

Columbia County
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MINUTES
November 9, 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, Steven Rohrbeck and Kim Manley

Also Present: Judge Voigt, Judge Cross, COC Susan Raimer, DA Brenda Yaskal, Corporation Counsel Joseph Ruf, III and Jamie Henriksen

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

- 1) Meeting called to order at 8:15 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 Polzer. Motion carried.*
- 4) *Motion was made by Shimpach to approve the previous meeting minutes from October 12, 2021. Seconded by Manley. Motion carried.*
- 5) **Public Input.** Polzer appreciated that DA Yaskal attended an event last week in Poynette and he added that it was a great representation of the County as a whole.
- 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 Miller. Motion carried.*
- 8) **Next meeting date** will be Tuesday, December 14, 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 Voigt said all of the Judges attended a Judicial Conference recently, which he found to be beneficial. Judge Cross added that there were some issues with the DAR System, at the State level, which are hopefully resolved now.

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 and her staff continue to struggle to recruit Jurors. There are also issues lately with Jurors and excuses why they cannot serve on a Jury.

IV. District Attorney:

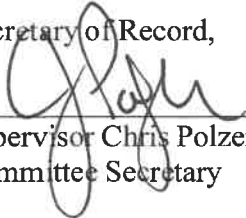
- **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities provided by DA Brenda Yaskal. Yaskal discussed changes and challenges in the DA's Office operations due to COVID-19. Yaskal said she is still struggling to fill two State-funded ADA vacancies, but she is still actively recruiting. She is hoping to have two new Legal Secretaries start the week of Thanksgiving.

V. Corporation Counsel/Child Support Office:

- **General Review of Department Activities.** General discussion of monthly activities for Corporation Counsel and Child Support provided by Corporation Counsel Joseph Ruf, III. The Corporation Counsel Office continues to be busy with hearings both in-person and via Zoom. There are a lot of questions and discussions surrounding a vaccine mandate. Any solutions and/or suggestions will be brought before County Committees and ultimately the full County Board for discussion and approval. The Child Support Agency had a new Legal Secretary start this week. The Annual Child Support Conference was last month in LaCrosse.

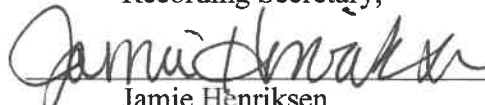
Motion was made by Rohrbeck to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 a.m. Seconded by Polzer. Motion carried.

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