

MINUTES OF THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: March 4, 2022
 TIME: 1:30 p.m.
 PLACE: Room 114, Wood County Courthouse
 TIME ADJOURNED: 2:45 p.m.
 MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bill Clendenning, Bill Leichtnam,
 Kenneth Curry, Ed Wagner, Joseph Zurfluh
 OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Kastenholz. See attached list.

1. At 1:30 p.m., the meeting was called to order.
2. Public comments. Jessie McKeever, a concerned citizen, spoke in favor of Wisconsin allowing statewide ballot initiatives (direct legislation) and asked the committee to encourage the county board to place a referendum on the November 2022 ballot, which would be non-binding, supporting statewide ballot initiatives.
3. The minutes for the February 4, 2022, meeting were reviewed. **Moved by Wagner, seconded by Curry, to approve the minutes. All ayes.**
4. The Committee reviewed the claim of Donna Anderson. This claim will be provided to the county board.
5. There were no new animal claims against the County.
6. The Committee reviewed monthly voucher and department reports of the departments it oversees. **Moved by Zurfluh, seconded by Leichtnam, to approve the reports and payment of department vouchers. All ayes.**
7. The Corporation Counsel's memorandum "Business Torts" was reviewed by the Committee and will be included in the county board packet.
8. Resolution to amend the 2021 budget for Circuit Court Branch I was reviewed. **Moved by Curry, seconded by Wagner, to co-sponsor with Operations Committee a resolution to transfer funds from contingency into the 2021 budget for Circuit Court Branch I to cover higher than anticipated expenditures. All ayes.**
9. Child Support Director Vruwink, along with Nikki Holder and Troy Lee, gave a presentation on the ELEVATE Program.

The Committee was advised that the ELEVATE Program is a federal and state funded program being tested in five counties,

including Wood County, over a 5-year period. The goal of the program is to improve the ability and propensity of folks having a difficult time making child support payments to make those payments by improving their employment prospects, their parenting skills, and related aspects of their lives.

A copy of the 2-page handout is attached. The Committee expressed appreciation of and support for the program.

10. The Committee reviewed correspondence and legislative issues.

Amy Sue Vruwink of Representative Ron Kind's office advised that Representative Kind is interested in finding out how the County plans to utilize the ARPA funds.

- a. Report of Citizens Groundwater Group.
Supervisor Leichtnam gave his monthly update and shared the attached Central Wisconsin Groundwater Quality Project handout.
- b. Reconvening Joint Legislative meetings.
County Board Chair Pliml and Committee Chair Clendenning advised that the regional meetings will be recommencing soon.
- c. Vilas County resolution on transfer fee amendment was discussed. No action taken by the Committee. The County Board Chair will look into the matter with the Wisconsin Counties Association.

11. County Board rules.

- a. Review of resolution to amend Rule 26 to clarify that only county board itself can amend a budget at the function level or to access the contingency account.
Moved by Leichtnam, seconded by Wagner, to submit a resolution to the county board to amended Wood County Board Rule 26. All ayes.

12. Attendance at meetings. Chair Clendenning made a report on the Legislative Exchange.

13. Agenda items for the April 2022 meeting:

- Statewide ballot initiatives.

14. The next committee meeting will be April 8, 2022, at 9 a.m.

15. At 2:40 p.m., pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 19.85(1)(c), it was moved by Wagner, seconded by Leichtnam, to go into closed session for a performance evaluation of the Criminal Justice Coordinator. All ayes.
16. At 2:45 p.m. it was moved by Wagner, seconded by Leichtnam, to return to open session. All ayes.
17. Meeting adjourned without objection by the Chairperson at 2:45 p.m.

Minutes taken by Peter Kastenholz and are in draft format until approved at the next meeting.

Judicial & Legislative Committee Meeting

Date: March 4, 2022

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	REPRESENTING
Ed Newton	FINANCE
CAITHY Saylor	Criminal Justice
DENNIS POLACH	WCB - #14
Brent Vrowink	CSA
NIKI Holder	Elevate/USA
Troy Lee	Elevate/CSA
Kim McWhorter	HR
AV Participants	
Amy Sue Vrowink	Rep. Kind's office
Jessie McKeever	concerned citizen
Cindy Joosten	Clerk of Courts
Trent Miner	concerned County Clerk