

Berrien County Board of Commissioners

Finance Committee Minutes

Thursday, August 18, 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	Absent

Others Present: Administrator Brian Dissette, Chairman R. McKinley Elliott, Secretary Stephanie Carlson, and Financial Services Director Doug James.

Meeting was called to order at 9:28am

Public Comments: None

Q&A Administrator – Administrator Dissette updated the committee on the Proposed Amended Budget for 2022 that Doug was coming in to present to the committee. Commissioner Hinkelman expressed his concerns regarding the amount of money the County is spending, Juvenile Center, 911, Employee Bonuses, etc. He also commented that the employees are the heart and soul of the County and feels we should not lessen the benefits to where people won't want to come and work here. Commissioner Scott also expressed his concerns on the spending. Administrator Dissette responded saying we have to spend the ARPA Funds or they go back, but he is listening to all of their concerns.

Appointments

Doug James presented the General Fund Budget Amendment for FY2022 to the committee with a recommendation of \$2.1M additional to Revenues and \$2.4M additional Expenses, and net transfers out of \$2.2M. The amendment results in a use of fund balance of \$3.7M vs the Adopted Budget of \$1.3M. The amendment does not include the cost associated with the hazard pay bonus approved last week. The biggest part of the increase is a \$3.4M transfer to the Health Insurance Fund, offset by a drawdown of Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund surplus of \$2.1M. The available surplus in the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund based on policy is depleted with this action. Doug said he talked to the Financial Consultant for the County regarding the Bond Rating and Bond Ratings should not decrease unless the General Fund Balance goes below 30%, and he said we would be at 30.5%. Commissioner Scott asked if anything has been done regarding Drains. Doug stated nothing has happened on getting a policy and they are still working on reconciling the Drains. He said they have completed around 140 out of over 700 Drains at last discussed with the department. There was a brief discussion.

Committee Business

Commissioner Scott motioned to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2022 meeting, supported by Commissioner Hinkelman. Motion carried.

The Request for Waivers were approved by the committee.

Resolutions:

The following Resolutions were moved forward to the full Board:

F2208043 – Approval of Weekly Bills and Road Payables

Meeting Adjourned: 10:36

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Carlson
Financial Services