

MINUTES OF THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: September 4, 2020
 TIME: 9:00 a.m.
 PLACE: Room 114, Wood County Courthouse
 TIME ADJOURNED: 10:40 a.m.
 MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bill Clendenning, Bill Leichtnam,
 Kenneth Curry, Ed Wagner, Joseph Zurfluh
 OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Kastenholz. See attached list.

1. At 9:00 a.m., the meeting was called to order.
2. Public comments. None.
3. The minutes for the August 7, 2020, meeting were reviewed. There being no objections, the minutes were deemed approved by the Chair.
4. There were no new claims.
5. There was one new animal claim against the County. Moved by Wagner, seconded by Leichtnam, to pay \$93 to Castlerock Veterinary Hospital, Inc., for rabies testing of a stray animal. All ayes.
6. Committee reviewed monthly voucher and department reports of the departments it oversees. Moved by Wagner, seconded by Leichtnam, to approve the reports and payment of department vouchers. All ayes.
7. The Committee reviewed the 2021 budgets of the departments it oversees:
 - a) Moved by Zurfluh, seconded by Leichtnam, to approve the 2021 budget for Branch I/Register in Probate and to forward it to the Operations Committee. All ayes.
 - b) Moved by Wagner, seconded by Clendenning, to approve the 2021 budget for Branch II and to forward it to the Operations Committee. All ayes.
 - c) Moved by Wagner, seconded by Clendenning, to approve the 2021 budgets for Branch III and Drug Court and to forward them to the Operations Committee. All ayes
 - d) Moved by Leichtnam, seconded by Clendenning, to approve the 2021 budget for Child Support and to forward it to the Operations Committee. All ayes.

e) Moved by Curry, seconded by Zurfluh, to approve the 2021 budget for the Clerk of Courts, which includes Divorce Mediation and Family Court Commissioner, and to forward it to the Operations Committee. All ayes.

Clerk of Court Joosten explained the two increases in her budget are legal and medical expenses, which she has no control over. This is due in part to a 100% increase in Ch. 48 Chips cases and increased medical expenses in guardianship cases.

f) Moved by Clendenning, seconded by Zurfluh, to approve the 2021 budget for Corporation Counsel and to forward it to the Operations Committee. All ayes.

g) Moved by Wagner, seconded by Curry, to approve the 2021 budget for District Attorney and to forward it to the Operations Committee. All ayes.

District Attorney Lambert explained the primary increases are related to more office space and three additional staff.

h) Moved by Leichtnam, seconded by Zurfluh, to approve the 2021 budget for Register of Deeds and to forward it to the Operations Committee. All ayes.

Budget decrease is due to a change in office staff; the newer staff cost less per Ed Newton.

i) Moved by Wagner, seconded by Leichtnam, to approve the 2021 budget for Victim/Witness and to forward it to the Operations Committee. All ayes.

Savings had due to the retirement of a staff person and the hiring of a new person per Al Thurber.

8. Child Support space needs. Director Vruwink explained that his office currently is responsible for room 115, but rarely uses this conference room. However, they do use and need the old Victim/Witness office suite, room 112. Director Vruwink wants to take over room 112 and turn room 115 over to Maintenance. Moved by Leichtnam, seconded by Zurfluh, to have Child Support move from room 115 to room 112 effective 01/01/2021. All ayes.
9. A. Legal fees in guardianship case. Corporation Counsel Kastenholz gave a history of the case and the law. Moved by Wagner, seconded by Leichtnam, to approve settlement of the guardianship legal fee case at \$3,500. All ayes.

- B. Savion negotiations. History given on the project and the agreement. Supervisors felt Operations Committee did not need to be involved. Moved by Leichtnam, seconded by Zurfluh, to approve presenting to the County Board the resolution supporting entering into the Developer/Operations agreement with Savion. All ayes.
10. The Committee reviewed correspondence and legislative issues.
- a. Report of Citizens Groundwater Group. Supervisor Leichtnam gave a brief report.
 - b. Joint Legislative Committee meetings in Mosinee. Chairman Clendenning expressed concern over the suspension of these meetings due to COVID-19; wants to see video meetings. County Board Chair Pliml will follow up on this.
 - c. Update on joint meeting with Health & Human Services Committee regarding Ch. 48 matters. District Attorney Lambert updated the committee on a recent meeting with Human Services director and deputy director regarding handling Ch. 48 cases. The meeting was beneficial and progress is and will be made on enhancing communications.
11. County Board rules.
- a. Report on duties of second vice chairperson. There are many counties that have a second vice chairperson. At this time, no specific duties are going to be designated to the Wood County second vice chairperson.
 - b. Necessity to notice closed sessions. The Corporation Counsel explained that as long as a topic is on an agenda, a committee may go into closed session to discuss it. However, if a committee chair sees the possibility for the need of a closed session, that should be reflected on the committee's agenda. The County's Open Meetings Law Compliance Guide is available on the County's website.
12. Criminal Justice Coordinator Committee update. The committee will be interviewing applicants next month.
13. Attendance at meetings. Frustration and concern expressed about meetings being held via WebEx and not having IT staff available to support use of the equipment. This could result in meetings being held in an illegal fashion.

Chairman Clendenning asked for permission that he and Supervisor Leichtnam receive payment for some recent Savion meetings. Moved by Curry, seconded by Zurfluh, that Clendenning and Leichtnam each receive two per diems for attendance at recent Savion meetings. All ayes.

14. Agenda items for the October 2020 meeting: Nothing specific identified; committee members and the public may contact the committee chair to have items added to the agenda.
15. The next regular committee meeting will be October 2, 2020, at 9 a.m. The Committee will also meet on county board day in September to review the Savion agreement.
16. Meeting adjourned without objection by the Chairperson at 10:40 a.m.

Minutes taken by Peter Kastenholz.

Judicial & Legislative Committee Meeting

Date: 9.4.20

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	REPRESENTING
Mary Anderson	Branch 1 / Register in Probate
Cindy Tooster	COC
[Signature]	Finance
[Signature]	Finance
REUBEN VAN TASSEL	MAINT.
Craig Lambert	D.A.
Brent Downing	CSA
DENNIS POLACK	WCB-# 14
Kayla Clark	Br. 3 J.A.
Judge Brazeau	Br. 2
Appearing via AV	
Lance Pliml	Co. Bd. Chair
Trent Miner	County Clerk
Tiffany Ringer	Reg. of Deeds