

**DODGE COUNTY  
LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
September 2, 2016**

**Call to order:** Meeting was called to order by Chair, MaryAnn Miller, at 8:02 a.m.; a quorum was established with the following members present:

MaryAnn Miller  
Dan Hilbert  
Larry Bischoff - 8:20  
Thomas Nickel – not present  
Larry Schraufnagel

**Also Present:** James Mielke, County Administrator; Lynn Hron, Clerk of Courts; Kurt Klomberg, District Attorney; Bob Barrington, District Attorney Managing Attorney; Bernie Mueller, Child Support Agency; Dale Schmidt, Dodge County Sheriff; Scott Smith, Chief Deputy, Sheriff's Office; Patrick Schoebel, Medical Examiner; Sean Donohue, Don Schmudlach and Jeff Duchac for Restorative Justice; Barb Brandt, Br. 4 Judicial Assistant.

Miller certifies compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

**Approval of Agenda and Allow for Deviation:** Motion made by Schraufnagel to approve Agenda and to allow for deviation; second by Hilbert. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** The President of Dodge County Restorative Justice, Atty. Sean Donohue, spoke to the Committee in support of continuing support of that office by both the Law Enforcement Committee and the Circuit Courts. He explained what role Restorative Justice takes in facilitating meetings between victims and offenders. They would like to renew their focus on youth offenders in order for them to see what the effects of their actions might be.

He answered questions by the Committee.

They are currently looking for a new Director. Most of the budget is for that position and also includes training expenses. Part of the funding comes from the Circuit Court and some also comes from fees charged for attending Victim Impact Panels.

Don Schmudlach spoke to the Committee emphasizing that the program helps both victims and offenders heal.

County Board Member Jeff Duchac also made additional comments and read the Mission Statement.

The Office for Restorative Justice is now in the Justice Facility and Atty. Joe Moore has been helping until a new Director is hired.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Schraufnagel to approve Minutes of August 5, 2016; second by Hilbert. Motion carried.

**Communications:** None

**Announcements:** None

**Circuit Court/Judge's Report:** Barb Brandt read a Memo from Judge Sciascia regarding a couple of security measures. The Committee decided to address these concerns at the next meeting.

**Clerk of Courts Report:** Bob Barrington and Lynn Hron hosted staff from Marathon County this week and they had staff from the DA's Office, Clerk of Courts Office and a couple of the Judicial Assistants. Eau Claire County is coming next week. Bob emphasized that Dodge County is a leader in e-filing and paperless files, and the counties now visiting are larger (5 judge) counties. Visiting staff typically have a large meeting, then separate for individualized meetings in DA and Clerk's Office then meet again before they leave.

**Child Support Report:** No report – Bernie Mueller would be giving the informational presentation at the end of this meeting.

**District Attorney Report:** DA Klomberg reported on the first meeting of the Criminal Justice Collaborating Council. He is the Chairperson, Judge Sciascia is the Vice-Chair and Jim Mielke is the Secretary. More information will be coming regarding the CJCC

Kurt explained the study conducted by the Legal Audit Bureau that reports on the prosecutorial need. He explained how the formula computes the need for district attorneys, and that Dodge County is currently understaffed. This study also does not take into account administrative time, and help in this area is something that he wants to fill by use of the paralegal that was recently approved by the Committee.

Chair Miller questioned Kurt regarding a recent topic discussed at her WCA Steering Committee regarding the issue of public safety and pretrial bail. Risk assessments that are done are used to give a guide to how much bail will be asked for, and takes into account being a threat to the community and the risk of someone not showing up to further court proceedings. Bob pointed out that bail is not supposed to be the punishment

**Medical Examiner Report:** No report – there will be more discussion next month.

**Sheriff Office Report:** Sheriff Schmidt gave an operational update, with the numbers of calls last month. Since New World software generated those numbers, it may not be as accurate as he would like. The 911 hang-ups were higher than usual.

