

HENDRICKS COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MAY 17, 2018 MEETING

Hendricks County Government Center Commissioners' Meeting Room 355 S. Washington Street Danville, IN 46122

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Defender Board met at 9:00 AM on Thursday, May 17, 2018 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at the Hendricks County Government Center, with the following in attendance:

Douglas Meyer

Hendricks County Public Defender Board, Chairman

David Lawson

Hendricks County Public Defender Board, Secretary

R. Todd McCormack

Hendricks County Public Defender Board, Vice Chairman

Jeremy P. Gooch

Hendricks County Chief Public Defender

Novella R. Townsend

Hendricks County Chief Public Defender's Office Manager

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Douglas Meyer opened the meeting with a quorum of three members in attendance and presented the minutes of the January 24, 2018 meeting of the Public Defender Board. Todd McCormack moved to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2018 meeting of the Public Defender Board as presented. David Lawson seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

STATUS UPDATES:

INVESTIGATOR: Jeremy Gooch provided an update for the ongoing hiring of the investigator position. Mr. Gooch informed the Board that the interviews have been held and that he will attending the Hendricks County Council meeting on June 5, 2018 to address the salary requirements for this position before the office will be able to formalize an offer to a candidate. Mr. Gooch will keep the Board updated on this matter.

<u>DEPOSITIONS:</u> Mr. Gooch then notified the Board that the Public Defender Office staff is researching a best practice for the management of any defense-related depositions and transcripts, as they are now the fiscal responsibility of the Public Defender's Office. No determination or recommendation has been made yet on how best to move forward, but the staff will continue examining this matter and will keep the Board apprised.

CONTRACTS: Mr. Gooch then spoke to the Board regarding some revisions to the contracts for the public defense attorneys. Included in the conversation was the need to empower the managerial obligations of the program to the Chief Public Defender and to require attorneys to provide malpractice insurance information in the contract.

4TH QUARTER 2017 REIMBURSEMENT & 1ST QUARTER 2018 ESTIMATED REIMBURSEMENT
Jeremy Gooch reported the County received a reimbursement of \$81,447.02 for the fourth quarter of 2017 and stated the first quarter claim for reimbursement has already been submitted and is estimated to be \$163,446.93. This first quarter claim is larger because it accounts for 4 months of attorney disbursements since December's payment was paid out in January.

Before adjournment, Chairman Douglas Meyer requested the Board set the next meeting dates, for the members to plan accordingly. The Public Defender Board meetings have been set for Thursday, August 16, 2018 and Thursday, November 15, 2018 – both at 9:00 AM. Mr. Meyer also requested to include "New Business" on all future agendas for any necessary subjects that may arise.

ADJOURN

David Lawson moved to adjourn the Public Defender Board meeting at 10:05 AM on Thursday, May 17, 2018. Todd McCormack seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

Douglas Meyer

R. Todd McCormack