

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Virtual Board Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2020

Staff Present: Sheriff Paul Bailey
(In-person) Clerk Sharon Tyler
Treasurer Shelly Weich (Left at 11:26 A.M.)
County Administrator Brian Disette
Executive Assistant to the Administrator Annette Christie
Community Development Director Dan Fette (Left at 11:28 A.M.)
Trial Court Administrator Carrie Smietanka – Haney (Left at 10:56 A.M.)
Financial Services Director Doug James (Left at 11:15 A.M.)

BOC Present: Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott
(In-person)

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson R. McKinley Elliott called the virtual regular meeting to order at 10:35 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) room at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

INVOCATION:

Commissioner Michael Majerek gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Commissioner Mamie Yarbrough 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: William Chickering, Jim Curran, Teri Freehling, Robert Harrison, Christopher Heugel, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, Don Meeks, Ezra Scott, David Vollrath, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

0 ABSENT.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2020 MEETING:

Commissioner Meeks moved and supported by Commissioner Majerek, to approve the BOC virtual regular meeting minutes of September 24, 2020.

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

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

Motion carried, no nays.

COMMUNICATION(S): None.

PUBLIC HEARING – Community Development Director Dan Fette:

Motion: Commissioner Heugel moved and seconded by Commissioner Scott, to recess the regular meeting at 10:37 A.M. and open the public hearing to hear from the public on Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call the roll resulting as follows:

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

Motion carried, no nays.

Community Development Director Dan Fette gave a PowerPoint presentation to explain the CDBG CARES Act and Resolution #F2010333 - CDBG Cares Act Grant. The Michigan Strategic Fund has invited counties to accept CDBG program funds to support CDBG CARES funding. The County will seek to receive up to \$377,362.61 in CDBG funds to reimburse for unexpected costs associated with COVID-19. The resolution will authorize the Chairperson of the Board to sign the grant application. The County Administrator Brian Dissette and the Community Development Director Dan Fette to be authorized to sign any request or reports that need to be submitted to the Michigan Strategic Fund. Administrator Dissette stated there will be additional CARES Grants for the County.

Commissioner Curran asked how much the County has already spent. Dan Fette stated the County has already spent over \$500,000, not including personnel expenses.

No comments from the Public.

Motion: Commissioner Scott moved and seconded by Commissioner Vollrath, to close the public hearing at 10:47 A.M. and reconvene the regular meeting.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call the roll resulting as follows:

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

Motion carried, no nays.

COURTHOUSE RE-OPENING UPDATE – Trial Court Administrator Carrie Smietanka – Haney:

Trial Court Administrator Carrie Smietanka – Haney gave an update on the Courthouse re-opening. She stated the Courthouse will be moving into Phase III on October 5, 2020. The Legal Resource Center will be opened by appointment in the afternoon starting on October 5, 2020.

BUDGET UPDATE – Financial Services Director Doug James:

Financial Services Director Doug James gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 2021 Annual Budget Update. A Public Hearing will be held on November 5, 2020 for the proposed budget. On November 12, 2020, a resolution will be introduced to the Board for the adoption of the 2021 Budget. Discussion was held.

TAX AUCTION UPDATE – Treasurer Shelly Weich:

Treasurer Shelly Weich gave an update on the Tax Auction that was held on Saturday, September 26, 2020 with 233 bidders. The second auction is scheduled for Tuesday, November 3, 2020 and will have a closed bid system. Discussion was held.

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 Chickering requested Resolution #P2010331 - Increase Silver Beach County Park Fees be tabled until next week.

Chairperson Elliott requested that Resolution #A2010330 - Apply for funding for extra Benton Harbor police patrols, Resolution #P2010346 - Amend CPBC Agreement FY19-20, and Resolution #P2010347 - Amend CPBC Agreement FY20-21 be moved from the Added Resolutions to the Consent Calendar.

Commissioner Scott moved and supported by Commissioner Freehling, to table Resolution #P2010331, pull Resolutions #A2010330, #P2010346, and #P2010347 from the Added Resolution(s) to the Consent Calendar and to approve today's Consent Calendar as presented:

<u>Resolutions #</u>	<u>Description</u>
F2010049	Weekly Bills
B2010094	Weekly Requisitions
F2010127	Road Payables
B2010329	Support Ballot Proposal for Natural Resources Trust Fund
F2010333	CDBG Cares Act Grant
P2010339	Accept Public Safety Public Health Reimbursement Funds CARES Act
B2010340	Execute Contract to Study Broadband
A2010348	Accept SWMBA Grant for Court Activities
A2010330	Apply for Funding for Extra Benton Harbor Police Patrols
P2010346	Amend CPBC Agreement FY19-20
P2010347	Amend CPBC Agreement FY20-21

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

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

Motion carried, no nays.

ADDED RESOLUTION(S)

The following Added Resolutions were moved to the Consent Calendar:

- #A2010330 - Apply for Funding for Extra Benton Harbor Police Patrols
- #P2010346 - Amend CPBC Agreement FY19-20
- #P2010347 - Amend CPBC Agreement FY20-21

COMMITTEE REPORT(S):

The Finance Committee presented their Committee Report. Discussion was held. Parent Committee minutes are available at www.berriencounty.org.

COMMISSIONER REPORT(S):

The Commissioners presented their outside Commissioners' Reports.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: None.

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:

Executive Assistant to the Administrator Annette Christie stated the Clerk received an email regarding the budget and two resolutions. Annette Christie responded to the individual.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

Chairperson Elliott announced the following:

- 10-8-2020 Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting – VIRTUAL – 10:30 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 P.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the next BOC meeting.