The officer-involved shooting in Beaver Dam is still under investigation and the officer's name who was involved has been released. The results of the investigation should go to the District Attorney's office in the near future. The procedures followed during this incident were a result of how deputies are trained and the follow up to the incident was done appropriately and efficiently. The Walworth County Sheriff has been of assistance to Sheriff Schmidt for providing valuable insight into incident follow-up both for the deputy and his Office.

The Sheriff said they are preparing for the anticipated retirement of a patrol captain in the spring. Since the civil service process is no longer being used, he believes that the process of replacing this deputy will go a lot faster.

He wanted the Committee to be aware of a fundraiser being used by the Explorers called "We Back the Badge". This was recently released on the Sheriff Office Facebook page. While the Explorers did not "place" at the convention they recently attended, they did learn a great deal.

Scott Smith covered budget items for Committee signature regarding an amendment for health cover to pay for a mid-level practitioner. They are still looking for someone to fill this position. A second item was in regard to AED's. A third item was to transfer funds because of a savings in firearms and transportation for the purchase of a privacy barrier that will have multiple uses for the office. Sheriff Schmidt signed the adjustments which were also signed by Jim Mielke and MaryAnn Miller.

The 2017 budget went to Mr. Mielke yesterday, and a separate hand-out was given to the Committee regarding that budget. The increase in the 2017 budget is \$8,381 that did include a payroll increase. The savings in fuel costs helped to keep the increase down. Scott has remained conservative in the amount of contract beds and he explained how he has tried to estimate the numbers also using the 2015 budget. He also explained that the shifting of some personnel made up some of the increase in wages, it was not just for an increase in wages.

The planned fleet replacement will be for 7 vehicles again this year. The one on one for personnel/squads shows up in lower maintenance costs for the Office.

Further line items were also explained. If contract beds would continue above proposed levels, the Sheriff hopes to again be able to return that excess revenue to the County.

**Other business:** Bernie Mueller, Director of the Dodge County Child Support Agency, passed out information to the Committee. She explained the different types of work each of the staff is responsible for and the amounts of their caseload. Funding for her department comes from the State and County, along with the federal government. She explained the criteria used for performance standards on how they receive reimbursement.

Bernie also explained that they have two types of cases, one of which is eligible for reimbursement and another which is not.

The Agency also receives out of state cases for collection along with sending requests to other states to aid in collection of child support.

She explained the Call Center which deals directly with questions that both payors and payees may have concerning their cases and she gave the amounts of calls taken by the Call Center for her agency concerning those.

Bernie also explained that collection for monies owed could come from wage assignments along with garnishing social security benefits. They can also place liens on property and vehicles along with pulling hunting licenses and passports.

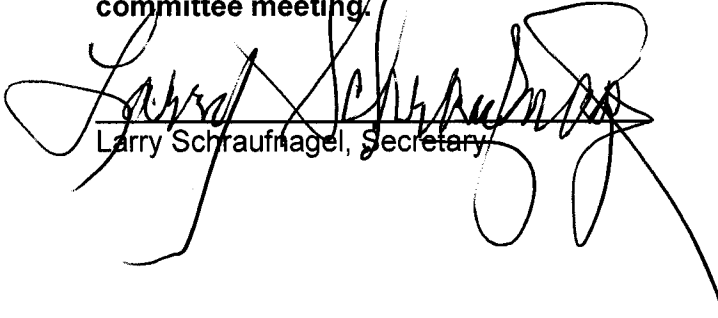
The Family Court Commissioner in Branch 5 is responsible for establishing child support orders and modifications which contempt hearings are held before the Circuit Court Judges.

Since Dodge County has been the pilot for e-filing, her office has also had other counties visiting to look at the procedure.

**Next Meeting:** Friday, October 7, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at the Dodge County Justice Facility.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Hilbert to adjourn meeting; second by Bischoff. Motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 9:27 a.m..

**Disclaimer:** The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.



Larry Schraufnagel, Secretary



Barbara N. Brandt, Recording Secretary