

## MINUTES

### DEKALB COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER BOARD

Monday, November 7, 2022 @ 8:00 A.M.

CONVENED: 8:09

#### **ROLL CALL:**

##### Member Present:

In Person: Ron, Joe, Kevin and Mark

Telephonically:

By Video:

Members Absent: Kent

Public in Attendance:

#### **AGENDA:**

##### **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Ron made a motion to approve minutes of August 1, 2022, Joe seconded. Motion passed.

##### **II. QUARTERLY UPDATE**

###### **a. Review Reimbursement Report**

Mark Reviewed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2022 Request for Reimbursement and noted that this is the largest reimbursement to date. \$90,130.95

###### **b. Review Title IV-E Fund**

Mark reviewed Public Defender Reimbursements to Date and stated that for the year we have received funds for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter totaling \$1,552.97

##### **III. OTHER MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER**

###### **a. Sign Comprehensive Plan**

We made changes to the Comprehensive plan at the suggestion of the state. On page 2 under (i) contractual public defenders are mentioned. The state suggest adding a paragraph regarding contracts. However, Mark would like to simplify this and not use the terminology suggested by the state.

Kevin stated that these assignments are done informally, for example, Noble county recently called him and simply asked him over the phone to take a conflict case. Kevin was also asked to cover a death penalty case from another county but declined. Ron inquired if attorneys are compensated when they cover cases for other counties. Kevin explained that they are paid hourly and for expenses.

Ron asked if we had proposed language for the changes. Mark stated that the highlighted areas are fine, however he would like to simplify #4, page 3. Mark asked that this be tabled until next meeting and make the changes to be effective January 1, 2023. All agreed.

**b. Appointment of Board member by the Commission in December: Joe Dunn**

Mark let Joe know that his appointment is up 12/31/22 and that the Commission may be contacting him regarding renewal of his appointment. Joe agreed to stay on another term. Cheryl stated that the Commission sometimes attends County Public Defender Board Meetings. It is a requirement of the Reimbursement Request to put the next meeting date in so that they can plan to attend meetings as possible.

**c. Mental Health Discussion was held.**

Mark handed out an email regarding the formation of a Mobile Crisis Team. Community Corrections is working with Benchmark Human Services to assist DeKalb County Mental Health Criminal Justice Team. They are prepared to attend the next meeting in December. It was stated that numerous DeKalb County Employees attended the 2022 Mental Health Summit in Indianapolis on October 21, 2022. Marks take away from the Summit was to catch these cases early. It would be better to get them mental health help rather than make the arrest. This would involve working with Northeaster, Park Center and Parkview Behavioral. It was asked how quickly the response time is. Mark stated that it is slow right now, but it is a work in progress. Ron asked Joe if there were qualified people in this area to help and Joe said yes, the problem is they are booked up right now.

**IV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Ron asked if Monday is a good day to hold the PD Board meetings. Mark stated that Monday is normally a good day, but today he just happened to have a special hearing scheduled.

Ron also asked if staffing was good. Mark stated that we currently have a full staff and the Administrative Assistant position is going full time in January 2023.

Mark stated that Stephanie and Cory had attended a seminar back in July on behalf of the 3 Problem Solving Courts. One of the speakers from that seminar is going to be in this area in December and Mark plans on attending.

Drug Court meets every Wednesday.

Vet Court and Family Recovery Court meet every other Thursday.

It was stated that some changes will be coming in January with a new Prosecutor coming on.

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, February 6, 2023 at 8:00 A.M.

**ADJOURNED:**

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Bradford