



Minnehaha County Public Defender

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, March 15th, 2022
TIME: 7:30 AM
LOCATION: PDO Conference Room

Call to Order

- **Public Defender Advisory Board Meeting**
- **Meeting to Discuss**
 - Agenda
- **Attendee Names**
 - Traci Smith, Betsy Doyle, Cindy Heiberger, Katie Dunn, Jonathan Leddige, Dean Karsky, Ryan White and Tessica Severson
- **Members Not Present**
 - John Hinrichs & Sid Strange

Call the Meeting to Order:

Commissioner Karsky called the meeting to order. Traci Smith handed out the Agenda for today's meeting, an updated report of the Public Defender's Office financials and a copy of the Advisory Board Meeting minutes from the meeting held on 11/23/2021

(1) Minutes were approved from the 11/23/2021 meeting.

(2) Commissioner Karsky went on to Item number two on the agenda which was a review of the Public Defender's Office Financial Report. Traci Smith gave an overview. Traci discussed savings in the furniture budget from 2021 and how our department was going to utilize that savings for needs in our furniture budget this year. No Action is required.

(3) Commissioner Karsky moved on to item three on the agenda which was the 2021 Year-End Report. Traci Smith gave an overview and asked for feedback once everyone had time to fully review the report. Commissioner Heiberger gave an update on JDAI.

(4) Commissioner Karsky moved to the fourth Item on the agenda which was the Personnel Update. Traci Smith and Betsy Doyle gave information on recent hires. Katie Dunn explained Training needs for new Attorneys and the benefit and need to back fill positions. Discussion was had about current turnover rate, and how to best keep the office fully staffed. Traci discussed the P-SC County Contract and had discussion on UJS reimbursements for specialty courts and upcoming UJS trainings for specialty courts.



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(5) Commissioner Karsky moved to the fifth Item on the agenda which was the Annex Renovation Project Update. Traci Smith gave an update on the new paralegal room up on 3rd floor. Betsy Doyle gave an update on the basement construction and what the schedule looks like currently. A potential start date of May or June 2022 was projected.

(6) Opportunity for Public Comment: There were no requests for public comment

New Business:

Traci Smith gave an overview of a new committee that was formed by Judge Houwman to look into reasons why cases are backlogged or delayed in the court system during Covid.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:23 am.