

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of August 22, 2019

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

Absent:

Scheduled: Dave Agens, 9-1-1
Bill Wolf, County Administration
Mac Elliott, BOC Chair

Others: Brian Bailey, Parks
Richard Schinkel, Parks Board Chair
Darren Schaer, Public

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:32 am.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Meeks, supported by Majerek, to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2019 meetings. Motion Carried.

9-1-1 Update

The official audit was received July 30, which verifies they are operating in conjunction with recommendations. They may recommend a formal MOU agreement between the County and Niles regarding how the money is spent. Agens reported the QA supervisor started in July and is updating the policies and procedures manual. He is actively working to fill another supervisor position and a dispatch position. He and Swihart are searching for a candidate for the tech position that would work under Swihart. They are having difficulties finding someone with knowledge of all the systems. Agens reported the NextGen 911 update is ongoing and they are verifying all the upgrades are ready. They will then transfer all copper over to the new system. He reported "Texty", which is a text-to-911 app provides mapping coordinates with GIS, is not currently supported on all devices, but will eventually be a part of the upgrade. Agens reported the software for CAD needs updating to a new platform. He will present a resolution soon and it is already budgeted. He is still waiting for the 800MHz radio grant for fire agencies (FEMA grant) but has a backup plan that would require local investments. He is still working on the FY20 budget with I/S. The 911 surcharge is now covered through the State, which saves 42¢ per device. He plans on keeping the millage at the same rate.

Q & A with Bill Wolf and BOC Chair Elliott

Bailey, Parks Director, and Schinkel, Parks Board Chair, discussed possible options for Silver Beach Park including food trucks. Food trucks, however, would still require some type of storage as the daily demand would be more than could be stored on the trucks. Discussions ensued regarding facilities, amenities and equipment and the prioritizing of each. They have outgrown the medical building as well as there are more lifeguards and security than when the building was constructed years ago. Discussions ensued regarding the possibility of staying

open year-round and the possible market that would include fishermen. Discussions ensued regarding the parks vs. the linear trail.

Resolutions

None.

Miscellaneous

Majerek asked if discussions need to take place regarding Sepic's employee request. Curran stated Sepic needs to write up the job description for PHSC. This Committee has already approved the position.

Public Comment

Darren Schaer, Pipestone Township – Regarding park income. Hopefully we can continue collecting funds, but the parks are already at maximum capacity, especially Silver Beach. The cost may be more than what we get back and the debt gets bigger. We can't dig out of the hole. He is not in support of increasing the Parks millage.

Meeting adjourned at 10:29 am.

Respectfully Submitted,


Jennifer Arent