

**MINUTES OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
August 17, 2023**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Timmons, Tom Kelly, Russ Fisher, Diana Harris, Chairperson Steven Schreier

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Heidi Ihn (DA Office), Jillian Pfeifer (DA Office), Luke Johnson (Medical Examiner), Patti Finlan (Branch II), Jean Meyer (Branch I), Amy Franzen (Probate), Robb Jensen (County Board Member), Jim Winkler (County Board Member), Linnae Newman (County Board Member), Mary Rideout (DOSS), Sheriff Grady Hartman, Captain Tyler Young

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Schreier called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. at the Oneida County Courthouse, County Board Room, stated the meeting notice had been posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law and noted accommodations would be made for handicap accessibility.

APPROVE AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the Agenda (Kelly/Harris, PASSED).

APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the July 13, 2023 Committee Meeting Minutes (Fisher/Kelly, PASSED).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

SCHEDULE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE(S)

The next meeting was scheduled for September 14, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

BILLS, VOUCHERS AND LINE ITEM TRANSFERS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENTS

MOTION: To approve the bills, vouchers, line item transfers and personal expense vouchers for Public Safety Departments (Fisher/Harris, PASSED).

CORPORATION COUNSEL

Approval for Chad Lynch to join the Office of Lawyer Regulation (OLR) Preliminary Review Committee

This is on a volunteer basis and will not affect working hours. The committee meets four to six times per year. This committee meets when there are complaints against attorneys, an investigation is completed, and determination is made if the complaint is justified to proceed. This was brought to the Committee to keep members up-to-date with outside activities of Corp Counsel

MOTION: To approve for Chad Lynch to join the Office of Lawyer Regulation (OLR) Preliminary Review Committee (Timmons/Fisher PASSED).

Approval for Chad Lynch to join the Northwoods Alliance for Temporary Housing (NATH) Frederick Place Board of Directors

Lynch was asked to join the board of directors for NATH. No conflict with working hours as meetings are outside business hours.

MOTION: To approve for Chad Lynch to join the Northwoods Alliance for Temporary Housing (NATH) Frederick Place Board of Directors (Harris/Kelly, PASSED).

Approval of 2024 Proposed Budget

Fugle advised all members had received the budget via email, Mr. Kelly's placed in his mailbox. Much of the budget is rather fixed/constant. There was review of the budget items. Under salaries, Shari Gorney is retiring, so that number will be different. There was discussion on the payout of PTO hours for Gorney, how there usually is no OT. Fugle advised the biggest uncontrolled expense is the service fees, paying the Sheriff's Office to serve people. The number in the budget is historically close to where it falls.

Timmons questioned the telephone budget and asked if that was enough, as everyone in the county was complaining about the phone bill from IT Department. There was discussion regarding the numbers for that item, and with the information available, this is where the budget will fall.

MOTION: To approve the Corporation Counsel 2024 Proposed Budget and forward to Admin Budget Hearing (Timmons/Harris, PASSED).

CIRCUIT COURT BRANCH I & II/REGISTER IN PROBATE

Authorization for Judicial Assistants to travel to Taylor County for District 9 JA Meeting
Approval for Judicial Assistances to attend the District 9 JA Meeting held tomorrow (August 18). Area counties get together to brainstorm/network. Have not attended since 2019, which was held in Oneida County.

MOTION: To approve the authorization for Judicial Assistants to travel to Taylor County for District 9 JA Meeting (Timmons/Harris, PASSED).

Approval of 2024 Proposed Budget

BRANCH I (Exhibit 1)

Meyer advised there was an issue with the law clerk, as it was unknown if Vilas County was going to continue with their share. Rather than not have funding if Vilas decides not to continue, the law clerk has been put in the budget as 50% Branch I/50% Branch II. Meyer stated she should know by the September meeting what Vilas has decided. The other big change for Branch I is the Family Court Commissioner. Both judges would like the position raised from \$80/hr to \$100/hr. No raise has been given since 2020.

The increase in the telephone is same as other departments. Discussion on court appointment attorney list, 2024 fees may go down, but waiting approval through state legislature, and how this is paid by county/public defender.

BRANCH II (Exhibit 2)

Finlan advised same situation with law clerk as Branch I. Other items remain the same except for the guardian ad litem fees. Will be well over the budgeted \$45,000.00 by end of 2023. Finlan advised had asked for an increase in this item last year and was denied, runs pretty close to the same as Branch I. Have no control over guardian ad litem fees.

