

Columbia County
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MINUTES
January 12, 2021

Notice: These minutes have not been approved by the Judiciary Committee and are subject to additions and/or corrections. They will be approved at next month's regularly scheduled committee meeting.

Present: Robert McClyman, Eric J. Shimpach, Chris Polzer, Liz Miller and Steven Rohrbeck
Also Present: Judge Cross, Judge Hepler, Susan Raimer, Brenda Yaskal, Joseph Ruf III and Jamie Henriksen

I. Call to Order. Posting Compliance. Approve Agenda. Approve Minutes. Expenditure Reports.

- 1) Meeting called to order at 8:16 a.m. by Chair McClyman.
- 2) Posting compliance was met per Open Meetings Law.
- 3) *Agenda approved by Committee.*
- 4) *Motion was made by Miller to approve the previous meeting minutes from December 8, 2020. Seconded by Shimpach. Motion carried.*
- 5) **Public Input.** None.
- 6) **Chairman's Communications.** Chair McClyman would like to thank everyone for all the well wishes. He is feeling a lot better and doing well.
- 7) **Expenditure Reports.** After a review of the expenditure reports for the Judges, Clerk of Courts, District Attorney's Office, Corporation Counsel Office, and Child Support Office, *a motion was made by Miller to approve all of the expenditures. Seconded by Polzer. Motion carried.*
- 8) **Next meeting date** will be Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 8:15 a.m. in the Courthouse basement conference room. After the January 2021 Committee Meeting, the Committee would like to start meeting every other month (odd numbered months).

II. Judges:

- **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities provided by Judge Hepler. With Judge Voigt being out, there will be a Reserve Judge. Judge Hepler added that they are still struggling to fill vacancies for Court Reporters/DAR System Operators. All four Courtrooms have the DAR Systems installed.

III. Clerk of Courts:

- **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities provided by COC Susan Raimer. Raimer discussed the changes and challenges in COC operations that have occurred due to COVID-19. Raimer handed out a 'Comparison of Cases Filed' that listed numbers of cases filed with the Columbia County Clerk of Courts in the past years.

IV. District Attorney:


- **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities provided by DA Brenda Yaskal. Yaskal discussed changes and challenges in the DA's Office operations due to COVID-19. Yaskal has had some recent injuries and illnesses in her office. Yaskal added that she will be adding a new Legal Secretary next week.

V. Corporation Counsel/Child Support Office:

- **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities for Corporation Counsel and Child Support provided by Joseph Ruf III. He discussed the challenges with COVID and appreciated the patience of the Judges and their staff through this pandemic. Ruf added that a new Paralegal was added to the Child Support staff recently and is doing great.

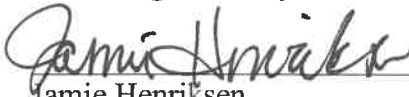
Motion was made by Miller to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Seconded by Shimpach. Motion carried.

Secretary of Record,



Supervisor Chris Polzer
Committee Secretary

Recording Secretary,



Jamie Henriksen
HR Program Coordinator

cc: Judiciary Committee Members
Chair Gove
1st Vice Chair Foley
2nd Vice Chair Koch
Internet