

Columbia County
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MINUTES
September 14, 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, Liz Miller, Steven Rohrbeck and Kim Manley
Absent: Eric J. Shimpach and Chris Polzer
Also Present: Judge Voigt, Judge Hepler, Judge Cross, COC Susan Raimer, DA Brenda Yaskal, Assistant Corporation Counsel Jessica Hale 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) *Motion was made by Miller to approve the agenda. Seconded by Manley. Motion carried.*
- 4) *Motion was made by Manley to approve the previous meeting minutes from August 10, 2021. Seconded by Miller. Motion carried.*
- 5) **Public Input.** None.
- 6) **Chairman's Communications.** None.
- 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 Manley to approve all of the expenditures. Seconded by Miller. Motion carried.*
- 8) **Next meeting date** will be Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 8:15 a.m. in the Courthouse basement conference room.

II. Judges:

- **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities provided by Judge Voigt. The Courts continue to work on the backlog from COVID-19 as well as processing new cases. Judge Hepler provided updates to the OWI and Drug Courts with a 5-year grant renewal process coming up. We are competing with other Courts in the state. The participant numbers are low with COVID-19, as this is a voluntary program.

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 continues to hear positive feedback from jurors even with challenges in jury selection with COVID-19 concerns. Raimer added that a new Judicial Assistant is starting tomorrow in Branch II. The Clerk of Courts staff along with staff from the Register in Probate have been doing a great job covering for this position during the hiring process.

IV. District Attorney:

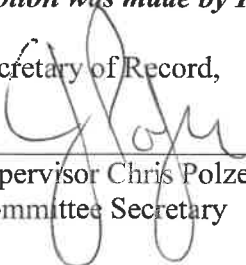
- **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities provided by DA Brenda Yaskal. Yaskal discussed changes and challenges in the DA's Office operations due to COVID-19. Yaskal presented a copy of her updated 2022 budget reflecting a cost savings and an overall decrease to the budget, as she received clarification from the State regarding funding for the Victim Witness positions. Yaskal said she will be losing two Assistant District Attorneys ("ADAs") in the next couple of months, in addition to the new ADA position the State created, so she is actively recruiting. She is also down two Legal Secretaries, but interviews are scheduled.

V. Corporation Counsel/Child Support Office:

- **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities for Corporation Counsel and Child Support provided by Assistant Corporation Counsel Jessica Hale.
- **2022 Retirement and Replacement of Comptroller and Assistant Comptroller** - Hale presented an informational only item regarding the retirement and replacement of the Accounting Comptroller and Assistant Comptroller in August 2022. The goal is to have the new Comptroller hiring process completed by March 2022.
- **Child Support – Change in Capital Outlay** - Hale presented a change in Capital Outlay to the Child Support budget as the LaserJet printer/copier/fax they intended to replace still works and their shredder does not. Motion by Rohrbeck to approve the Change in Capital Outlay as presented, second by Miller. Motion carried.

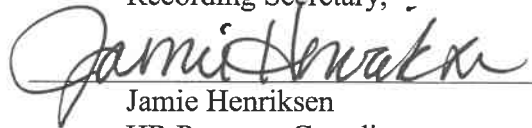
Motion was made by Rohrbeck to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 a.m. Seconded by Manley. Motion carried.

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