

WINNEBAGO COUNTY
COURTHOUSE SECURITY COMMITTEE MEETING
January 20, 2021 Minutes

Location: Zoom Meeting

Committee Members Present: Judge Daniel Bissett, Clerk of Courts Melissa Pingel, Sheriff John Matz, Victim Witness Coordinator Terri Vandellen, District Court Administrator Jon Bellows, District Attorney Christian Gossett, State Public Defender Linda Meier, Family Court Commissioner Lisa Krueger, Attorney Rebecca Castonia, County Board Vice-Chair Tom Egan, Emergency Management Director Eric Rasmussen, Facilities Director Mike Elder, County Executive Mark Harris, Lt. Bill Anthes, State Public Defender Manager Tara Teesch

Committee Members Not Present: County Board Chair Shiloh Ramos, Attorney Ed Jelinski

Others Present: Family Court Services Director Chris Demos, COC Admin Assistant Karen Frost

I. Attendance: Roll by Melissa Pingel

II. Facilitator: Judge Seifert has retired and Judge Bissett has taken her position as Chair of the committee. Discussion regarding leading the meeting. Melissa Pingel led the meeting based on the last agenda. In the future Judge Bissett will assume this role.

III. Minutes: The minutes from the October 2020 meeting were approved by the committee members present. Moved by Jon Bellows, Christian Gossett seconded, all present approved.

IV. Courthouse Security Incidents:

- a. Sheriff Matz shared that there was a person who did come into the Courthouse with Covid 19, he came to the hearing and there was nothing that could be done at that point.
- b. Arrest: There was an individual arrested in the lobby of the courthouse.
- c. Sheriff Matz shared he did not anticipate any threats here regarding the Presidential Inauguration.

- V. Hearings at WCSO for OWI 3rd:** Melissa Pingel asked if this needed to be addressed and/or if the WCSO is still doing these? Sheriff said they will, but Judge Bissett shared that it may not be necessary because the Courts have voted to go to Phase 3 of the Courthouse Reopening Plan.
- VI. Jury Trials:** Lt Anthes asked Melissa Pingel if the rule was still 1 trial per day, Melissa Pingel confirmed that is the case unless it is a ME trial. This was a good question because she was notified there are two set for this coming Monday. Judge Bissett did not know as he was just informed prior to the meeting of this situation.
- VII. Entrance:** Lt. Anthes reported that there are roughly 300 people coming to the courthouse per day.
- VIII. SPD Representative:** Linda Meier informed the group that Tara Teesch is taking over in her stead.
- IX. Committee Chair Report:** Judge Bissett said that in the future he will send out a notice about 2 weeks prior to the meeting to request for agenda items.
- X. Emergency Management Update:**
- a. **Alert Sense Testing:** Eric Rasmussen let the group know that Alert Sense will need to be tested prior to mid-February when Gina Eiden retires. Discussion of coordination of this to be done. Pingel said he will just have to pick a date with Lt. Anthes and let us know.
 - b. **PPE:** Discussion regarding who will need to wear PPE coming into the Courthouse after people start to get vaccinated. Gossett suggested inviting the Director of Public Health to the next meeting and Linda Meier suggested Corp Counsel be included. Judge Bissett said he will get in touch with those people before the next meeting. Melissa Pingel said this may be appropriate for the Courthouse Task Force Committee to take up as well.
- XI. Next Meeting:** April 21, 2021- Melissa Pingel will set up the Zoom; Zoom will be on notice of next meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Winnebago County Clerk of Courts Melissa Pingel