



THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, in March of 2020, the global pandemic, COVID-19, resulted in local bodies of government having to hold their meetings virtually due to in-person meeting number restrictions put in place at the State level; and

WHEREAS, due to ongoing orders requiring mask wearing and social distancing, the need for meetings to continue being held virtually still exists; and

WHEREAS, while the timeframe to hold meetings virtually was extended through Senate Bill 1246, that window expires on March 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, while a recent MDHHS order expands the number of individuals that gather for a meeting to 25, that window expires April 19, 2021; and

WHEREAS, with the mask wearing and social distancing requirements still in place, Berrien County does not have a facility that would allow for the Board of Commissioners and the public to be present for a meeting; and

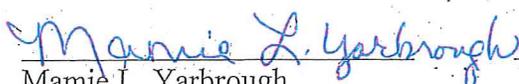
WHEREAS, in addition, after March 31, 2021, the expanded reasons allowing virtual meetings ends; and

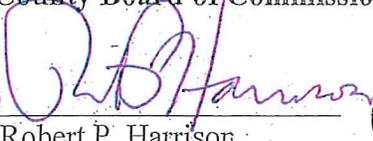
WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 207 would expand that window allowing virtual meeting through June 30, 2021.

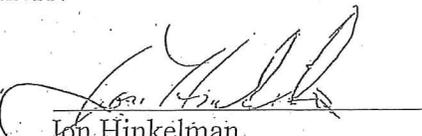
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners supports Senate Bill No. 207 which would expand the window for holding virtual meetings of a public body through June 30, 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the resolution will be forwarded to the Michigan Association of Counties and to all of the legislators representing Berrien County.

Respectfully submitted,
Berrien County Board of Commissioners:


Mamie L. Yarbrough

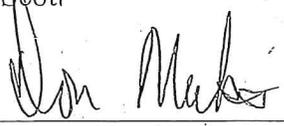

Robert P. Harrison


Jon Hinkelman


Ezra A. Scott

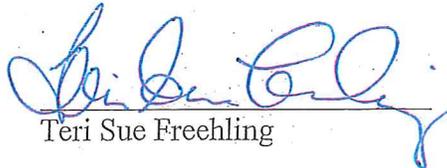

Jim Curran


Rayonte D. Bell


Don Meeks


Michael J. Majerek


Julie Wuerfel


Teri Sue Freehling


David Vollrath


R. McKinley Elliott, Board Chair

**TUSCOLA COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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At a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Tuscola, State of Michigan, on the 11th day of March, 2021 with the meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m.

Commissioners Present: Thomas Young, District 1; Thomas Bardwell, District 2; Douglas DuRussel, District 4; Daniel Grimshaw, District 5.

Commissioners Absent: Kim Vaughan, District 3.

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Grimshaw, seconded by Commissioner DuRussel,

**RESOLUTION REGARDING VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION IN
BOARD MEETINGS
2021-05**

WHEREAS, we live in a time of COVID-19 pandemic fear, and

WHEREAS, Governor Whitmer and the various state agencies acted without authority to unilaterally change the Open Meetings Act, and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Legislature recognized the issue of legally held meetings needed to be addressed, and

WHEREAS, the legislation created legal protections for non-traditional meetings by changing the requirement for in person attendance by members, and

WHEREAS, Public Act No. 228 of 2020 was signed by the Governor on October 16, 2020, established rules for board members to participate while not being physically present, and

WHEREAS, Public Act No. 254 of 2020 was signed by the Governor on December 22, 2020, extending the sunset date of Public Act No. 228 of 2020, to March 31 2021, and

WHEREAS, members of boards must be present to participate, except for absence due to military duty or a medical condition, and

WHEREAS, the changes to not allow participation by members who were unable to attend in person were made with little or no input from those impacted, and

WHEREAS, members of boards were allowed to participate while absent for other reasons, prior to the changes.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners calls upon the Michigan Legislature to modify the restrictions on meeting participation to include out-of-state travel for up to thirty (30) days by any member.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to Senator Daley, Representative Green, the Michigan Association of Counties, all Michigan Counties, along with the Michigan Township Association and all Townships, Cities and Villages within Tuscola County.

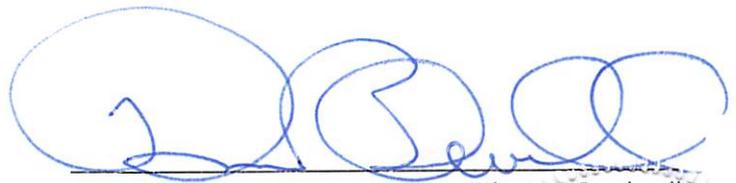
Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Young; DuRussel; Grimshaw; Bardwell.

Nays: None.

Absent: Vaughan.

Resolution declared adopted.



Thomas Bardwell

Chairman of the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners

I, the undersigned, Clerk of Tuscola County, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners, at its Regular Meeting held on March 11, 2021.



Jodi Fetting

Tuscola County Clerk

Clerk to the Board of Commissioner Tuscola County