

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of August 8, 2019

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

Absent:

Scheduled: Sheriff Bailey, BCSD
Bill Wolf, County Administration
Mac Elliott, BOC Chair

Others: Tony Benhart, Public

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:26 am.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Majerek, supported by Heugel, to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2019 meetings.
Motion Carried.

Sheriff's Department Update

Sheriff Bailey reviewed the July statistics, which included 11 days over capacity. He reported on the water pipe that burst which put them under a 3 day boil water order. They let each inmate know not to drink the water and brought in water. He discussed the special patrols for the City of Benton Harbor as well as the water rescues. He discussed the "unseen costs" of the jail, such as providing dialysis, which can cost upwards of \$100,000 per year per inmate requiring it. There are other medical costs as well as food costs.

Q & A with Bill Wolf and BOC Chair Elliott

Wolf asked if there were any questions regarding the budget guidance previously distributed to the Board. There is currently a \$2.2M gap mainly because of the new regulations for the retiree health care fund. Department budgets are based on either FY16-18 actual, plus 6% or 2019 budgeted; whichever is lower.

Resolutions

The following resolutions were approved and signed:

A1908282 – Adopt the Michigan Local Agency Paving Warrant Program.

A1908283 – Implement the annual reporting required for the Michigan Local Agency Paving Warrant Program.

A1908285 – Authorize application with the Office of Highway Safety Planning for the Secondary Road Patrol and Accident Prevention Programs.

County Property Use Request

Administration Committee approved the following request:

Cars & Coffee – West parking lot of the St. Joseph Courthouse on Saturday, August 17, 2019 from 9am to 11am.

Public Comment

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township – The high water level on the Paw Paw River could stop the patrol boat from getting under the bridge. The only other place to launch is in Coloma and if there is an emergency in Benton Harbor, it is too far.

Meeting adjourned at 10:19 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer Arent