

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of January 27, 2022

Roll Call Present: Jim Curran, Chairperson
Don Meeks Sr.
David Vollrath, Vice Chair
Julie Wuerfel

Absent:

Scheduled: Brian Dissette, County Administrator
Mac Elliott, BOC Chairman
Jennifer Flick, 9-1-1
Kevin Stack, Road Department
Tod Rainey, Motor Pool
Carrie Smietanka-Haney, Trial Court

Others:

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:31 am.

***Added to Agenda* Trial Court NACO Tech Grant – Smietanka-Haney**

Smietanka-Haney reported on their opportunity to apply for a no-cost tech grant through NACO and the State Justice Institute. It would assist with designing a new juvenile facility and would bring all the groups together and it would be a catalyst for other opportunities. The grant application is due Friday. The grant is for expertise and time. Dissette stated it will help with best practices and opening to surrounding counties. He will set up site visits for other new juvenile facilities. The Committee concurred that the application should be submitted. Dissette will provide a retroactive resolution.

9-1-1 Update – Flick

Flick reviewed the Tele-Rad renewal resolution. She discussed the South County MEDC \$5M grant. She noted the resolution for the VHF system is a FEMA grant for the transmission. They went live with the new CAD program and the dispatchers are seeing improvements. Staffing is down and the Quality Assurance employee has been pulled back to the floor. They are looking into AI programs including one for data analytics that would point out both positives and negatives in reviews. They are looking at a 3 year trial. These programs would be contracted and paid for using their fund balance. They are working with the IS department. Flick also noted there are 5 current job openings. Discussions ensued regarding COVID protocols.

Road Department Update – Stack

Stack reviewed the memos previously disbursed regarding the two trucks needed for subdivisions. He is unable to obtain them directly from Dodge as they have not manufactured them recently. He found 2 chassis in Wisconsin for approximately \$64,000 each and will need to add the plows and dump bodies. He has met the Act 51 requirements and can waive the bid process. Additions are ready for one chassis and will take approximately 1 month to build. He will present this information to Finance next. Stack reviewed an incident in the City of Benton Harbor. A mower cleared 100' into the City and the homeowner complained it took her privacy away. She wants plants put in that space. Discussions ensued. Due to it being in the City's right-of-way and a public area, the Committee declined the request to expend \$2,500 on plants. Curran will discuss it with Corporate Counsel. Curran noted the efficiency of the snow that was cleared last week on both the main streets and subdivisions in his jurisdiction and stated they did an outstanding job. Discussions ensued regarding the Three Oaks property.

Motor Pool Vehicle Purchase – Rainey

Rainey stated he needs to order 5 Sheriff Tahoes in May even though the budget is not available until later in the year. Actual payments will not be made until 2023. He typically orders 5 to 7 vehicles per year under MiDeal. The Committee concurred that, due to the current circumstances of lead time, Rainey is to proceed with placing the order.

Q & A – Dissette & Elliott

Elliott noted the revised agenda is available online.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Meeks, supported by Vollrath, to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2022 meeting. Motion Carried.

Resolutions

The following Resolutions were moved forward to the full Board:

A2202161 – Approve amendment to the Agreement for Inmate Health Care Services with Wellpath, LLC.

Wuerfel abstained

A2202195 – Authorize expenditure of half remaining outstanding balance in support of the Fire and EMS Depts for transition from VHF to 800MHz.

A2202198 – Accept grant funding for Community Corrections programs.

A2202200 – Authorize grant application for HMEP grant.

A2202201 – Authorize Tele-Rad agreement.

A2202384 – Accept award from MDHHS for Juvenile Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

Sheriff Funds Distribution

Curran has approved Berrien Community Foundation funding for the Sheriff's Department to use funds in the amount of \$500.00 for Challenge Coins for the Chaplains.

Public Comments

Mike Haskins, Pipestone Township – At 8:00am this morning, the intersection of Yore and Meadowbrook as ice in all directions.

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township – A Dodge 5500 is actually a 2-ton truck.

Meeting adjourned the meeting at 10:25 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

J Arent

Jennifer Arent
Recording Secretary