

BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of April 16, 2026

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

Absent: Jim Curran, Chairman

Scheduled: Mike Sepic, Interim Administrator
Mac Elliott, BOC Chair
Sheriff Heit, BCSD
Undersheriff Sanders, BCSD
Don Trail, Building & Grounds
Marco Tomasi, Road Department
Dan Fette, Community Development

Others:

Call to Order

Vice Chairman Vollrath called the meeting to order at 9:13 am.

Sheriff's Department Update – Sheriff Heit & Undersheriff Sanders

Sheriff Heit reviewed the March statistics. He noted the medical assessments are working as most people being taken to the ER are being admitted. Kitchen stats are unavailable due to a change in providers. He noted overdoses are down and believes the naloxone vending machines are contributing to that. Undersheriff Sanders reviewed the enforcement numbers. Heit reported they will be attending township meetings quarterly. This is Animal Control week and Heit commended the AC officers. Lieutenant Paul Grenon has transitioned to the Marine Unit. Discussions ensued regarding computer forensics and phones. He noted several promotions that have taken place. In March, there were 1,176 complaints, 336 tickets issued and 182 arrests.

Building & Grounds Update – Trail

Trail provided the list of projects, noting there were no changes from the previous report. After the ARPA funds are moved into the construction account, he will be able to pay invoices. The Juvenile Center original estimate was \$5.3M. No bids came back for the project in its entirety. He resent it out, broken down into smaller components. Peerless Construction was awarded the fire suppression element at \$1.14M. He reviewed the map that showed where the water lines were originally noted in the 1950s along where they actually are. He explained where they will need to relocate them. Also, fire suppression requires a 6" pipe for the entire line, but the current line is only 4". The additional work will add \$82,768, with all funding covered by ARPA. Trail has completed a bid waiver and will present it to the Finance Committee next.

Motion by Tyler, supported by Vollrath, to approve the additional funding. Motion Carried.

Trail reported he has been acting as the General Contractor for the South County Health Department work. It is on track to be completed by early July. The jail generator project is almost complete. He is waiting for the new plans from Bacchiocchi for the Administration building security updates. The new plans remove extras and should reduce the budget to approximately \$450,000. Discussions ensued.

A2604213 MOU with Cornerstone Alliance for Yore Ave. – Tomasi & Fette

Fette reviewed the map showing the section of Yore Avenue, from Napier to Townline, that will be rebuilt. Cornerstone Alliance received a grant for infrastructure upgrades to benefit industrial development. The location has a high water table and the road is currently unable to handle the weight of industrial traffic. The

bid has been awarded to Kalin Construction with the Road Department serving as the fiduciary. Kalin is able to begin construction immediately. Cornerstone will be contributing \$1,750,000.00 and the County will contribute \$151,255.50. Tomasi noted the county contribution is being reassigned from the Glendora project as it still needs to go through an archaeological review and design phase. The Glendora project has been planned for next year. Discussions ensued. There are no current prospects tied to this upgrade.

Q & A – Sepic & Elliott

Elliott verified the consent calendar. Sepic had nothing to report.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Tyler, supported by Ott, to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2026 meeting. Motion Carried.

Resolutions

The following resolutions were signed by the Committee:

A2604204 – Authorize agreement with LEADSONLINE, LLC for the Sheriff's Department.

A2604213 – Approve the MOU with Cornerstone Alliance to accept \$1,750,000 for the reconstruction of Yore Avenue.

Sheriff's Funds Distribution Request

None.

Property Use Request

Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff – Request approved for use of the Administration Building parking lot and Courthouse parking lot on July 10 through 12, 2026.

Miscellaneous

None.

Public Comments

Michael Haskins, Pipestone Township – Regarding the Yore Road project, that was an old industrial district and even though it was a solid concrete construction, the bypass wasn't finished yet. This will be a game changer. The drain project has been an ongoing need as it feeds down into the dam at the old Clark facility. Since it will be rebuilt with asphalt, it will be easier to repair in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

JArent

Jennifer Arent