

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of June 20, 2019

Present: Jim Curran, Chair
Michael Majerek, Vice Chair
Chris Heugel

Absent: Don Meeks Sr.

Scheduled: Mike Sepic, Prosecuting Attorney
Bill Wolf, County Administration
Mac Elliott, BOC Chair

Others: Liz Muhlenbeck, Berrien County Historical Association
Tony Dlouhy, Public

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:25 am.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Majerek, supported by Heugel, to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2019 meetings. Motion Carried.

Prosecuting Attorney Update

Sepic distributed and reviewed a chart showing the structure and rotation of the judges. There are 2 APAs assigned to each judge as well as 2 in Niles assigned to LaSata. Discussions ensued regarding increases in pretrial motions and the need for management positions that oversee the divisions and fill in when necessary. As of January 1st, he has 2 – one in Adult Criminal and one in Family Court. He would like 1 additional APA to relieve the Chief Trial Attorney from a judge assignment. The committee concurred. Discussions ensued regarding trackable statistics with both the Prosecuting Attorney's office and the Indigent Defense office.

Q & A with Bill Wolf and BOC Chair Elliott

Muhlenbeck discussed their strategic plan. They would like to partner with the County to make the Historical Center a focal point of the County. The Committee concurred to approve the continued use of the County property at the Historic Square under the old contract until a new agreement is in effect.

Elliott confirmed the consent calendar. He reported the installation of security equipment to remotely lock the doors at both Courthouses is almost finished. Protocols will be established with the fire departments in both St. Joseph and Niles if anything should happen during a lockdown. Everything should be in place by the end of the month.

Majerek requested clarification of his attendance at SWMBA meetings.

Resolutions

The following resolutions were approved and signed:

A1906257 – Authorize the FY19 contracts with Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health for the Intake/Assessment Coordinator and drug testing and supplies.

A1906259 – Authorize Sheriff to execute the Snowmobile Law Enforcement Grant Application.

A1906261 – Authorize submission of the Annual Financial Report of the Road Department to the State of Michigan.

A1906262 – Authorize contract# 19-5320 to complete the road improvement project on John Beers Road.

Miscellaneous

None.

Public Comment

Tony Dloughy, Lincoln Charter Township – With the Indigent Defense expense, how long can the taxpayers afford this?

Meeting adjourned at 10:17 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer Arent