

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE



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lenawee.mi.us

MEMBERS

Terry Collins, John Lapham, Karol "KZ" Bolton

MEETING LOCATION

Via ZOOM

Minutes: Thursday, May 6, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

Present: Commissioners Collins, Bolton, Lapham, and Stimpson

Also Present: Ashley Vandebusch (MiWorks!), Sheriff Bevier, Lorelee Collings, Rebecca Borton, Scott Holtz, Dr. Cassin, Shannon Elliott, Kim Murphy, and Jeremy Burns

I. Approval of Minutes

*Motion by Lapham, seconded by Bolton, to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2021 meeting.
Motion carried.*

I. Finance Reports

Administrator Marshall reviewed the finance report. The current cash balance is approximately \$37,000; there were expenditures for bulletproof vests but reimbursements are expected.

II. Michigan Works! Southeast Expungement Services

Ashley Vandebusch talked about the assistance Michigan Works! can offer customers within the community with expungement costs under the Clean Slate Initiative. There is a place on their website that will walk candidates through the process. **MWSE.ORG/Expungement.**

There was discussion regarding the 2nd Chance Fair that has been held in the past. Comm. Stimpson assured Ashley that a process has been established and they would be happy to have Ashley join their efforts for future fairs.

III. Sheriff's report

Sheriff Bevier provided a report of activities from the Sheriff's Office. He highlighted the recent Sheriff Leadership Academy where they discussed accreditation efforts, a Vision Statement, and a Citizen Advisory Group.

Upcoming events:

- National Police Week and the Police Memorial on May 14th at 10:00 a.m.
- Correctional Officers' Week
- Cinco De Mayo parade this Saturday at noon
- Recognition ceremony for Trooper Adams set for May 14 at 1:00 p.m.

Sheriff Bevier added that his office is currently working on a missing person report and he appreciates all of the assistance being received from the community and family.

Jail populations were available. There have been no early releases in 2021.

IV. Prosecuting Attorney's report

The Prosecuting Attorney's reports for March and April were available. Burke Castleberry added:

- There have been several recent stabbing and shooting.
- The percentage of victims exercising their rights is increasing.
- ECU had a one of their largest collection months.
- Continue to wait for the courts to open; maybe middle of summer.

V. Public Defender's report

There was nothing to report from the Public Defender's Office.

VI. Emergency Management report

The Emergency Management report was available for review.

Although Craig was unavailable to attend, Kim Murphy relayed an updated on the COVID vaccination clinics:

- times for clinic changing to once a month – May 15th
- Working with large employers/schools to help vaccinate employees
- Working with pharmacies on distribution
- Continues to work on Hazardous Mitigation

VII. Medical Examiner report

The Medical Examiner's report was available. Dr. Cassin reviewed the current trend and pointed out that the numbers are clearly ahead of last year's already.

The 2020 annual report was submitted. Dr. Cassin noted that there were 888 deaths, 261 investigations and 107 autopsies in 2019; this number increased to 972 deaths, 261 investigations, and 125 autopsies in 2020. The population of Lenawee County remains the same; there was a substantial increase in the number of deaths; but the percentage of investigations and autopsies remained about the same. He added that about 50% of autopsies were disease-related while 50% were due to injury which has been a continual trend.

Dr. Cassin noted that there is a national increasing trend in drug-related deaths, suicides, and homicides

Deaths are higher in the first quarter of 2021 they were in 2020.

There was discussion regarding identifying discovered unidentifiable bones.

VIII. Courts

Shannon Elliott reported that on April 8th the courts returned to Phase I, but they continue to monitor the situation and regulations.

She also reported that there are changes coming to the Juvenile Justice including cases are now suppressed and status offenders can only be detained for 7 days. There will be many challenges while the Supreme Court is in the process of revamping the juvenile system.

IX. Other Business

No other business.

X. Adjournment

Motion by Lapham, seconded by Bolton, to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m. Motion carried.