

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of May 12, 2022

Roll Call Present: Jim Curran, Chairperson
David Vollrath, Vice Chair
Julie Wuerfel

Absent:

Scheduled: Brian Dissette, County Administrator
Mac Elliott, BOC Chairman
Sheriff Bailey, BCSD
Undersheriff Heit, BCSD
Kevin Stack, Road Department

Others:

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:12 am.

Sheriff's Department Update – Bailey & Heit

Sheriff Bailey reported that Flock Group Inc. will provide 20 cameras at no cost for a 60 day trial to monitor neighborhoods and high travel, strategic locations. The cameras are able to tag specific license plate numbers as well. Undersheriff Heit noted they will coordinate with LaPorte and St. Joseph Counties for border coverage. Discussions ensued.

They reviewed the May report. Marine Lt. Laesch will be retiring and Sgt. Hopkins has been selected to replace him. Sheriff Bailey reviewed the current items that Capt. Adams has been working on. He also discussed deputy openings.

Road Department Update – Stack

Stack reported he is getting the Township agreements back and paving has begun. Everything should be in place by the middle of May. Bainbridge Township will use ARPA funds for their bridge replacement project. The Primary Road bids are being opened today. He changed aggregate suppliers and has received the product within 3 weeks. The grind and gravel is almost complete and seal coating will begin after Memorial Day.

Building updates included a review of floor plans and costs. The Baroda garage will be able to add the property, however there are questions due to the current 425 Agreement with the Village.

Q & A – Dissette & Elliott

Dissette toured the juvenile facilities at Muskegon and Ottawa Counties last week and will tour Kalamazoo County next week. He recommends visiting both Muskegon and Ottawa and he detailed some of the issues Muskegon faced with their initial design. He will have the design consultants give presentations.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Wuerfel, supported by Vollrath, to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2022 meeting. Motion Carried.

Resolutions

The following Resolutions were moved forward to the full Board:

A2205273 – Accept the Marine Safety Program grant.

A2205274 – Authorize 60 day pilot program period at no cost with the Flock Group Inc. for 20 cameras.

A2205283 – Authorize stop sign placement on Blue Ridge Path at Ridge Road.

Miscellaneous

Curran noted the Racial and Ethnic Disparities Reduction II grant submission request was denied by the Committee on Committees.

Public Comments

Jerry Sirk, Benton Charter Township – He is a Mason and they are giving small grants to communities.

Mike Haskins, Pipestone Township – The current Napier Avenue Bridge was built in 1905. This is the first time it's been closed since then.

Tony Benhart, Sodus Township – Stated that, due to what can and cannot be said during Public Comments, he will take his comments to the State.

Meeting adjourned at 10:16 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

JArent

Jennifer Arent
Recording Secretary