

Minutes of the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee

Friday, May 15, 2020

Chair Wolff called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Peter Wolff, Mike Crowley, Christine Howard, Darlene Johnson, and Larry Nelson. Tyler Foti joined the meeting at 8:57 a.m. via conference phone. **Absent:** Steve Whittow.

Also Present: Chief of Staff Sarah Spaeth, Facilities Manager Shane Waeghe, Director of Emergency Preparedness Gary Bell, Chief Judge Jennifer Dorow, Interim Clerk of Circuit Court Monica Paz, Business Managers Bob Snow and Josh Joost, Inspector Jim Gumm, Deputy Inspector Patrick Esser, and Financial Analyst Cathy Kienast.

Future Agenda Items

- Tour Courthouse Tower (Johnson)

Future Meeting Date

- June 12, 2020
- July 17, 2020

Committee Welcome and Opening Remarks by Chair

Spaeth discussed the code of conduct for the Judiciary & Law Enforcement Committee and Wolff welcomed members to the committee.

Nomination and Election of Vice Chair and Secretary

MOTION: Johnson moved, second by Crowley to nominate Howard as vice chair. Motion carried 5-0.

MOTION: Nelson moved, second by Howard to nominate Crowley as secretary. Motion carried 5-0.

Discuss Committee Duties and Responsibilities as Written in the County Code of Ordinances

Spaeth discussed the duties and responsibilities of the Judiciary & Law Enforcement Committee as outlined in the County Code.

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 175-O-010 Approve Fourth Amendment to Lease With New Cingular Wireless at the Health and Human Services Smokestack

Waeghe and Bell were present to discuss this ordinance to approve the fourth amendment to the December 1, 1998 lease with Milwaukee SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC for lease of the old Health & Human Services building smokestack for use as a cellular tower to modify the leased area description and other provisions therein.

MOTION: Howard moved, second by Johnson to approve Ordinance 174-O-010. Motion carried 5-0.

COVID-19 Impact on Emergency Preparedness Department

Bell discussed how each three divisions of his department are impacted by COVID-19. In the Emergency Management Division, staff have been focused on the COVID-19 response and not their regular duties. Call volume at the Communications Center is starting to increase. COVID-19 has impacted how fast they can onboard new employees.

Foti joined the meeting at 8:57 a.m. via conference phone.

COVID-19 Impact on Circuit Courts and Staffing Changes

Dorow, Paz, and Snow were present to discuss this item. Dorow introduced Paz as the interim Clerk of Circuit Courts. Dorow walked the committee through a timeline of how the courts were impacted by COVID-19. Court operations continued but hearings have decreased 24%. Absent any new information, courthouse hours are targeted to return to normal June 1 and all staff will return onsite with all 12 judges and 4 court commissioners. Snow indicated there will be revenue shortfalls impacting the 2020 budget and future budgets.

COVID-19 Impact on Sheriff's Department

Gumm and Joost were present to discuss this item. Gumm said the Sheriff suspended Huber privileges out of fear of spreading COVID-19 and noted there was one positive case in the jail. The department is taking all necessary steps to keep the jail safe and prevent further spread of the virus. To date, the department is estimating \$400,000 in lost revenue that could increase \$100,000 to \$150,000 per month going forward. The department is seeking new revenue in federal inmate holds to help offset losses.

Legislative Update

Spaeth updated the committee on a request for CARES Act funding the County is seeking from the State.

MOTION: Howard moved, second by Crowley to adjourn at 9:51 a.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Crowley

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Secretary