

MINUTES
COURTS & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
111 S. Michigan Ave., Room 200, Saginaw MI 48602
Tuesday, August 5, 2025 – 4:00 p.m.

DRAFT

Present: Christopher Boyd - Chair, Sheldon Matthews – Vice-Chair, Mark Piotrowski, Rich Spitzer, Jack Tany

Others: Vanessa Guerra, Mary Catherine Hannah, Koren Thurston, Dave Gilbert, Mark Przybylski, Jennifer Broadfoot, Darcie Totten, Chris Izworski, Steve Fenner, Suzy Koeplinger, Renee Sharkey, and Catherine Hicks

- I. Call to order – **Chair Boyd at 4:02 p.m.**
- II. Welcome/Roll-call
- III. Correction/Approval of Minutes (*June 3, 2025*)
 - ***Moved by Matthews, seconded by Piotrowski, to approve. Motion carried.***
- IV. Public comment – **None**
- V. Agenda

1. **Honorable Judge Gafkay, Chief Circuit Court Judge, re:**
 - **8-19-6** Requesting an increase in pay for the Law Clerk/Bailiff in her court to Step 3 of the B-19 pay scale (*Board Report*)
 - Per Civil/Labor Counsel, Chief Judge Gafkay's request was withdrawn and will be heard by Labor Relations Committee on Monday, August 11, 2025, after discussion with the union.
2. **Chris Izworski, 9-1-1 Executive Director, re:**
 - **8-19-7** Submitted its FY 2026 Budget and Resolution for approval (*Board Report*)
 - Commissioners voiced their concern about employee burnout and the high turnover. Director Izworski advised they were short 10 dispatchers, so they are working with a company who supplies "drop-in" dispatchers for support. These individuals are limited to the tasks of call taking and some radio activity. Since using this service, mandatory overtime has been removed, with the goal being to allow employees to get back to a better work/life balance. Finding and retaining suitable staff is a challenge. Working 12-hour shifts is difficult as is the very stressful nature of the job. Burnout and fatigue are common. Employees who learn and become good at the job only stay an average of 5-7 years. The director also spoke about a CAD upgrade, an increase in the cost of contract services, new radios purchased for first responders, a maintenance plan created to extend radio life in the field, plans to purchase them over time as needed, and the updates of 911 board administration phones.
 - ***Moved by Tany, seconded by Matthews, to approve. Motion carried. (Board Report)***
3. **Mary Catherine Hannah, County Administrator, re:**
 - **8-19-11** Reported on the progress and status of working toward a Regional MEI facility
 - County Administrator Hannah spoke with the committee about building the new desired MEI facility on a vacant lot near the vacant Rite Aid building that they no longer have an option to purchase. It was found to be just as cost effective to build and then lease from the developer as it would be to buy the Rite Aid building and renovate it.

- The County Administrator advised that the lot is large enough to provide additional space for other county departments who have need for storage space. The cost of design specifications, construction budget, authorization from Kochville to build there, and the lease amount are all within the Medical Examiner's budget. Completing predevelopment steps will not cause a lease obligation. John Kaczor will create budget projections and a business plan for the Medical Examiner's office with a regional model. His estimated completion time is 3 months. Other Medical Examiner offices have expressed interest in using space there. Saginaw County will determine the size of the space based on how much the contracted counties require. The amount of the lease is expected to be less than what the organizations are presently paying and will cover the cost of Saginaw County's Lease. Once the building is started, the developer expects completion in 12 – 14 months.

4. Any other matters to come before the committee

VI. Miscellaneous

- Commissioner Matthews gave his appreciation to those who donated to have the Cookies & Cream ice cream truck come to the courthouse to provide free ice cream for Saginaw County employees on Thursday, August 14th at 1:00 p.m.
- Chairman Tany announced the first ever County Cookout this Thursday, August 7th.
- **Informational, no action.**

VII. Adjournment – **Tany moved, seconded by Piotrowski, to adjourn. Motion carried; time being 4:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher Boyd, Committee Chair
Vanessa Guerra, Committee Clerk