

CHAIRPERSON
BRYAN CRENSHAW

VICE-CHAIRPERSON
DERRELL SLAUGHTER

VICE-CHAIRPERSON PRO-TEM
RANDY MAIVILLE

LAW & COURTS COMMITTEE
MARK POLSDOFER, CHAIR
CHRIS TRUBAC
VICTOR CELENTINO
BRYAN CRENSHAW
ERIN GRAHAM
ROBERT PEÑA
RANDY SCHAFFER

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
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THE LAW & COURTS COMMITTEE WILL MEET ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M., IN CONFERENCE ROOM A, HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING, 5303 S. CEDAR, LANSING AND VIRTUALLY AT <https://ingham.zoom.us/j/81848426836>.

Agenda

Call to Order
Approval of the [August 12, 2021 Minutes](#)
Additions to the Agenda
Limited Public Comment

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1. <u>Budget Hearings</u>	
a. Sheriff.....	5-157
1. Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management.....	5-110
2. Tri-County Metro Narcotics Squad	5-214
b. Prosecuting Attorney	5-122
c. Probate Court	5-117
d. Ingham County 911 Dispatch Center.....	5-101
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f. Community Corrections	5-83
g. Circuit Court	
1. Jury Administration	5-114
2. Friend of the Court Division	5-76
3. Family Division	5-29
4. General Trial	5-13
h. Animal Control	5-1
i. Public Defender	5-153
j. Legal Services of South Central Michigan	

2. Final Ranking

Announcements
Public Comment
Adjournment

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LAW & COURTS COMMITTEE
August 12, 2021
Draft Minutes

Members Present: Polsdofer, Celentino, Crenshaw, Graham (Isabella County, Michigan), Peña, Schafer, and Trubac.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Sheriff Scott Wriggelsworth, Linda Vail, Major Darin Southworth, Morgan Cole, Barb Davidson, Heidi Williams, Julie Hill, Teri Morton, Mary Konieczny, and others.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Polsdofer at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room A of the Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan. Virtual Public participation was offered via Zoom at <https://ingham.zoom.us/j/87892762487>.

Approval of the July 15, 2021 Minutes

MOVED BY COMM. SCHAFFER, SUPPORTED BY COMM. CELENTINO, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 15, 2021 LAW & COURTS COMMITTEE MEETING.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Additions to the Agenda

None.

Limited Public Comment

Heidi Williams, Ingham County Animal Control Director, introduced Julie Hill, the recently hired Community Outreach Manager.

Ms. Hill stated she was excited to combine her passion for working with animals, and stated she was excited to explore grants, events, and other opportunities of which the new role entailed.

MOVED BY COMM. SCHAFFER, SUPPORTED BY COMM. CELENTINO, TO APPROVE A CONSENT AGENDA CONSISTING OF THE FOLLOWING ACTION ITEMS

2. Prosecuting Attorney's Office – Resolution to Authorize an Agreement between the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Ingham County Prosecutors Office Under the 2022 FY Stop Violence Against Women Grant
3. Public Defenders Office
 - a. Resolution to Authorize a Grant between the State of Michigan, Michigan Indigent Defense Commission (MIDC), Department of Licensing and Regulatory

Affairs (LARA) and Ingham County to Provide Funding to Assist the County in Complying with the Compliance Plan and Cost Analysis Approved by MIDC and Creating Two New Grant Funded Positions

- b. Resolution to Authorize the Office of the Public Defender to Accept Donations of Clothing for Their Clients

4. Animal Control and Shelter

- a. Resolution to Approve the Creation of the Ingham County Animal Control Enforcement Division Within Ingham County Animal Control and Shelter
- b. Resolution to Modify the Public Hours of Operation for Ingham County Animal Control and Shelter
- c. Resolution to Adopt an Ordinance Amending the Ingham County Animal Control Ordinance to Add Definitions in Article II, to Revise Provisions in Articles V and IX, and to Repeal Article VIII

5. Health Department

- a. Resolution to Authorize an Agreement with MPHI
- b. Resolution to Authorize Agreement with Safe Passages, dba Advance Peace
- c. Resolution to Authorize an Agreement with Lansing Housing Commission
- d. Resolution to Authorize Acceptance of Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Funds from Battle Creek Community Foundation
- e. Resolution to Authorize an Agreement with City of Lansing for Financial Support for Lansing/Ingham Peacemaker Fellowship® Implementation

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY,

- 1. Probate Court – Resolution to Authorize Use of Contingency Funds for Temporary Wages and Visiting Judge Fees

MOVED BY COMM. CRENSHAW, SUPPORTED BY COMM. CELENTINO, TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

Commissioner Crenshaw asked Morgan Cole, Ingham County Probate Court, for additional logistics on accommodating the Visiting Probate Judge.

Mrs. Cole stated the Visiting Probate Judge would not be in the office when Judge Shauna Dunnings was in the office.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 6. 9-1-1 Dispatch Center – Dispatch Center Update

Barb Davidson, Ingham County 911 Director, provided an update in regards to the new technology implementation and the future plans for the old radio system.

Commissioner Crenshaw asked if non-law enforcement users had been advised as to when the cutover date will be.

Ms. Davidson stated that the cutover date of September 7, 2021 had not yet been finalized. She further stated all applicable parties would be notified once the date was confirmed.

Commissioner Schafer asked Ms. Davidson for how long the 9-1-1 Center would need the lease for the extra equipment.

Ms. Davidson stated she presumed the lease would likely need to extend through February 2022. She further stated the 9-1-1 Center was in the process of evaluating the lease as it related to the potential selling cost of the old gear.

Commissioner Schafer asked Ms. Davidson if the 9-1-1 Center would benefit from the support of individual Commissioners and the Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Davidson stated support would be much appreciated. She further stated the 9-1-1 Department had struggled with vendor pricing transparency.

