

**Columbia County**  
**JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**August 11, 2020**

*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, Chris Polzer and Steven Rohrbeck  
**Absent:** Eric Shimpach and Liz Miller  
**Also Present:** Judge Voigt, Judge Cross, COC Raimer, DA Brenda Yaskal, Corporation Counsel Joseph Ruf, Julie Kayartz, Selina Hooker and Jamie Henriksen

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

- 1) Meeting called to order at 8:17 a.m. by Chair McClyman.
- 2) Posting compliance was met per Open Meetings Law.
- 3) *Motion was made by Polzer to approve the agenda. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried.*
- 4) *Motion was made by Polzer to approve the previous meeting minutes from July 14, 2020.*

*Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried.*

- 5) **Public Input.** No public input.
- 6) **Chairman's Communications.** No communications.
- 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 Polzer to approve all of the expenditures. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried.
- 8) Next meeting date set for Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 8:15 a.m. in the Courthouse basement conference room.

**II. Judges:**

- 1) **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities provided by Judge Voigt. He discussed incremental progress with in-person hearings. An additional meeting of the Court Re-Open Plan Committee needs to be scheduled as there needs to be some modifications to the original plan. Judge Voigt hopes to get this meeting scheduled soon.
- 2) **Circuit Court Operations 2021 Budget.** Discussion. *Motion was made by Polzer to approve the Circuit Court Operations (No. 1212) budget as presented. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried.*
- 3) **Register in Probate 2021 Budget.** Discussion. *Motion was made by Polzer to approve the Register in Probate (No. 1216) budget as presented. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried.*
- 4) **Family Court Mediator 2021 Budget.** *Motion was made by Polzer to approve the Family Court Mediator (No. 1218) budget as presented. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried.*
- 5) **Court Commissioner 2021 Budget.** Discussion by Ruf that the County will have to pay for Court Reporters in 2021 as the State will no longer provide for their services. *Motion was made by Polzer to approve the Court Commissioner (No. 1240) budget as presented. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried.*

**III. Clerk of Courts:**

- 1) **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities provided by COC Susan Raimer. Revenue is coming in at a slower pace this year. Clerk of Courts staff has had some time to complete overdue projects.
- 2) **Clerk of Courts 2021 Budget.** Discussion. *Motion was made by Polzer to approve the Clerk of Courts (No. 1220) budget as presented. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried. Motion was made by Polzer to approve Clerk of Courts capital outlay in the amount of \$0.00 (No. 1220.844000) as presented. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried.*

**IV. District Attorney:**

1) **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities provided by DA Yaskal. They are trying to utilize more technology in the District Attorney's Office. Some police departments are able to send disks with evidence electronically to the DA now, and from there, the DA is able to email the files on the disks to attorneys involved with cases. This is more convenient, but there are no costs involved and therefore, revenue from the previous cost to replicate the disks for the same attorneys is not coming in. This should, however, create a cost savings in the end for paper and associated copying costs for the office.

2) **District Attorney 2021 Budget.** Discussion regarding the court costs remaining the same even though the number of cases has decreased. The Department of Justice is now charging the County to act as a Special Prosecutor if there is a conflict of interest with a case. The cost is new this year as they used to offer free services. *Motion was made by Polzer to approve the District Attorney (No. 1610) budget as presented. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried. Motion was made by Polzer to approve District Attorney capital outlay in the amount of -\$250.00 (No. 1610.844000) as presented. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried.*

3) **Teen Court 2021 Budget.** *Motion was made by Polzer to approve the Teen Court (No. 1615) budget as presented, but add in that he would like someone from CESA 5, who administers the program, to come in and present an update to the Judiciary Committee and educate them on their services. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried.*

**V. Child Support Office/Corporation Counsel:**

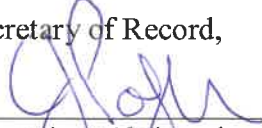
1) **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities for Child Support provided by Selina Hooker. August is Child Support Awareness month. Columbia County was recently recognized with a Certificate of Excellence for meeting their performance goals and numbers.

2) **Child Support 2021 Budget.** Discussion by Hooker regarding the large reduction in her budget as it was a better way to show the State Aide reimbursement. *Motion was made by Polzer to approve the Child Support (No. 1645) budget as presented. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried. Motion was made by Polzer to approve Child Support capital outlay in the amount of \$0.00 (No. 1645.844000) as presented. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried.*

3) General discussion of monthly activities for Corporation Counsel provided by Corporation Counsel Ruf. Ruf stated Kelly Hoffmann, Assistant to the Corporation Counsel, prepared the budget. There was a savings to wages and fringe benefits as there are newer staff members in the office.

4) **Corporation Counsel 2021 Budget.** *Motion was made by Polzer to approve the Corporation Counsel (No. 1640) budget as presented. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried. Motion was made by Polzer to approve Corporation Counsel capital outlay in the amount of -\$430.00 (No. 1640.844000) as presented. Seconded by Rohrbeck. Motion carried.*

*Judiciary Committee adjourned by Chair McClyman at 9:27 a.m.*

Secretary of Record,  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor Chris Polzer  
Committee Secretary

Recording Secretary,  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jamie Henriksen  
HR Program Coordinator

cc: Judiciary Committee Members  
Chair Gove  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Foley  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Koch  
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