TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN:

Your County Administration Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Berrien County Trial Court-Family Division in partnership with the Berrien Mental Health Authority (i.e., Riverwood Center) continues its effort to expand the continuum of care designed to fully address the needs of juveniles and their families being served by the Court; and

WHEREAS, between 35-40% of the youth placed at the Berrien County Juvenile Center by authority of the Court have been diagnosed with mental health disorders and are prescribed psychotropic medications as part of their treatment for these disorders; and

WHEREAS, the Berrien County Trial Court-Family Division endorses the application of “best practices” designed to identify and address the serious mental health needs of juvenile justice involved youth; improve triage, access and linkage to juveniles and their families in need of community-based specialty mental health services and to reduce the risk of out of home psychiatric placement in hospitals and/or other behavior health facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Trial Court-Family Division is committed to allocating resources to best meet the needs of youth and families in the most effective and comprehensive manner; and

WHEREAS, a Professional Services Agreement has been mutually developed between the Berrien County Trial Court-Family Division and Riverwood Center which provides for a licensed psychiatrist to provide on-site outpatient psychiatric services to youth placed at the Berrien County Juvenile Center, at a cost of $442.50 per hour; and

WHEREAS, the previous agreement for the above mentioned services expired December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, County Corporate Counsel has reviewed and approved the proposed Professional Services Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Professional Services Agreement for providing on-site outpatient psychiatric services to youth placed at the Berrien County Juvenile Center is approved for the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Jim Curran, Chair

Michael J. Majerek, Vice Chair

Don Meeks

Chris Heugel