

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of September 15, 2022

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

Absent:

Scheduled: Brian Dissette, County Administrator
Mac Elliott, BOC Chair
Hon. Judge Mayfield, Trial Court
Carrie Smietanka-Haney, Trial Court

Others:

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:20 am.

Trial Court Update – Hon. Judge Mayfield & Smietanka-Haney

Hon. Judge Mayfield noted her appreciation of the BOC action regarding the Juvenile Center. She discussed the upcoming meetings of key people regarding the facilities and services of the court system as a whole through the NACO (National Association of Counties) and SJI (State Justice Initiative) partnership. She noted there is a meeting scheduled today with Wightman and Community Mental Health, the Sheriff, Sacred Heart with continuum of services and facilities as the focus. She noted Chief Justice Bridget McCormick announced her retirement from the Michigan Supreme Court and discussed the effect that may have locally. She noted that Judge Wiley will be aging out in 2023 and she is working on a smooth transition. Discussions ensued regarding staffing challenges and the impact of the openings. Smietanka-Haney noted there have been 32 departures since January 1st. The salary is a significant issue. The Juvenile Center is approximately half staffed. They updated their website and added a recruitment video. Discussions ensued regarding the Clean Slate legislation that requires automation.

Q & A – Dissette & Elliott

Dissette reviewed the tentative schedule with Wightman and anticipates feedback from them in a couple months. The Finance Committee asked for the wage study resolution to be pulled for further information including time and cost. The Committee concurred to pull the resolution. Curran requested more information on where funding for raises will come from. Dissette discussed the possible use of funding from marijuana and opioids. Those are flexible and have not been earmarked for anything yet.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Wuerfel, supported by Vollrath, to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2022 meeting.
Motion Carried.

Resolutions

None.

Public Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

JArent

Jennifer Arent
Recording Secretary