

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of June 27, 2019

Present: Jim Curran, Chair
Michael Majerek, Vice Chair
Chris Heugel
Don Meeks Sr.

Absent:

Scheduled: Tom Watson, Friend of the Court
Undersheriff Chuck Heit, BCSD
Bill Wolf, County Administration
Mac Elliott, BOC Chair

Others: Lisa Jardine, Friend of the Court
Sheriff Bailey, BCSD
Darren Schaer, Public
Tony Benhart, Public
Mike Haskins, Public

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:18 am.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Majerek, supported by Heugel, to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2019 meetings. Motion Carried.

Friend of the Court Update

Watson provided a foundational prospective of FOC including the structure and responsibilities. The Federal government reimburses 66% of eligible child support related expenses, which accounts for approximately 50% of the staff. He discussed the Federal shift in child support orders to a focus on the ability to pay. He reviewed the State collection statistics as well as a synopsis of County statistics. He discussed the SMILE (Start Making It Livable for Everyone) Program.

Sheriff's Office HR Request

Undersheriff Heit reported that they have a request in PHSC for an additional records clerk in Master Control in place of a deputy. This will free up a female deputy for a floor response and improves security. The records clerk would also be able to do additional data entry in the new Offender Maintenance System.

Q & A with Bill Wolf and BOC Chair Elliott

Wolf reported they are switching deputy cars from Ford to Chevrolet Tahoes next year during the bid process due to Ford switching to hybrids. Each car is expected to cost approximately \$43,000, which includes all the equipment. Elliott stated there may be an article in the newspaper regarding a dispute between a contractor and the Drain Commissioner, with the contractor filing a suit. He assured the Committee that the County is not part of the suit. Elliott reported the strategic planning is being rescheduled to July 18th due to 4 absences this afternoon.

Curran requested clarification as he is appointed to the Historical Society as a County Commissioner, yet doesn't want his vote counting twice in regards to the contract between the two entities. He abstained from the Historical Society's vote. Elliott stated it is appropriate to vote on the Board of Commissioner's side of the contract.

Resolutions

The following resolution was approved and signed:

A1907263 – Amended Agreement with Justice Works for data conversion.

Public Comment

Darren Schaer, Pipestone Township – A point of clarification for the voting is that you can only vote once, regardless of which side.

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township – Regarding the photos presented in the Committee of the Whole meeting this morning, he took a drive out to Riverside Road to look at the situation. The gravel pit company is causing some issues, but most of the dirt going off the road is due to rain. The foot high berm can't be mowed and the ditch doesn't drain and is full of water. Curran stated that Elliott is looking into it due to the pictures submitted earlier.

Mike Haskins, Pipestone Township – It's telling that last week Elliott asked if Riverside Road was a dirt or paved road.

Meeting adjourned at 10:14 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer Arent