

## BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the February 13, 2020 Personnel and Human Services Committee Meeting.  
Meeting held in Conference Room 4B. Attendance was as follows:

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	ALSO PRESENT
William Chickering	X		Mac Elliott, Bill Wolf, Lee Lull, Nicki Britten
Dave Vollrath	X		Mike Sepic
Teri Freehling	X		
			Shelley Jasper

### COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

- Meeting called to order at 9:27 a.m.
- Motion by Vollrath, supported by Chickering to approve the minutes of February 6, 2020. 2 yeas, 0 nays  
Motion carried.
- Lee Lull, Veteran's Affairs Administrator, presented Resolution P2002187, a Resolution to accept the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency grant totaling \$109,626. The resolution and accompanying expenditure detail was reviewed and signed by all Committee members.
- Motion by Vollrath, supported by Freehling to approve the monthly pension refunds as presented. 3 yeas, 0 nays, motion carried.
- Resolution P2002002, the Resolution to approve the January per diem payments totaling \$4887.33 was reviewed and signed by all Committee members.
- Resolution P2002177, a Resolution to approve participation in the Scrap Tire Cleanup Grant Program was reviewed and then signed by all Committee members.
- Motion by Vollrath, supported by Freehling to approve the following advanced step hire requests:
  - Teresa Stevens, Legal Secretary II in the Public Defender's Office. Ms. Stevens will be compensated at grade 4, step 4, annualized salary of \$31,081.
  - Aaron Gray, Drug Court Caseworker in the Trial Court. Mr. Gray will be compensated at grade 8, step 2, annualized salary of \$43,501. 3 yeas, 0 nays, motion carried.

### HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Health Officer Nicki Britten presented and discussed the following Resolutions, which were then signed by all Committee members:

#### **Resolution P2002152**

*Title:* LARA Medical Marijuana Education Grant Award Acceptance

*Type of Resolution:* Grant Award

*Financial Implication:* \$47,758

*Main Points:*

Berrien County Health Department applied for funding from the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) (application approved under Resolution P1912355) for the education, communication, and outreach regarding the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act.

BCHD wishes to accept the grant funds of \$47,758, for the grant period January 1, 2020 to September 15, 2020, to be used for the continuation of an educational prevention campaign started in FY2019 regarding medical marijuana, aimed at key target audiences to include youth and pregnant women. The grant money is distributed proportionately based on the number of registry identification cards issued to or renewed for the residents of each county, Berrien County currently has 1,715 patient registry cards issued and/or renewed.

#### **Resolution P2002170**

*Title:* National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Award

*Type of Resolution:* Award Acceptance

*Financial Implication:* increase of \$2,500

*Main Points:*

National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) provides incentives to local and state agencies to encourage staff training. BCHD opted in to participate in this program which will support training and materials for environmental health assessments used in foodborne outbreak investigations. Participants are provided a small incentive of \$2,500 to support staffing costs, BCHD wishes to accept the monetary incentive to use for the environmental health training and materials.

**Resolution P2002171**

*Title:* Heart of Cook Grant Application

*Type of Resolution:* application

*Financial Implication:* increase of \$5,000

*Main Points:*

Berrien County Health Department's strategic plan contains an objective to increase breastfeeding rate in an effort to equip families with what they need to raise healthy and happy babies and children. This work is done, in part, through collaborative partnerships in the Berrien County Breastfeeding Coalition as well as a support group for breastfeeding families. BCHD wishes to apply for a grant from the Heart of Cook Foundation for the amount of \$5,000 to provide funding to support the work of the Berrien County Breastfeeding Coalition and breastfeeding support group, to include operational supplies, participant incentives, and event costs.

Nicki then advised the Committee that the Board of Health sent a letter to the BOC opposing the designation of a Second Amendment sanctuary county. Nicki advised that the Healthy Berrien Consortium, which is comprised of many public health entities, authored a letter to the BOC expressing how the lack of a reliable public transportation system is a barrier to health care and encouraged the Board to move forward on creation of a County-wide transportation system.

Nicki advised the Committee that she was appointed to the Governor's council for environmental justice. Nicki also assisted MDHHS in the legislative briefing regarding the Eastern Equine Encephalitis response this past summer. She also participated in the Michigan Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) health equity policy forum.

Nicki then discussed the protocols in place to address the Corona virus in Berrien County including CDC quarantine and isolation protocols. There are no confirmed cases in Berrien County at this time.

**PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**

Prosecutor Mike Sepic presented Resolution P2002178, a Resolution which, if adopted, would add an additional Prosecuting Attorney position to the complement of his department. He explained the rationale for the additional staff and responded to various questions. Bill Wolf discussed funding challenges. The Resolution was signed by all Committee members.

**ADMINISTRATOR/CHAIRMAN**

The Committee had no additional questions for the Administrator.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

Adjourned 10:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Jasper  
Human Resources Director