

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Kimberly L. Murphy
County Administrator

301 N. Main St, Adrian, MI 49221
p: 517-264-4508 | f: 517-264-4512
[Website](#)



MEMBERS

Terry Collins, Dustin Krasny, Karol "KZ" Bolton
301 N. Main St, Adrian, MI 49221

MEETING LOCATION
Chambers

Minutes: Thursday, November 7, 2024

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00am by Terry Collins.

Present: Commissioner Terry Collins, James Van Doren, Dustin Krasny

Also Administrator Kim Murphy, Deputy Administrator Shannon Elliott, Marketing &

Present: Communications Coordinator Jennifer Ambrose, Administrative Coordinator Carissa Zubke, Chief Prosecutor Jacqueline Wyse, Court Administrator Heidi Cannon, Sheriff Troy Bevier, Emergency Management Coordinator Craig Tanis, Chief Public Defender John Glaser, Regional Morgue Physician Dr. Maino, Deonne Bowers, Candy Gomez-Catherine Cobb

Absent: Karol Bolton, Rod Weaver

Chairman Collins appointed Comm. Van Doren as a voting member of the committee.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes: October 3, 2024

Motion by Krasny, seconded by Van Doren, to approve the minutes of October 3, 2024. Motion carried.

III. Finance Reports

A. Finance Report

Included in the packet are the financial reports for this committee, Administrator Murphy shared an overview. No further discussion

IV. Sheriff

A. Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Bevier reviewed the monthly report. He thanked everyone for attending the Open House and Employee Recognition ceremony at the Sheriff's Office.

Staffing at his office has increased; 4 individuals plan to attend the Police Academy soon. Sheriff informed the committee they would be applying for a State grant for individuals to use towards the Academy.

B. Request: PoliceOne Academy

The request is to approve a subscription with PoliceOne Academy. Licensed/registered officers are required to have 24 continuing education credits; an increase from 12. This subscription offers an online curriculum that satisfies a large portion of the required training hours.

The County Sheriff's Office received funding in the amount of \$19,000, to fulfill these training requirements.

Sheriff Bevier stated they have used the subscription in the past.

Motion by VanDoren, seconded by Krasny, to move the request to approve a subscription to PoliceOne Academy, to the Board of Commissioners. Motion carried.

V. Prosecuting Attorney

A. Prosecutor's Report

Chief Prosecutor Wyse included the monthly packet from her department. No further discussions.

VI. Public Defender

A. Public Defender Report

Chief Public Defender Glaser included his monthly report in the packet; he reported numbers were consistent in October. Glaser stated a new public defender started in the department recently.

VII. Emergency Management

A. Emergency Management Report

Coordinator Tanis included his monthly report in the packet. Tanis thanked the Prosecutor and RHINO who, together, purchased another drone for the emergency fleet.

VIII. Medical Examiner

A. Medical Examiner Office's Report

Dr. Maino was present to review his monthly report.

YTD there have been 851 deaths. 31% of those were autopsied in Lenawee. Dr. Maino stated the goal is to autopsy 30-40% for cost-savings, when possible.

37 were held in the morgue this month, for all 3 counties, the majority being from natural causes.

84% in Lenawee were over the age of 50, 80% over 60, 31% over the age of 81, the older population majority being investigated.

Dr. Maino reported that many physicians are not signing death certificates and that has been

occurring across the state. Some physicians have reported concerns of liability associated with signing the death certificate.

Dr. Maino stated the most probable cause of death is written, which reduces physicians' liability.

An Overdose Fatality Review committee in Hillsdale was attended by Sara Palmani, Lenawee does not have one. Dr. Maino stated the medical examiners office attends due to it being data-driven, the emphasis being on the ones who are deceased. Dr. Maino reported the state had suggested this. There is now a law that has authorized this but has not become mandatory, yet.

The Medical Examiner's office continues to participate with Lenawee Align's student education. When speaking to middle school students, drug prevention discussions are held. High school students are provided with medical examiner-related job descriptions.

Discussion was held regarding the laws surrounding physician signatures on the death certificate.

Dr. Maino stated the old law said that if it was not a medical examiner's case, responsibility for the signature fell on the PCP. If PCP refused to sign, they could be fined up to \$500 and/or jail. The law is, however, being changed, so that it now falls under LARA. However, nobody really enforces this.

Currently, if a PCP refuses to sign, by default, it falls on the responsibility of County ME. If the patient is in hospital, and a PCP refuses to sign, the Chief of Staff is responsible. When Chief of Staff does not sign, it falls on the Medical Examiner. Dr. Maino stated that in this case, all medical records need to be requested and reviewed, prior to being able to complete the death certificate.

A discussion was held about planning for a Regional Morgue; region's current office is in Jackson. Dr. Maino hopes to bring a proposed plan forward in the future.

IX. Courts

A. DC Newsletter

Court Administrator Heidi Cannon shared her monthly newsletter. This month, 2 employees will celebrate work anniversaries; Dawn Moore 29 years and Laura Schwartz 35 years.

5 individuals successfully completed the Sobriety Court program. 5 graduates successfully completed the program. The next ceremony will take place in January and Cannon encourages commissioners to attend.

Probate Court Director Bowens reported two employees will also be celebrating work anniversaries; Darlene Winshu celebrates her 28th year and Tracy Freely celebrates her 38th year with the County.

Probate Court has 2 new staff members. Bowen reported that in 2024, there are currently 508 guardianships open, 211 minor guardianship, 80 adult conservatorship's, 41 minor conservatorship's, 380 deceased estates, 70 mental health, and 54 adoptions.

*November is Adoption Awareness and Family Court Awareness Month. **November 19th is Adoption Day.** They will be celebrating adoption day from 10am-12pm and encourage commissioners to attend.*

Bowens reported that representatives from SCAO requested to utilize her department forms, as an example to show other courts.

X. Maurice Spear Campus

Director Weaver was unable to attend.

Deputy Administrator Elliot reported that MSC has been asked by the State of MI, to act as a mentor to new detention facilities; this being a second request from the State. 48% of juveniles at MSC have been from outside the County, this year.

XI. Updates & Other Business

No discussion.

XII. Public Comment

No public comment.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion by Krasny, Second by Van Doren to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 AM. Motion carried.