

**Berrien County Board of Commissioners
Committee of the Whole Minutes
November 7, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Elliott called the meeting to order at 8:37 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners' Room at the Berrien County Administration Center in St. Joseph, Michigan.

ROLL CALL:

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

11 PRESENT: Bill Chickering, Jim Curran, Teri Freehling, Bob Harrison, Chris Heugel, Mike Majerek, Don Meeks, Ezra Scott, David Vollrath, Mamie Yarbrough and R. McKinley Elliott.

1 ABSENT: Jon Hinkelman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Heugel moved, seconded by Commissioner Vollrath, to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes of October 24, 2019. Motion carried, no nays and one abstention (Commissioner Chickering due to not being in attendance at the meeting).

REQUISITION REVIEW

- Annette Christie presented the requisitions for the Board's review.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township – Distributed a drawing of a proposed park shelter.

Sheriff Bailey introduced Deputy Crosby and his new canine partner Pelk (Blue). This dog is trained to detect explosives as well as to do regular patrol. The dog was bought in partnership with the Cook Nuclear Plant.

SCHEDULED DISCUSSION: 2020 FY Proposed Capital Project Budget Review

Administrator Wolf reviewed the 2020 FY Proposed Capital Project Budget.

- The definition of a budget is a spending plan based on income and expenses. The 2020 Berrien County Appropriations Act (2020 Budget) does not authorize any employee or department to spend. The authority to spend comes from the Board of Commissioners separately via the County Purchasing Policy.
- Projects Proposed within the General Fund 1010 – Budgeted value of projects proposed within the General Fund Budget: \$296,158.
- Projects Proposed within the Capital Fund 4010 – Major projects include completion of the jail remodeling \$1,216,295, court software and hardware purchases of \$1,163,130 and numerous other projects totaling \$1,669,500. In order to fund these projects, a transfer from the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund will be needed in the amount of \$3,900,000.
- Vehicle Replacement Fund 4020 – Vehicles are on a change out list and are either auctioned off or absorbed into the fleet for other purposes. The 2020 budgeted capital outlay is \$400,328. In order to fund these purchases and maintain an appropriate level of

fund balance, a transfer from the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund will be needed in the amount of \$400,000.

- Parks Department Project 2080 and 2085 – Capital Projects is proposed at \$135,176 and Grant Funded Projects is proposed at \$310,000.
- Other Capital Projects include Friend of the Court; Register of Deeds; Public Defenders Office; 911; Sheriff Department; Community Development; Treasurer; Drains and Roads.

Doug James, Financial Services Director will be presenting at the Budget Public Hearing during the 10:30 A.M. meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 9:13 A.M.

R. McKinley Elliott, Chairperson

Diane Mensinger, Chief Deputy Clerk

Minutes are to be approved at the full board meeting on November 14, 2019.