

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of October 20, 2022

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

Absent:

Scheduled: Brian Dissette, County Administrator
Mac Elliott, BOC Chair
Paul Jancha Jr., Public Defender
Dan Fette, Community Development
Mark Heyliger, Road Department

Others: Kevin Stack, Road Department
Sheriff Bailey, BCSD

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:18 am.

Defender's Office Update – Jancha

Jancha reviewed the quarterly report with FY22 caseloads and financials. He expects to be under budget. He discussed staffing issues, but anticipates more applications after the Michigan Bar Exam results are released. He discussed juvenile representation and noted House Bill 6345 would amend the MIDC Act to include juvenile indigent defense, which would eliminate the juvenile contract attorneys and bring them in-house. He reviewed the Social Worker numbers and noted 380 miles of transportation for clients. This is through different churches. Discussions ensued regarding Jancha's job description. Dissette stated the County is staying neutral. The job posting is ready to be released after the election. Discussions ensued regarding possible additional office space, in which MIDC could cover the cost to renovate or expand.

MDOT TAP Grant – Fette, Heyliger & Stack

Fette explained the conglomeration between Whirlpool, Harbor Shores and Cornerstone Alliance. There is no County contribution for this project. Total project is estimated to be approximately \$2.3M with \$1.4M from the TAP grant. The remaining amount will come from SPARK and or Trust Fund grants. They will meet with Adams, Parks Director, to verify their grant applications are complementary. This is all contingent upon a maintenance plan that is currently being written. The Road Department is Act 51 eligible. Discussions ensued regarding the path and possibly adding a tie in to the Rocky Gap park in the future.

Q & A – Dissette & Elliott

Included in Defender's Office Update report above.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Martin, supported by Vollrath, to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2022 meeting. Motion Carried.

Resolutions

The following Resolutions were signed by the Committee:

A2210388 – Authorize funding request for MDOT TAP grant.

A2210389 – Approve Policy ADM-5210 Non-Motorized Transportation Facilities Development

Public Comment

Michael Haskins, Pipestone Township – Commends Wuerfel for attending his Zoom meeting regarding Berrien Hills. No one wanted a roundabout.

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township – Since the County is now involved in the Whirlpool trail, he is concerned about County Road department time spent on it.

Meeting adjourned at 10:31 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

JArent

Jennifer Arent
Recording Secretary