately; and to approve today’s Consent Calendar as presented:

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F2006036	Weekly Bills
*B2006082	Weekly Requisitions
F2006120	Road Payables
A2006282	Approve MDOT agreement Linco Road - road improvement project
F2006283	Approve Annual Contract with Cornerstone Alliance
A2006284	Approve MDOT agreement Snow Road - road improvement project
F2006286	Approve Transportation Agreement with Buchanan City
F2006289	Approve position for Transportation Program

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.

*Commissioner Freehling abstained from Requisition #44276 – REV Excavating, LLC, for the amount of \$10,005.00 on Resolution #B2006082, due to possible conflict of interest. The Abstention Statement was attached to Resolution #B2006082 and stated by Commissioner Freehling under Commissioner Reports.

Resolution #A2006281 - Approve MDOT agreement Red Arrow Highway - road improvement project:
Commissioner Scott explained Resolution #A2006281. Discussion was held.

Commissioner Yarbrough moved and supported by Commissioner Scott, to approve Resolution #A2006281 – Approve MDOT agreement Red Arrow Highway - road improvement project.

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 #C2006287 - Approve Contract with County Administrator Brian Dissette:
Commissioner Curran moved and supported by Commissioner Harrison, to approve Resolution #C2006287 – Approve Contract with County Administrator Brian Dissette.

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.

PARENT COMMITTEE REPORTS – Finance Committee:

Finance Committee Chairperson Yarbrough and members gave the Parent Committee Report for the Finance Committee. Parent Committee minutes are available at www.berriencounty.org.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Interim County Administrator Mike Henry gave his report. Discussion was held with Community Development Director Dan Fette, on obtaining an individual to conduct the screening of individuals as they enter the Administration building. Dan Fette recommended Lange Company for this service on a contingency basis.

Motion: Commissioner Heugel moved and supported by Commissioner Harrison, to approve Lange Company on a contingency basis as required and not to exceed \$5,000.00.

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

10 YEAS: Yarbrough, Harrison, Hinkelman, Chickering, Vollrath, Curran, Heugel, Majerek, Meeks and Elliott.

2 NAYS: Scott and Freehling.

Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chairperson Elliott spoke about Brian Dissett starting on Wednesday, July 1, 2020. He stated that the Board supported hiring Brian Dissett by 100%. Discussion was held on BOC meetings to be held on July 2, 2020 and July 9, 2020. Consensus of the Board was to cancel the July 2, 2020 BOC meeting. The next Board of Commissioners meeting will be held on July 9, 2020 and will be changed from a night meeting to being a Zoom virtual meeting at 10:30 A.M.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioners presented their Commissioner Reports. Commissioner Freehling stated she abstained from Requisition #44276 – REV Excavating, LLC, for the amount of \$10,005.00 on Resolution #B2006082, due to possible conflict of interest.

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 and their auctions on equipment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Chairperson Elliott made the following announcements:

- Board of Commissioners meeting scheduled for July 2, 2020 has been cancelled.
- Scheduled night meeting for the July 9, 2020 Board of Commissioners meeting has been changed to a 10:30 A.M. Zoom virtual meeting.
- Thanked Interim County Administrator Mike Henry for his service.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the next BOC meeting.