

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of January 17, 2019

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

Absent:

Others: Jason Latham, Road Department
Bill Wolf, County Administration
Mac Elliott, BOC Chair
Jerry Sirk, Public
Tony Benhart, Public

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:21 am.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Majerek, supported by Meeks, to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2019 meetings. Motion Carried.

Road Department Update

Latham reviewed the three anticipated County Road Association Meeting award submissions. Discussions ensued regarding asset management. Discussions ensued regarding constitutional laws in regards to sharing an administrative assistant with the Drain office. Latham briefly reviewed the department goals and will provide a trend analysis after two years of data. This will show year to year benefits. Discussions ensued regarding ways to speed up the goal achievements. Southwest Michigan Planning Commission is working with the Road Department on traffic safety plans in Union Pier. Latham discussed the online service request function and the ability to track information and produce reports.

Q & A with Bill Wolf and BOC Chair Elliott

Elliott verified the consent calendar. Wolf stated the spay/neuter clinic being held on January 18th at the Animal Control parking lot has been vetted. It is a mobile unit.

Resolutions

The following Resolutions were approved and signed:

A1901144 – Approve contract #18-5529 with the State of Michigan to replace the Glendora Road Bridge.

A1901147 – Authorize grant application for HMEP.

A1901150 – Authorize contract with Animal Welfare grant for the spay/neuter program.

Public Comments

Jerry Sirk, Benton Charter Township – Wants to know if the Road Department coordinates with cities to fix roads that go through both jurisdictions. Paw Paw Avenue, north of the railroad tracks and City Public Works building, has not been fixed by the City, but people's perception is that the County isn't fixing entire roads.

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township – The Benton Charter Township line is just north of the Public Works building and the issue there is a plugged drain. Benton Harbor doesn't have the money to fix it. The more money available to fix roads, the busier the few businesses are that do the work. Maybe the County would be better off owning their own asphalt company to decrease the costs of bidding the work out.

Majerek stated he sits on NATS and stated it is the City's responsibility. The County can't tell them to do it.

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Arent