

Berrien County Board of Commissioners

Finance Committee Minutes

Tuesday, January 9, 2020

Kenneth L. Wendzel Conference Room

Finance Committee Attendance:

Commissioner Mamie L. Yarbrough – Chairperson	Present
Commissioner Robert P. Harrison – Vice-Chairman	Present
Commissioner Jon Hinkelman	Present
Commissioner Ezra Scott	Present

Others Present: County Administrator Bill Wolf, Secretary Stephanie Carlson, Chairman R. McKinley Elliott, Road Department Director Jason Latham, Accounting Coordinator Cheri Vance, Mike Haskins – Pipestone Twp.

Public Comments: Mike Haskins complimented Jason Latham for getting crews to job sites quicker.

Q&A Administrator/Board Chair:

Chairman Elliott asked if everyone was okay with the consent calendar. Commissioner Scott said he would like **Resolution A2001135** – Refugee Foster Placement pulled for further discussion.

Appointments:

Jason Latham came to Finance to answer any questions the committee had from the presentation at the Committee of the Whole meeting. Commissioner Scott asked what was done with contaminated soils and if there was any liabilities. Jason said the only thing the state does that the county doesn't, is giving them a piece of paper to sign. Commissioner Scott stated he thought it would be good to have them sign something. Commissioner Scott brought up the Red Arrow Project and said there's an infrastructure bank loan that's a low interest rate and asked why they don't consider a loan to finish the project. Bill said that would be a huge debt to put on the Road Department instead of pay as you go. Jason said it's also better to do it in sections because it is such a huge project, then trying to get it all done at one time.

Bid Openings:

Cheri opened Bid 2020-001 - This bid was for Aggregates for the Road Department. Commissioner Scott motioned to refer the bids to the department with the approval to move forward with the lowest bidder if they meet specifications and requirements, however recognizing that the best qualified bid can move forward. In addition we authorize the County Administrator to execute the subsequent contract associated with this bid and any contract modifications up to \$5,000, supported by Commissioner Harrison. Motion carried.

Minutes Approval:

Commissioner Scott motioned to approve the minutes from December 31, 2019, supported by Commissioner Harrison. Motion carried.

Resolutions signed by Committee:

F2001014 – Weekly Bills Resolution

F2001108 – Weekly Road Payables

Meeting Adjourned: 10:28

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Carlson
Financial Services