

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of September 8, 2022

Roll Call Present: Jim Curran, Chairperson
Jim Martin
David Vollrath, Vice Chair
Julie Wuerfel

Absent:

Scheduled: Brian Dissette, County Administrator
Teri Freehling, BOC Vice Chair
Sheriff Bailey, BCSD
Chief Deputy Boyce, BCSD
Mark Heyliger, Road Department

Others:

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:17 am.

Sheriff's Department Update – Bailey

Sheriff Bailey reported the Red Bud Track & Trail will be hosting the international event September 21 through 25. It will bring in an estimated 60,000 people. Boyce did the planning with Buchanan Township and the contract is for the Township to pay 100% of the costs. They have coordinated with Med Flight and have evacuation routes established. Bailey reviewed the August jail statistics and discussed overpopulation. He will add the Committee members to the daily population email sent out. Boyce reviewed the enforcement numbers.

Road Department Updates – Heyliger

Heyliger reported all seal coatings are complete. They have started the fall grinding projects in preparation of seal coating next spring. He reviewed the new vehicles received. They have completed 85.65 miles of maintenance and have 11.47 remaining. The Napier Avenue bridge is currently open. When the rocker arms are installed in October, it will be back down to 2 lanes. The underneath portion of the Walton bridge is complete. The cement deck and sidewalk will be done in October. They will need to replace the tubes that disburse water. Discussions ensued regarding a possible traffic circle at Miami and Napier with citizen complaints received and acknowledged. Heyliger noted he is visiting townships and educating and communicating with them regarding traffic circles. Dissette noted there were several Road Department vacancies filled due to the recruiting at the Youth Fair.

Q & A – Dissette & Freehling

Dissette held a kick off meeting for the planning of the Juvenile Center and is planning ongoing meetings. Wightman will complete a proposal for the current center's drinking water and sewer. This plan will allow the current center to continue for 5 to 10 years while the new one is planned and constructed.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Vollrath, supported by Wuerfel, to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2022 meeting. Motion Carried.

Resolutions

The following Resolutions were signed by the Committee:

A2209353 – Approve Grant No. 2022-107 with MIDC.

A2209356 – Appoint Sgt. Albers to serve as a delegate to Cpt. Adams on the 5th Region Homeland Security Advisory Committee.

Public Comment

Michael Haskins, Pipestone Township – He has served on his local Planning Commission. Using a PUD as a training exercise, his concern for the Berrien Hills project is that there will only be one entrance/exit for 1200 people. The roundabout or traffic light would be sufficient.

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township – The State is not replacing the bridge on Empire. They are only replacing the one on Britain. They are also supposed to repave the roads, but they aren't.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

J Arent

Jennifer Arent
Recording Secretary