

Berrien County Board of Commissioners

Finance Committee Minutes

Thursday, August 11, 2022

Kenneth L. Wendzel Conference Room

Finance Committee Attendance:

Commissioner Mamie L. Yarbrough–Chairperson	Present
Commissioner Jon Hinkelman – Vice-Chair	Present
Commissioner Ezra Scott	Present
Commissioner Teri Freehling	Present

Others Present: Administrator Brian Dissette, Chairman R. McKinley Elliott, Secretary Stephanie Carlson, and Undersheriff Chuck Heit.

Meeting was called to order at 9:21 am

Public Comments: None

Q&A Administrator – Administrator Dissette brought a sample of flyers that will be circulated at the Berrien County Youth Fair showing job openings with the County, with a focus on the openings at the Juvenile Center. There was discussion about the Committee on Committee Resolutions. Chairman Elliott informed the committee that Commissioner Curran contacted him regarding Resolution C2208332 providing the Juvenile Center employees with a \$1,000 one-time hazard pay bonus. Commissioner Curran stated he thought all the County employees were essential and should receive the bonus pay. Annette Christie brought down a resolution, approving the hazard pay bonus to all employees.

The committee continued their discussion on the Public Safety Millage Resolution C2208329 that was presented at the Committee of the Whole meeting. Commissioner Freehling commented that she felt the marijuana revenue should be used for Public Safety instead of increasing the millage. There was a lengthy discussion and Chuck Heit was present to answer questions that the committee had.

Commissioner Scott commented on the Contingency Report that was provided to the committee from Doug James and was concerned about the balance of only \$2,656 left in Contingency. Administrator Dissette said Doug would be in Finance next week with an amended budget to get money back in contingency.

Commissioner Scott also mentioned he was having a problem with the waiver requests, which was created at the request of the Finance Committee, but he felt they are being abused. He said he felt that departments are doing waivers instead of going out for bid. The committee agreed they need to revisit the process with the Finance Department.

Committee Business

Commissioner Scott motioned to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2022 meeting, supported by Commissioner Freehling. Motion carried.

The Request for Waivers were approved by the committee.

Resolution F2208042 – Approval of Weekly Bills and Road Payables, was moved forward to the Full Board.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:27

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Carlson
Financial Services