

**BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Minutes of the November 14, 2019 Personnel and Human Services Committee Meeting.

Meeting held in Conference Room 4B. Attendance was as follows:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>ALSO PRESENT</b>
William Chickering	X		Annette Christie, Shelley Jasper
Teri Sue Freehling	X		Mac Elliott, Bill Wolf, Chris Renna
Dave Vollrath	X		

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION**

- Meeting called to order at 9:26 a.m.
- Motion by Commissioner Vollrath, supported by Commissioner Freehling to approve the minutes of November 7, 2019 as presented. 3 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.
- The Committee approved the Corporate Counsel evaluation form. They are ready for that to be finalized by procedure.
- Motion by Commissioner Vollrath, supported by Commissioner Freehling to approve to following pension refunds. 3 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.
- In a further discussion from the Committee of the Whole, Resolution P1912341 which changes the pension multiplier for Elected Officials was discussed. It will likely be signed by PHSC next week for full action of the BOC on December 5, 2019.
- The following resolutions were signed by all present:
  - P1911336 - Health Department Grant
  - P1911340 - Add Public Defender positions
  - B1911322 - Health Department SWMBA funding
  - P1911011 - Per Diems
  - P1911338 - Addition of a grant funded position for the Court (resolution was revised at PHSC request to reflect in the resolution that if the grant funding goes away, so does the position).

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**Bylaws Review**

Bylaws discussion occurred as the Committee worked through updating the Bylaws. They will continue to work on them at their November 21 meeting and will reconvene in the afternoon if necessary. The plan would then be to present the changes to the full board at the Committee of the Whole meeting on December 12.

**Chairman/Administrator Q & A**

Human Resources Director Shelley Jasper provided an update on the compensation study. She told the Committee that the interviews with department heads have been scheduled, with the exception of one that has not responded to emails. Chairman Chickering asked how the BOC should proceed with getting a briefing on the objectives given to the County Administrator, for which he will be evaluated on. It was agreed that that briefing can be provided at a Committee of the Whole meeting. Chairman Mac Elliott asked if the consent calendar was good as is, the Committee gave consensus.

There was considerable discussion on resolution P1911340, adding positions to the Public Defender's Office. County Administrator Bill Wolf informed PHSC that the Administration Committee did approve the resolution (A1911335) that authorizes and agreement and the plan with the Michigan Indigent Defense

Commission (MIDC). The two resolutions are connected in that the Administration Committee has one for the agreement with MIDC and the PHSC one authorizes the additional complements which are included in the MIDC Plan. Chief Public Defender Chris Renna told the committee that they have previously interviewed individuals that are very impressive and he would expect to be able to fill the new positions relatively soon. He is pretty certain, that the new attorneys could be taking cases January 2, 2020. Bill told the Committee that there will be one more resolution as a result of the MIDC plan and the additional employees, which will be a lease for larger office space. It was confirmed that the MIDC funding will pay for the services being provided, the additional employees, and the lease space.

Commissioner Chickering noted that they need to do something about the ongoing back and forth between the Public Defender's Office and the Prosecutor's Office and the constant complaint about staffing levels for one vs. the other.

Administrator Wolf distributed the County-wide salary increase information for consideration of the non-union employees and appointed officials.

Adjourned 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Christie  
Executive Assistant to the Administrator