

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2022

CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Vice Chairperson Teri Sue Freehling called the regular Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting to order at 8:35 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) room at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

ROLL CALL:

The Vice Chair instructed the Clerk to take a roll call with the following results:

9 PRESENT: Rayonte Bell, Jim Curran, Teri Sue Freehling, Robert Harrison, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, James Martin, Ezra Scott and Julie Wuerfel.

3 ABSENT: David Vollrath, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JUNE 9, 2022 MEETING:

Commissioner Scott moved and seconded by Commissioner Martin, to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes held on June 9, 2022. Motion carried, no nays.

REQUISITION REVIEW - Annette Christie:

Executive Administrative Assistant Annette Christie presented the requisitions to the Board for their review and discussion.

SCHEDULED DISCUSSION:

- **George Kacan, Wightman & Associates RE: Juvenile Center Design Concept**
Administrator Brian Dissette gave a brief update about the Juvenile Center Design Concept.

The following individuals gave a brief background about themselves:

- George Kacan, Principal-in-Charge of Wightman & Associates
- Jake Davis, Justice & Civic Leader/Principal of DLR Group
- Curtis Brayak, Project Architect/Construction Administration of Wightman & Associates
- Marayca Lopez, Corrections Analyst, Planner & Researcher of DLR Group

A PowerPoint presentation on the Juvenile Facility Best Practices and discussed the following:

- Introduction
 - Mission Statement of the Berrien County Juvenile Center
 - Operational Goals
- Opportunities
- Best Practices
 - Restoration and Healing
 - Trauma Informed
 - Connection to Family
 - Treatment
 - Education
 - Environments Conducive to Change
 - Evidence Based Design
 - Daylight
 - Views
 - Normative Environment
 - Outdoor Experiences
 - Evidence based design

Discussion was held.

Family Division Administrator Elvin Gonzales, Juvenile Center Director Gregory Skipper and Trial Court Administrator Carrie Smietanka-Haney were present to discuss the project and answer any questions.

Administrator Dissette stated that next week a resolution will be presented to authorize the project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Per the Berrien County Board of Commissioners’ Bylaws those speaking during public comments may do so no longer than two minutes and shall identify themselves by name and city, township, or village. (Article III, 3.9B-C): None.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Administrator Dissette introduced Maureen Adams, who the Committee on Committees unanimously chose her to fill the position of Veteran Services Director. Resolution #C2207305 will be on the BOC’s Agenda today for the appointment.

Commissioner Scott requested Administrator Dissette to work with BC Bit on fiber for the Juvenile site.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 A.M.

Teri Sue Freehling, Vice Chairperson

Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.