

Berrien County Administration Committee
Minutes of May 23, 2019

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

Scheduled: Todd Johnson, Building & Grounds Superintendent
Mac Elliott, Board Chair

Others: Tony Dlouhy, Lincoln Township
Tony Benhart, Sodus Township

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:07 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Majerek, supported by Commissioner Meeks to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2019 minutes. Motion carried.

Building & Grounds Jail Project Update

Todd Johnson came to update the Committee on a recent meeting with the companies involved in the jail project. Todd said that they have all been working on a change order regarding the security system electrical work since February. Finally on Friday, Berrien County served as the mediator with all of those involved who were brought together to iron out the differences on the change order - including the CEO's of Byce and Frederick Construction. Todd said since the meeting they have been working on the number and as of yesterday they are at about a \$27,000 difference. They are supposed to have the change order to us today. The biggest factor is that the project has now been delayed about a month due to the conflict on this change order. Todd Johnson distributed the memo that was used as the background for this problem.

Q & A with Chairman

Chairman Mac Elliott told the Committee that the transportation plan resolution was going to be pulled for further discussion. He said what he drew from the conversation in the Finance Committee was that they didn't want the 2-year pilot project to present itself as a promise for ongoing full funding of a transportation system. There was discussion about the transportation plan in Washtenaw County, whereby, in addition to the county funding there are some large townships that pay into the system in order use it so if you don't pay in, you don't get the service. Commissioner Curran said that he sees all of those things working themselves out of the pilot program, if we don't do it we won't know.

Commission Meeks asked Commissioner Elliott about the Parks Millage and the possibility of increasing it. State Statute allows the Commissioners to increase it up to a certain point. It

was originally passed in 2012 and has been renewed once since then. It is set to expire at the end of this year. Commissioner Meeks said he would like to see the extension and the increase done now. Commissioner Elliott said that the Personnel Committee has asked Brian to put some numbers on the projects that he would like to have done and to prioritize them in order of importance. He said he was comfortable with putting an end date to the increased millage and also for establishing a sinking fund for ongoing parks maintenance.

Commissioner Majerek asked about the property below the Courthouse and the Jail and the 5K events that they had approved for that area. Discussion was held.

Resolutions

The following resolutions were approved and signed:

A1906238 - Mental Health Court Grant Application

A1906239 - Drug Court Grant Application

A1906240 - Swift & Sure Probation Program Grant Application

Board Appointments

Following a review of the applications for the citizen spot on the 911 Advisory Board.

Recommendation to Board Audrey Lester for 911 Heugel motion, Meeks support. Motion carried

Public Comments

Tony Dlouhy, Lincoln Township - Spoke about the transportation pilot program.

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township - Spoke about the way that the Road Department does its purchasing.

John Matusak, St. Joe - Spoke about renters paying their fair share.

Meeting adjourned 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Christie