

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of February 13, 2020

Present: Jim Curran, Chair
Michael Majerek, Vice Chair
Chris Heugel
Don Meeks Sr.

Absent:

Scheduled: Mike Sepic, Prosecutor
Bill Wolf, County Administration
Mac Elliott, BOC Chair

Others: Sheriff Bailey, BCSD
Tony Benhart, Public
Tony Dloughy, Public

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:27 am.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Heugel, supported by Majerek, to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2020 meeting.
Motion Carried.

Prosecutor's Update

Sepic reviewed the APA position that is going to PHSC today. He starts new hires at salary grade 1, step 1. He reviewed a job description for a Public Defense Attorney and noted people are being moved up steps considerably earlier than he feels is appropriate. Curran suggesting discussing it with PHSC as they are the ones approving the positions. Sepic discussed the 2nd Amendment group and noted that if the Board of Commissioners entertains them, then any interested group can approach the BOC and overwhelm the meetings. People in law enforcement all try to follow the laws. Don't let individuals determine what law they feel is or is not appropriate. Sepic discussed legislation that is currently in the Senate regarding and expansion of allowable expungements. It would allow for excessive amounts of felonies and misdemeanors.

Q & A with Bill Wolf and BOC Chair Elliott

Wolf verified the consent calendar and noted the Sheriff's employee request for the FBI office was added. The funding is covered this year, but future funding will need to come out of the Public Safety millage or another budget item will need to be removed to allow for it. Discussions ensued regarding current employment and the salary study, which should be available around May. Elliott distributed a revised resolution that has been added to the agenda regarding the 2nd Amendment issue.

Resolutions

The following Resolutions were approved and signed:

A2002164 – Authorize grant application for Marine Safety Program.

A2002173 – Authorize agreement with University of Cincinnati Research Institute to provide EPICS Module training.

A2002175 – Authorize contract #19-5630 with the State for completing road improvements on Napier Avenue.

A2002176 – Authorize the Performance Resolution with MDOT.

A2002182 – Authorize agreement for services with the Berrien Mental Health Authority for the Community Corrections program.

A2002183 – Authorize agreement for KPEP services.

A2002184 – Authorize agreement for Men In Crisis program.

A2002185 – Authorize agreement for Michiana Drug Testing Center.

A2002186 – Authorize agreement for co-location with Spectrum Health-Lakeland Hospital Watervliet.

Public Comment

Tony Dlouhy, Lincoln Charter Township – We need to look at the total picture, regardless of the issue. People have a right to change their direction in regards to a vote. Sanctuary City makes people think they don't have to follow Federal rules.

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township – You are bound under State law with the County Commissioner Act. If you raise millages, you're going to drive people and businesses out of the County. A lot of people in this county are on fixed incomes.

Meeting adjourned at 10:24 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer Arent