The transcription was high this year, due to a lot of prison sentencing, which according to statute has to be provided. This year is almost at \$900.00 and more is budgeted for next year so they are not over.

Schreier noted that he would rather have a realistic budget presentation from departments, which helps to prioritize, noting that some budget items have to be paid regardless.

Harris asked what Vilas was doing regarding the law clerk. Meyer advised she believes they are going without. Finlan stated part of the issue is no applications, but the law clerk does take pressure off the judges on many items.

MOTION: To approve the Circuit Court Branch I & II/Register in Probate 2024 Proposed Budget and forward to Admin Budget Hearing (Harris/Kelly, PASSED).

MEDICAL EXAMINER

Monthly Report

ME Johnson stated the office was very busy late July/early August. Within two weeks they had 42 deaths (in all three counties), with half being Oneida. Nothing jumped out for excessive funds used.

No motion made, information report only.

Approval of 2004 Proposed Budget

ME Johnson advised on the health insurance line was calculated with the cost of living increase, is a generic projected number based on what is seen right now. Discussion on new service fees that went into place and training fees went down. (Exhibit 3)

MOTION: To approve the Medical Examiner's 2024 Proposed Budget and forward to Admin Budget Hearing (Harris/Timmons, PASSED).

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

Approval of 2024 Proposed Budget

Schreier advised Brenda Behrle was unable to attend meeting today. She will present her budget at the next meeting.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Approval of 2024 Proposed Budget

Jillian Pfeifer and Heidi Ihn advised budget was generally the same as prior years. Biggest expense was employee wages and paper service. (Exhibit 4) There were large fees for Grant, Mason, Big John cases, with the State Attorney General coming up to process those, advising Grant and Big John are still pending. Discussion of the fluctuation of what the state reimburses, and how there was not much that could be done about the fees charges.

MOTION: To approve the District Attorney's Office 2024 Proposed Budget and forward to Admin Budget Hearing (Timmons/Kelly, PASSED).

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Update on Diversion Program

During the first six months of the grant, there was planning, completing required documents, procedure manuals, participation forms, TAD Grant, all to state and approved by the state. They began reviewing referrals from the DA Office of persons who were potential participants in the Diversion Program. In upcoming meetings will be looking at AODA service providers. There was discussion on the process to apply for the 2024 grants through DOJ and how funding is usually held for those who already have the programs.

Request to use ARPA Funds for Website Development for CJCC

Rideout asked that however the county chooses to host, they would like a web page for information for the Criminal Justice program. A subcommittee will work on how to get information out for the program. The ARPA funds designated for the program are \$130,000. Rideout advised she would attempt to get this website paid for by the grant, but was not sure if the website would fall under the grant, and would like to request to use ARPA funds to cover the cost. This would be a \$500 one-time cost to develop, would be hosted by Oneida County and the same provider used by the IT Department. Discussion was held if this committee was the one to approve items related to CJCC. Rideout advised this would be the first expenditure from the \$130,000.

MOTION: To approve the request to use ARPA Funds for Website Development for CJCC (Kelly/Harris, PASSED).

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

It is anticipated that a motion will be made, seconded, and approved by Roll Call Vote to enter into Closed Session pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(f) and 19.85(1)(g), '(f) Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations.,' and '(g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved,' (Emergency Detention Case Studies). A Roll Call Vote will be taken to go into Closed Session.

MOTION: To go into closed session pursuant to WI Stats Section 19.85(1)(f) and 19.85(1)(g), '(f) Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations.,' and '(g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved,' (Emergency Detention Case Studies). (On a Roll Call Vote: FISHER: aye, TIMMONS: aye, KELLY: aye, HARRIS: aye, SCHREIER: aye).

The Committee entered into closed session at 10:21 a.m.

MOTION: To return to open session (Timmons/Kelly, On a Roll Call Vote: FISHER: aye, TIMMONS: aye, KELLY: aye, HARRIS: aye, SCHREIER: aye).

The Committee returned to open session at 11:30 a.m.

No action was taken in closed session.

Direction was given for the chairs of Social Services (Jim Winkler) and Public Safety (Steven Schreier) to coordinate a joint meeting of the two committees, time and date to be determined, to bring a joint resolution to the County Board to recommend termination of the contact with The Human Service Center.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None

ADJOURN

11:40 a.m.

Steven Schreier, Chairperson

Andi Seidel, Committee Secretary

Russ Fisher, Vice-Chairperson