

**BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**  
**February 17, 2022**

**CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:**

Vice Chairperson Teri Sue Freehling called the regular COW meeting to order at 8:35 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners' (BOC) room at the Berrien County Administration Center, 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan.

**ROLL CALL:**

The Vice Chair instructed the Clerk to take a roll call with the following results:

11 PRESENT: Rayonte Bell, Jim Curran, Teri Sue Freehling, Robert Harrison, Jon Hinkelman, Michael Majerek, Don Meeks, Ezra Scott, David Vollrath, Julie Wuerfel and Mamie Yarbrough.

1 ABSENT: R. McKinley Elliott.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 10, 2022 MEETING:**

Commissioner Vollrath moved and seconded by Commissioner Harrison, to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes held on February 10, 2022. Motion carried, no nays.

**REQUISITION REVIEW:**

Executive Administrative Assistant Annette Christie presented the requisitions to the Board for their review and discussion. There are a few requisitions that are still pending.

**PRESENTATION(S):**

Administrator Brian Dissette announced that Jim Hettinger, Urban Development Services, is here today virtually for the presentation.

Tony McGhee, Abonmarche, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Facilities Master Plan and discussed the following:

- Background
- Project Team
- Scope of Work
- Benefits of Approach
- Facilities Overview
- Building Category Groupings
- Information Gathering & Organization
- Public Safety & Court System
- St. Joseph Courthouse
  - Existing Conditions & Uses
  - Short-term needs
  - Safety and security items
  - Needed spending by area and years
  - Discussion & Questions
- South County Building
  - Existing Conditions & Uses
  - Short-term needs
  - Safety and security items
  - Needed spending by area and years
  - Discussion & Questions
- County Jail
  - Existing Conditions & Uses

- Short-term needs
  - Safety and security items
  - Needed spending by area and years
  - Discussion & Questions
- Juvenile Facility
  - Existing Conditions & Uses
  - Short-term needs
  - Safety and security items
  - Recommendation
  - Discussion & Questions
- Truancy Building
  - Issues and concerns
  - Recommendation
  - Discussion & Questions
- Animal Control (old)
  - Issues and concerns
  - Recommendation
  - Discussion & Questions
- Road Department
  - Baroda Facility
    - Existing Conditions & Uses
    - Short-term needs
    - Needed spending by area and years
    - Discussion & Questions
  - Watervliet Facility
    - Existing Conditions & Uses
    - Short-term needs
    - Safety and Security Issues
    - Needed spending by area and years
    - Discussion & Questions
  - Eau Claire Facility
    - Existing Conditions & Uses
    - Short-term needs
    - Safety and Security Issues
    - Needed spending by area and years
    - Discussion & Questions
  - Napier Facility
    - Existing Conditions & Uses
    - Short-term needs
    - Safety and Security Issues
    - Needed spending by area and years
    - Discussion & Questions
  - Bakertown Facility
    - Existing Conditions & Uses
    - Short-term needs
    - Safety and Security Issues
    - Needed spending by area and years
    - Discussion & Questions
  - Three Oaks Facility
    - Existing Conditions & Uses
    - Short-term needs
    - Safety and Security Issues
    - Needed spending by area and years
    - Discussion & Questions
- Administration Building
  - Existing Conditions & Uses

- Short-term needs
- Safety and security items
- Needed spending by area and years
- Discussion & Questions
- Health Department
  - Benton Harbor Campus
  - Niles Office
  - Three Oaks Building
- Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources
  - Silver Beach County Park
  - Love Creek County Park
  - Madeline Bertrand County Park
  - Galien River County Park
  - Rocky Gap County Park
  - History Center at Courthouse Square
  - Paw Paw River County Park
- Next Steps

In two weeks, Abonmarche will complete the report. Jim Hettinger would like to see a priority list and what should be done first. Discussion was held.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – Per the Berrien County Board of Commissioners’ Bylaws those speaking during public comments may do so no longer than two minutes and shall identify themselves by name and city, township, or village. (Article III, 3.9B-C):** None.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 A.M.

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Teri Sue Freehling, Vice Chairperson

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Sharon J. Tyler, County Clerk

***Minutes are to be approved at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.***