

Court Committee Meeting Minutes
MIDC Michigan Indigent Defense Commission
Tuesday, June 15, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.
Zoom Conference Call in Howard Male Conference Room

IN ATTENDANCE:

Kevin Osbourne, Court Committee Chair
John Kozlowski, Commissioner
Brenda Fournier, Commissioner
Bill Pfeifer, Attorney, MAC Administrator
Barb Klimaszewski, MIDC State Representative
Dennis Grenkowicz, Attorney
Mary Muszynski, District Court Administrator
Elizabeth Skiba, District Court
Gerald Fournier
Marcia Burns, Circuit Court Administrator
Cynthia Muszynski, Prosecuting Attorney
Josh Kuehn, IT Technician
Wes Wilder, Maintenance Superintendent
Lynn Bunting, County Board Assistant

Chair Osbourne called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

INFORMATION ITEM: MAC Administrator Bill Pfeifer gave an update on the FY22 MIDC Grant Application reporting the earliest to apply is June 21, 2021, and the deadline to apply is July 23, 2021. He reported there are planning issues in the plan that need to be addressed before applying but will have completed and submitted before the deadline.

INFORMATION ITEM: MAC Administrator Bill Pfeifer reported on the application status on hiring a Public Defender stating that he received 6 applications and the board interviewed all 6 candidates. He reported they hired the top two candidates, Richard Steiger as the Chief Public Defender starting on July 1, 2021, and Julie Miller as the Chief Deputy Defender starting on July 6, 2021, and they both bring expertise and experience to the Public Defender's Office.

INFORMATION ITEM: Barb Klimaszewski, MIDC State Representative, reported that she was present for the interviews and the top two candidates that were hired for the Public Defender Office are strong candidates and each bring expertise to the positions.

Barb reported the budget has not been determined yet for the 2022 Grant and recommend to get the 2022 MIDC Grant Application in before July 23, 2021.

INFORMATION ITEM: Bill reported on the financial status stating there were unspent funds last year and will be less carried over into next year due to the Public Defender Office. Bill explained the spending process of the grant stating the County must spend their local share of \$163,000 no matter what is left over at the end of the year.

INFORMATION ITEM: Commissioner Kozlowski asked the status on the office space for the Public Defender's Office and if there was a location chosen. Bill reported the Public Defender's

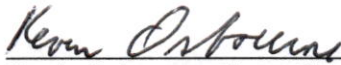
Office will stay where it is at this time until a definite location is chosen by the Public Defender and the board. Bill reported there are options that they will be looking at. Discussion on old jail building and property and the Committee decided was not the best fit for the Public Defender's Office.

Barb reported that the MIDC will not buy or build a building but will only lease and she informed the committee that she will check on the term of the lease length that the MIDC approves and will get back with the committee.

INFORMATION ITEM: Bill reported he will introduce and present the Chief Public Defender Richard Steiger and Chief Deputy Defender Julie Miller at the next Court Committee meeting on July 20, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Fournier to adjourn. Roll call vote was taken: AYES: Commissioners Fournier, Kozlowski, and Osbourne. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.



Kevin Osbourne, Court Committee Chair



Lynn Bunting, Board Assistant

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