

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of February 19, 2026

Roll Call Present: Jim Curran, Chairman
David Vollrath, Vice Chair
Sharon Tyler
Alex Ott

Absent:

Scheduled: Mike Sepic, Interim Administrator
Mac Elliott, BOC Chair
Amy Byrd, Prosecutor

Others: Mark Heyliger, Road Department
Dan Fette, Community Development

Call to Order

Chairman Curran called the meeting to order at 9:43 am.

*****Added*** Road Department Resolution A2602155 – Heyliger**

Heyliger reviewed the resolution that will come before the committee next week regarding the Three Oaks garage. The roof has developed holes and the cost to repair it outweighs the value of the building. He is requesting to enter into an agreement with Point Blue to assess and identify any contamination. They will not remove the slab so they can still store aggregates on it. Discussions ensued.

Heyliger provided two other updates. First, he will be meeting with Wightman & Associates at 1:00 p.m. to obtain information regarding the Engineering of Record. Second, the Baroda Township Supervisor would like to meet regarding the transfer of roads if the Village dissolution happens. He noted the County is not required to accept them. Curran requested a policy for accepting roads.

*****Added*** County Transportation Discussion – Fette**

Discussions ensued regarding the make-up of the county-wide transportation authority, should it happen. Fette will provide sample Articles of Incorporation. Curran requested a sample list of who would make up the authority members. Curran commended Fette on the presentation he provided at the CEO meeting. Discussions ensued regarding millages.

Prosecutor's Office Update – Byrd

Byrd noted their office made a donation to the Children's Advocacy Center by collecting money for "Jeans Day" on Fridays. They also participated in the Polar Plunge that is a Special Olympics fundraiser.

Byrd discussed the statute that allows for reimbursement from defendants for certain crimes, upon conviction. These are typically drunk driving cases. The amount assessed to the defendant is at the judge's discretion. They are planning to begin implementing it.

They currently have two vacancies. Discussions ensued regarding competing counties. She noted the survey of prosecutors is complete and she will provide the results when she receives them.

Q & A – Sepic & Elliott

Elliott verified the consent calendar. Tyler asked if the Village of Three Oaks ever paid anything on the Schwark Drain. Elliott noted it is township property and is unsure if the drain assessment included any funding from the municipalities, but he will find out.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Vollrath, supported by Ott, to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2026 meeting. Motion Carried.

Resolutions

The following resolutions were signed by the Committee:

A2602147 – Approve agreement with Bestway Disposal for trash collection and disposal services for all County facilities.

A2602150 – Authorize the FY25-26 grant application for the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness grant.

Sheriff's Funds Distribution Request

None.

Property Use Request

No Kings 3 Rally – Saturday, March 28 from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Curran approved the request. Tyler requested Christie provide a list of rules for the use based on political rules for county property, i.e. no staking of signs, etc., with the approval email notice.

Miscellaneous

None.

Public Comments

Mike Haskins, Pipestone Township – Regarding the possible dissolution of the Village of Baroda, the Village of Eau Claire has been having the same discussions as well, but they are surrounded by more than one township. Regarding the transportation issues, Southshore railway operates at a loss because they are not able to provide the number of roads needed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

JArent

Jennifer Arent