Commissioner Schafer asked the Committee what the best way was to provide support.

Commissioner Crenshaw stated a resolution, or a letter on behalf of the Board of Commissioners would be helpful. He further stated the quickest way to get support at the State of Michigan level would be to send a letter to State Representatives on behalf of the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Crenshaw requested a letter be drafted and presented to him by the staff.

Ms. Davidson stated that without a fee increase, the 9-1-1 Center's budget would be in the red.

Commissioner Celentino asked when House Bill 5026 would be introduced in the Michigan Legislature.

Ms. Davidson stated the upcoming 3G network decommission would prevent many people from connecting to 911. She further stated Capital Area Response (CARE) had been alerted as the organization provided donated phones to victims of domestic violence.

Commissioner Peña asked if the decommission was a national or state issue.

Ms. Davidson stated the carriers were decommissioning 3G networks across the nation.

Chairperson Polsdofer asked if the tower owner for the Dansville Tower and the department foresaw any potential issues in reinforcing the tower.

Ms. Davidson stated she needed additional information from the tower owner before the 9-1-1 Center could make additional recommendations, and was waiting on a response from the owner.

Commissioner Graham asked if the phone carriers were alerting their customers to the changes in the network.

Ms. Davidson stated the carriers were alerting their customers. She further stated the larger concern was regarding prepaid phones.

Chairperson Polsdofer asked if texts were sent by the carriers.

Ms. Davidson stated she was unsure.

Discussion in regards to a variety of methods to raise awareness of the 3G changes.

7. Health Department/Sheriff's Office – Jail Medical Update (*Discussion*)

Sheriff Scott Wriggelsworth, County Sheriff, provided an update in regards to the vacant positions in the Jail Medical Clinic.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated this was the third time he has come to the Board of Commissioners with this issue.

Linda Vail, Ingham County Health Department Director, provided an update in regards to the challenges with filling the vacant positions in the Jail Medical Clinic.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth provided information on the variety of complexities that are involved when working as Jail Medical staff. He further stated he is requesting the Board of Commissioners provide a better solution.

Commissioner Schafer asked if additional Full Time Employee (FTE) positions would assist with the staffing shortage.

Ms. Vail stated they were unable to fill or retain the current FTE positions.

Chairperson Polsdofer asked if there was a general timeframe for job retention in regards to the current vacancies.

Ms. Vail stated she did not have the exact data.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth listed the current job vacancies in the Jail Medical Clinic.

Ms. Vail stated she was in the process of hiring and credentialing employees. She further described the challenges with providing temporary employees and other employees due to the medical staffing shortage that Ingham County currently had.

Commissioner Celentino asked if the staffing issues were due to the pandemic.

Ms. Vail stated this has been a long-term issue that had existed well before the pandemic.

Commissioner Celentino asked if the pay was competitive for the specific positions that needed to be filled.

Ms. Vail stated the pay was not the issue. She further stated the jobs were dangerous, and did not have as much appeal as other medical provider positions.

Commissioner Celentino stated he was against privatization. He further stated the previous attempts to remedy staffing shortages were insufficient and suggested the other committees could have the ability to listen and provide ideas the Law and Courts Committee might not have thought of.

Sherriff Wriggelsworth stated that any options that were available to consider should be considered.

Ms. Vail stated she felt that she had failed and was a failure even though she and her team had worked so hard. She further stated the staffing vacancies were putting patient safety at risk, and needed an answer on how to fix it.

Chairperson Polsdofer stated he did not believe Ms. Vail has failed.

Commissioner Trubac stated there was a lot of information that was presented without opportunities. He further stated there must be an option to find skilled labor and asked if a consultant might be able to identify the issue and opportunity.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated there was no perfect fix. He further stated there is no other Jail that has a partnership with their Health Department.

Ms. Vail stated she believed no other Jail in the State of Michigan had a partnership with their Health Department.

Chairperson Polsdofer asked if there was potential to create a hybrid system of County and private contracted employees.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated he was nervous to suggest potential solutions and privatization due to the previous conversations the Board of Commissioners had regarding the issue. He further stated the current staff had worked very hard and this conversation was in no way a discredit to the effort and attention they had put into their jobs.

Major Darin Southworth, Chief Deputy Sheriff, stated his agreement with all that Ms. Vail had stated. He further stated one of the problems with finding people to hire existed due to the lack of

appeal of working in a jail. He further stated he needed to get people in the door to see the environment because they would be greeted with a clean and safe environment.

Mr. Southworth stated additional attraction may come from the new Justice Complex. He further stated he would love to explore all options but came to the Board of Commissioners before doing so out of respect.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated he saw only one fix to the attraction problem was with money, as there were not many internal changes that could be done to attract someone to work in the Jail. He further stated the transition to the new Justice Complex would be in a few years and that was to increase the pay to attract new employees and could cost the county seven digits.

Commissioner Trubac stated his agreement. He further stated any price comparisons were not as accurate due to not being an equal comparison.

Ms. Vail stated the program pay would still be able to compare salaries.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated the Sheriff's Office was willing to do research and propose options in October.

Discussion in regards to scheduling a meeting in October to present options to the Committees and Board of Commissioners.

Announcements

Commissioner Peña stated there was a golf outing on September 9, 2021 to fundraise for the Ingham County Fairgrounds Grandstand, at El Dorado Golf Course in Mason.

Public Comment

Sheriff Wriggelsworth stated his praise for the team behind the 9-1-1 project.

Ms. Morton introduced Bruce Gaukel, 9-1-1 Center Systems Manager, and Bryce Alford, 9-1-1 Center Assistant Administrator, to the Committee.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.