

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
In person & via Zoom/Telephone

DATE: MARCH 8, 2021

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
RICHARD MEYER COMMUNITY RESOURCE ROOM
4311 JACKSON STREET, OSHKOSH

PRESENT: BILL WINGREN
TOM ELLIS
PAUL EISEN
VICKI SCHORSE
MIKE BRUNN

ALSO PRESENT: JOHN MATZ – SHERIFF'S
TODD CHRISTOPHERSON – SHERIFF'S
SUE ERTMER – COUNTY CLERK
KELLY KUTZ – DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S
CHERYL BREHMER – CORONER'S
MARY ANNE MUELLER – CORPORATION COUNSEL
BRIAN DEFFERDING – COUNTY SUPERVISOR
ANNE D. – CITIZEN
JENNIFER KOSER – CITIZEN
NICOLE NEUHOFF – COUNTY SUPERVISOR
HOLLY REVELS - CITIZEN

1. Call to Order

Chairman Wingren called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and it was verified that the meeting was properly noticed.

2. Consideration of Minutes of February 8, 2021 meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from February 8, 2021 was made by Tom Ellis, seconded by Vicki Schorse. Carried 5-0.

3. Public comments on agenda items

Citizen Jennifer Koser spoke on behalf of the limit term for County Board Supervisors and stated she is in favor for term limits regarding those positions.

Supervisor Defferding spoke about complaints he had received from a former inmate in regards to the medication access within the jail.

Citizen Holly Revels spoke about a family member within the jail who also had concerns about access to all of their medications while incarcerated.

4. Communications shared by Committee Members

Supervisor Schorse discussed research she had completed in regards to County Board sizes in other counties within Wisconsin and stated there is very good information regarding this topic on the Wisconsin Counties Association webpage.

Supervisor Eisen discussed an article within the February Wisconsin Counties Association magazine regarding the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office being a recipient of \$2,475.00 for the County Mutual Insurance Grant.

5. Consideration/Vote: Budget Transfer to purchase new furniture to accommodate new paralegal. Corporation Counsel – Mary Anne Mueller

Mary Anne discussed the need for new furniture to accommodate a new paralegal. She stated the quote she received from the company the county contracts with came out to \$6,500.00.

A motion to approve the budget transfer of \$6,500.00 to purchase new furniture was made by Vicki Schorse, seconded by Tom Ellis. Carried 5-0.

6. Consideration/Vote: Budget Transfer for the overages relating to the over-abundance of autopsies in 2020 – Coroner – Cheryl Brehmer

Cheryl is asking for a budget transfer of \$53,905.00 from revenue to autopsy account to offset the cost of the increase in autopsies. The increase is due to more overdose deaths and suicide deaths.

A motion to approve the budget transfer of \$53,905.00 to cover the overages relating to more autopsies was made by Tom Ellis, seconded by Mike Brunn. Carried 5-0.

7. Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Matz first addressed the complaints that Supervisor Defferding and Citizen Holly Revels brought forward stating the Sheriff's Office is accredited and has policies on narcotic use within the jail.

Sheriff Matz discussed the COVID reimbursements that will be coming back to the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Matz stated EAA is scheduled to take place in 2021 but as far as outdoor concerts at the Ford Festival Park nothing has been announced as of yet.

Sheriff Matz stated 70% of Sheriff Office employees are fully vaccinated and he anticipates more will be vaccinated in the near future.

Sheriff Matz discussed the County Mutual Insurance grant that Supervisor Eisen had brought up earlier. Sheriff Matz stated that due to COVID, the competition did not take place this year so the grant was split up to all of the agencies who have participated in the past.

8. Discussion/Possible Action: Proposed Resolution to limit consecutive terms for Winnebago County Board of Supervisors – Brian Defferding

- **Term limits for County Board Supervisors**
- **Term limits for Committee Chairs**

Supervisor Defferding spoke on the Term limits for County Board Supervisors first. He stated in the past people just vote based on a familiar name as there is no participation from the community when it comes time for new members to be elected. Supervisor Defferding was proposing 5-year term limits for County Board Supervisors.

Supervisor Defferding then spoke on the term limits for Committee Chairs. He again stated there needs to be more participation from the community for those who may be interested or have an interest in the committees. He was proposing 2-year term limits for committee chairs. The next election period would be April of 2022.

During discussion it was advised by Mary Anne with Corporation Counsel that legally they can't change the Term Limits for County Board Supervisors as it is a state statute and as the rules are currently written, they can not change the Term limits for County Board Supervisors. As far as the Term limits for Committee Chairs that can be changed.

Supervisor Schorse mentioned bringing people onto committees who have more than just an opinion but a genuine interest in county business.

Supervisor Wingren discussed the waiting period some county board supervisors have to be put onto a committee that truly interests them and a 2-year proposed term by Supervisor Defferding is too short of a timeframe for members to be on a committee due to the length of time it can take for members to be put onto a committee they are interested in.

Supervisor Eisen discussed putting the right people on the right committee again stating it's important to have individuals on a committee that have a true interest in the department in which they would be serving.

A motion was made to bring this to the full board in April for discussion on committee member term limits was made by Bill Wingren, seconded by Mike Brunn. Opposed 2-3.

9. Discussion/Possible Action: County Supervisory Redistricting Process

- **Decision on number of County Board Supervisor Districts**

Supervisor Wingren asked the committee members what the first step should be in the redistricting process. Supervisor Eisen said the board needs to be educated on the redistricting process first. Supervisor Schorse stated there should be key points of understanding and referred to a handout from UW Extension where it states most counties are moving towards smaller county boards as it proves to be more efficient when they are smaller in size.

Supervisor Wingren said they should determine the size of the board, then decide on the process and then the timing and again asked the committee where they should start for the redistricting process.

After much discussion, it was determined that the Judiciary Committee will have a work session group on Monday, April 5th at 9am so at the next Judiciary Committee meeting, they will then have a better understanding as to how to start the redistricting process.

10. Suggested items for next agenda

11. Next Meeting Date: Monday, April 12, 2021

12. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made at 10:51am by Tom Ellis, seconded by Mike Brunn. Carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kimberly Delcore
Winnebago County Sheriff's Office