

**Columbia County
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MINUTES
October 13, 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, Eric J. Shimpach, Chris Polzer, Liz Miller and Steven Rohrbeck
Also Present: Judge Cross, Susan Raimer, Brenda Yaskal, Selina Hooker, 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) *Motion was made by Miller to approve the agenda. Seconded by Shimpach. Motion carried.*
- 4) *Motion was made by Rohrbeck to approve the previous meeting minutes from September 8, 2020. 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 Polzer to approve all of the expenditures. Seconded by Shimpach. Motion carried.*
- 8) **Next meeting date** will be Tuesday, November 10, 2020 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 Cross. Judge Voigt is out of the office working remotely for at least the rest of the month and Judge Hepler should be back next week. Judge Cross discussed the challenges the Courts are experiencing with COVID-19 and holding jury trials. They are trying to hold as many hearings as they can in-person and are continuing to hold most hearings virtually.

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 said that they have been working with the District Attorney's Office to schedule 30 cases per week in addition to what they originally had in an effort to reduce some of the back-logged cases from this summer. Raimer has been asked to participate in a re-organized subcommittee made up of Court staff to discuss in-person jury trials. This Committee met last week and Raimer is optimistic that there will be some positive changes coming with courtroom security.

IV. **District Attorney:**

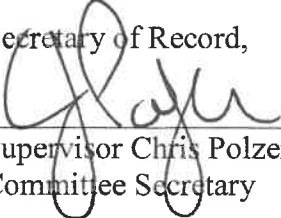
- **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities provided by DA Brenda Yaskal. Yaskal also discussed changes and challenges in the DA's Office operations due to COVID-19. She added that she is optimistic with the way things are going with the Clerk of Court's Office with scheduling the extra complaints to work on the back-log.
- **Position Replacement Request – Legal Secretary** – DA Yaskal presented a position replacement request for a Legal Secretary due to a resignation. Discussion. *Motion was made by Polzer to approve the Position Replacement Request – Legal Secretary. Seconded by Miller. Motion carried.*

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

- **Position Replacement Request – Paralegal** – Child Support Administrator Selina Hooker presented a position replacement request for a Paralegal due to a retirement. Discussion. *Motion was made by Polzer to approve the Position Replacement Request – Paralegal. Seconded by Miller. Motion carried.*

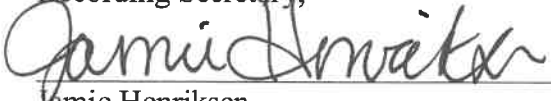
Motion was made by Miller to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 a.m. Seconded by Polzer. Motion carried.

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