

**MINUTES**  
**COURTS & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
111 S. Michigan Ave., Room 200, Saginaw MI 48602  
**Tuesday, January 9, 2024 – 4:00 p.m.**

**DRAFT**

Present: Jack Tany - Chair, Rich Spitzer, Mark Piotrowski, Christopher Boyd  
Absent: Sheldon Matthews – Vice-Chair  
Others: Koren Thurston, Dave Gilbert, Jaime Ceja, Blair Stevenson, Steve Fenner, Chief Judge Gafkay, Darcie Graham, Jennifer Broadfoot, Suzy Koeplinger, and Catherine Hicks

- I. Call to order ---**Tany at 4:02 p.m.**
- II. Welcome/Roll-call
- III. Correction/Approval of Minutes (**December 5, 2023**)  
---**Moved by Boyd, seconded by Piotrowski, to approve. Motion carried.**

- IV. Public comment ---**None**
  - *Speakers limited to 3 minutes*

V. Agenda

- 1. **Jaime Ceja, Executive Assistant, Administrator’s Office, for Animal Control Advisory Council, re:**
  - **1-16-3** Requesting approval of amendments to the Animal Control Advisory Council Bylaws to reflect changes to location, schedule, notice, quorum, neglect of duties and communication requirements  
---**Moved by Boyd, seconded by Spitzer, to approve amendments to Sections I – V as submitted, subject to approval by the Animal Control Advisory Council. The proposed amendment to Section VI will be resubmitted in February after approval by the Advisory Council. Motion carried. (Board Report)**

- 2. **Blair Stevenson, Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, re:**
  - Update on grant and staffing issues  
---**Mr. Stevenson addressed the committee along with Mr. Steve Fenner from the Saginaw Defender’s Office regarding issues with retention of trained assistant prosecuting attorneys (APA) and parity in salaries between the Prosecuting Attorney’s (PA) Office and the Defender’s Office. The PA Office had previously received approval from the Board of Commissioners to use grant funding of \$1 million from the State of Michigan to fund the hiring of three (3) new APAs and an increase in salaries to existing APAs and management staff. Currently, the State of Michigan has not released the funding and Mr. Stevenson is asking the Board of Commissioners to alter the previous agreement by not hiring the 3 new APAs at this time, but to allow for the PA Office to increase the salaries using existing funds and newly identified revenue.**

---**Moved by Spitzer, seconded by Boyd, to allow the Prosecutor’s Office to use existing funds for raises of Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys and Management Staff in the Prosecutor’s Office; further, to forward a request to the Budget/Audit Committee to amend the budget to reflect \$185,000 in extra revenue (\$100,000 from MDHHS and \$85,000 from City of Saginaw). Motion carried.**

***---Moved by Boyd, seconded by Piotrowski, to forward a request to the Labor Relations Committee to authorize Civil/Labor Counsel to negotiate with the appropriate unions to adopt new pay scales for Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys and management staff in the Prosecutor's Office. Motion carried.***

- VI. Miscellaneous ***---Chief Judge Gafkay addressed the committee and stated a new Circuit Court Administrator has been selected, pending approval to start him at Step 3 of the salary schedule. Jennifer Booker has retired from that position effective January 1, 2024 after 30 years of service and they wish her well. Judge Gafkay will meet with Civil/Labor Counsel to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding to go to the Labor Relations Committee for approval.***
- VII. Adjournment ***---Moved by Spitzer, seconded by Boyd, to adjourn. Motion carried; time being 4:40 p.m.***

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jack Tany, Committee Chair  
Suzy Koeplinger, Committee Clerk