

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the August 5, 2021 Personnel and Human Services Committee Meeting.
Meeting held in Conference Room 4B_ Attendance was as follows:

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	ALSO PRESENT
Bob Harrison	X		Paul Jancha Jr., Brian Dissette, Mac Elliott
Rayonte Bell	X		
Michael Majerek	X		
			Shelley Jasper

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

- Meeting called to order at 9:50 a.m.
- Attendance taken and reflected above.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION:

- Motion by Commissioner Bell, supported by Commissioner Majerek to approve the minutes dated 07/22/2021. 3 years 0 nays, motion carried.
- Motion by Commissioner Bell, supported by Commissioner Majerek to approve the advanced step hire request for Health Department employee James Gunter. Mr. Gunter will fill the vacant Teen Parenting Case Manager position and will be compensated at grade 7, step 2, annualized salary of \$39,014. 3 years, 0 nays, motion carried.
- The following Resolutions were presented, discussed, and by consensus forwarded to the Full Board of Commissioners for formal action:
 - P2108289, Accept Veteran’s Grant (\$134,683)
 - P2108294, Indiana-Michigan River Valley Trial MOU signature authority

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Chief Public Defender Paul Jancha Jr., presented and discussed Resolution P2108293, requesting a complement change in alignment of the FY 21-22 MIDC grant approval. The Resolution would add two assistant Public Defender attorneys, one social worker, and upgrade the current Office Supervisor to an Office Administrator. Paul explained that the extra staffing would be necessary to meet MIDC Standard #5. He said the social worker position will help determine needs/barriers and connect clients with services such as substance abuse treatment, housing, transportation, etc., with the goal to reduce recidivism. The Resolution was signed by the Committee members and will be considered by the Full Board next week.

ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD CHAIR

Administrator Dissette discussed the salary study and highlighted the flaws he saw with the report. He briefly mentioned that the report failed to take into account the County’s comprehensive benefit structure, did not include all departments within the County; and did not include external comps from the private sector that more accurately make up the applicant pool. He was further troubled by the recommended funding strategy, which included a diminishment of health care and retirement benefits. He said the report receipt should be acknowledged by the Board and will draft a Resolution for consideration at an upcoming PHSC meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

Adjourned 10:31a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley Jasper
Human Resources Director