

**BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of February 2, 2023**

**Roll Call Present:** Jim Curran, Chairperson  
Alex Ott  
David Vollrath, Vice Chair  
Julie Wuerfel

**Absent:**

**Scheduled:** Brian Dissette, County Administrator  
Mac Elliott, BOC Chair  
Sheriff Bailey, BCSD  
Caitlin Sampsell, 9-1-1

**Others:** Chris Smith, Building & Grounds  
Chief Deputy Boyce, BCSD

**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 9:24 am.

**Sheriff's Department Update – Bailey & Boyce**

Sheriff Bailey discussed the Reach the Forgotten jail ministry. They have church on Monday nights and a liturgy class. He is working on getting GED classes started up again as well as drug classes and referrals. Curran applauded the letter regarding Tyre Nichols. Bailey said it isn't tolerated and all local sheriffs signed it. Discussions ensued regarding the overdose program and investigation of suppliers. Discussions ensued regarding School Resource Officers as well as hiring for corrections in the jail. He reviewed the January numbers. Chief Deputy Boyce reviewed the enforcement division numbers. He noted the snowmobiles have not been repaired yet as they are still waiting on the parts. Bailey reviewed Capt. Adams' Emergency Management report, new hires, and retirements.

**9-1-1 Update – Sampsell**

Dissette acknowledged Sampsell's work with a national group and played a video clip. Sampsell reviewed staffing challenges and the gap in people with 5 to 9 years of experience. She reviewed the console upgrade and provided photos in her Committee report. She discussed the challenges with the infrastructure at the Niles back-up location and stated it is not sufficient. Discussions ensued regarding Buchanan options. She also noted there was a water main break in the ceiling that was in close proximity to equipment. It's the third time in one year. Sampsell is working with TeleRad and the State to take down the VHF equipment.

**Q & A – Dissette & Elliott**

Chris Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Building and Grounds, introduced himself. He discussed the potential uses of the generators currently at the Berrien Springs hospital and Juvenile Center. The hospital generator is functionally obsolete. The one currently at the Juvenile Center could be used at either the Administration building or Animal Control. A new generator is the best option for the jail.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Vollrath, supported by Ott, to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2023 meeting. Motion Carried.

**Resolutions**

The following Resolutions were signed by the Committee:

A2302140 – Authorize grant application for Marine Safety Program.

A2302141 – Authorize purchase order for Abonmarche design and construction management for jail generator project.

**Sheriff Funds Distribution**

Curran has approved Berrien Community Foundation funding for the Sheriff's Department to use funds in the amount of \$1,900.00 for funds donated through No Shave event for medical costs/expenses for V. Kiser.

**Public Comment**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:23 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

*J Arent*

Jennifer Arent  
Recording Secretary