

**BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**January 17, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairperson Elliott called the regular meeting to order at 10:35 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners' Room at the Berrien County Administration Center in St. Joseph, Michigan.

**INVOCATION:**

Chairperson Elliott gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**

District 11 Commissioner Jim Curran led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

**ROLL CALL:**

Chairperson Elliott instructed the Clerk to take roll call with the following results:

12 PRESENT: William Chickering, Jim Curran, Teri Freehling, Bob Harrison, Chris Heugel, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, Don Meeks, Ezra Scott, David Vollrath, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Heugel moved, seconded by Commissioner Vollrath, to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 10, 2019. Motion carried, no nays.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Chief Deputy Clerk Mensinger reported that there were no Board communications this week.

**PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING RESOLUTIONS:** None.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Commissioner Freehling moved, seconded by Commissioner Scott, to approve today's Consent Calendar as presented.

<u>RESOLUTION #</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
P1901001	Monthly Per Diems
F1901014	Approval of Weekly Bills
B1901061	Approval of Requisitions
F1901135	Approve the Software Application for Drain Office
P1901136	Approve Contract Amendment for CPBC
P1901137	Approve Contract for the DASH Mentor Program
P1901138	Approve Application for an Emergency Preparedness Mini-Grant
P1901139	Approve Agreement for the Leader in Public Health Program
F1901141	Approve Contract for Equalization Director Position

Chairperson Elliott instructed the Clerk to take roll call with the following results:

12 YEAS: Chickering, Curran, Freehling, Harrison, Heugel, Hinkelman, Majerek, Meeks, Scott, Vollrath, Yarbrough and Elliott. Motion carried, no nays.

**ADDED RESOLUTIONS:** None.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS:**

Commissioner Curran stated that the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission Board has been restructured. At last week's Board of Commissioners' meeting, Commissioners Curran, Freehling, and Meeks were appointed as County Board representatives to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission. There are currently six (6) open seats on the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission and 14 applications were received to fill those positions.

Commissioner Curran moved, seconded by Commissioner Scott, to appoint Gloria Payne, Paul Pantaleo, Dan Fette, Richard Remus, James Schueneman and Kristen Gunderson to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission with terms expiring 12/31/2021. Motion carried, no nays.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

The Personnel and Human Services, Administration and Finance Committees presented their committee reports. Committee minutes are available at [www.berriencounty.org](http://www.berriencounty.org).

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS:**

Commissioners gave their outside committee reports.

Commissioner Freehling moved, seconded by Commissioner Vollrath, to appoint Jill Adams as the second Berrien County voting member of the Southwest Michigan Solid Waste Consortium. Motion carried, no nays.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Darrin Schaer, Pipestone Township – inquired on what efficiencies have taken place since turning the Road Commission into a Road Department. He also commented on concerns over the Pipestone Road Millage funds.

Adolf Pelzer, Hagar Township – commented on the sound system in the Board of Commissioners' Room at the Berrien County Administration Center.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

- Commissioner Meeks inquired as to when a Commissioner Workshop would be held to discuss commissioner priorities and county goals. Chairperson Elliott stated that he is working to include this as part of the Orientation and Long Range Planning.
- Commissioner Scott inquired about the proposed revisions to the Board's By Laws and asked when this was going to be addressed. Chairperson Elliott stated that he has asked the Personnel and Human Services Committee to lead this. Commissioner Chickering

stated that there are temporary By Laws in place at this time and that there are other more pressing items to be dealt with at this time, but that the Committee would get to them.

- Chairperson Elliott asked Corporate Counsel McGovern if a resolution needs to be created to address a Committee on Committee being called into action. Corporate Counsel McGovern stated that the process to call a Committee on Committee should be added to the Board's By Laws. Chairperson Elliott suggested that the Personnel and Human Services Committee develop a resolution addressing this issue.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:**

- The Economic Development Corporation meeting for today has been cancelled.
- County facilities will be closed on Monday, January 21, 2019 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- There will be no regular Board of Commissioner meetings on Thursday, January 31, 2019 (5<sup>th</sup> Thursday).

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:39 A.M.

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R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

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Diane Mensinger, Chief Deputy Clerk

*Minutes are to be approved at the full board meeting on January 24, 2019.*