

## LAW AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Law and Safety Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Beggs, in the Board Conference Room of the Oceana County Courthouse on Thursday, August 12, 2021, at 10:09 a.m.

Present: Mr. Erickson, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Walker, Mr. Christians, Ms. Meyette, Mr. Morse and Mr. Beggs.

Also present: Dr. Sobie, Oceana County Administrator; Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk; Mr. Jeff Stockhill, Life EMS; Dr. Karen Moore, Indigent Defense Coordinator; and John Cavanagh, Oceana's Herald-Journal correspondent.

Moved by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Ms. Meyette to approve the minutes from the July 8, 2021 Law and Safety Committee minutes as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairperson Morse asked if there were any changes to the agenda items.

Dr. Sobie suggested that Dr. Moore provide the Indigent Defense update prior to Mr. Stockhill's update on Life EMS due to Dr. Moore's possible prior commitments.

Moved by Mr. Morse and seconded by Mr. Hardy to approve the agenda as amended.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

No public comments on agenda items at this time.

Dr. Karen Moore, Indigent Defense Coordinator, provided an Indigent Defense update. Dr. Moore stated that the grant was approved at the MIDC June meeting with no discussion. The grant will need to be signed by the County as well as MIDC, however, MIDC is not able to sign at this time as there is no signed State budget. She also stated that Standard 5 Compliance was planned and applied for and will be implemented at the County beginning October 1, and a new contract will be forthcoming. A new Standard 5 compliance clerk has been hired and will be ready for the implementation date.

Ms. Meyette asked what the realignment of the Courts mean for Oceana where MIDC is concerned. Dr. Moore stated that there will be minimal change.

Mr. Beggs asked if the attorney's pay rates are reduced when they are recruited. Dr. Moore replied that the State MIDC rates are the same in all counties and they are allowed to maintain their private practice.

Mr. Jeff Stockhill, Life EMS, provided an update regarding ambulance services in Oceana County. He reported that there were 1,245 transports and on scene assessments. This is an increase of 165 from last year. Proper staffing continues to be an issue here as well as across the nation. He also reported that response times are below average due to the number of trucks available. Silver Lake Sand Dunes have a huge impact on the response time as well.

Dr. Sobie requested consideration of a resolution to appoint an animal control officer. He noted that per statute, the Board is required to make the appointment in accordance with Public Act 339 of 1919 due to the retirement of Mr. Nielsen.

Dr. Sobie initiated discussion and consideration of a resolution to approve the realignment of the 27<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court and 78<sup>th</sup> District Court Systems with the 51<sup>st</sup> Circuit Court and 79<sup>th</sup> District Court Systems. The realignment is an effort to balance the case load.

There were no public comments at this time.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Beggs adjourned the Law and Safety Committee meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully,

Amy L. Anderson  
Oceana County Clerk