Members Present: Celentino, Crenshaw, Koenig, Polsdorfer, Schafer, Slaughter, and Trubac

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Undersheriff Andrew Bouck, Major Darin Southworth, George Strander, Greg Fearnster, Janice Dooley, Mary Sabaj, Anne Scott, Cynthia Johnson, Jodi LeBombard, Becky Bennett, Teri Morton, Beth Foster, and others

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Koenig at 6:01 p.m. in Personnel Conference Room D & E of the Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan.

Approval of the June 12, 2019 Minutes

MOVED BY COMM. SLAUGHTER, SUPPORTED BY COMM. CRENSHAW, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 12, 2019 LAW & COURTS COMMITTEE MEETING.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Additions to the Agenda

Substitute –

3. Animal Control
   c. Resolution to Adopt an Ordinance Amending the Ingham County Animal Control Ordinance to Transfer the Supervisory Authority over the Animal Control Director to the County Controller/Administrator

Limited Public Comment

None.

MOVED BY COMM. SCHAFER, SUPPORTED BY COMM. CELENTINO, TO APPROVE A CONSENT AGENDA CONSISTING OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. Sheriff’s Office
   a. Resolution to Approve an Extended Police Services Agreement with the Village of Webberville Covering the Period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023
   b. Resolution to Honor Lieutenant Steven Sopocy of the Ingham County Sheriff’s Office
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Law and Courts Committee
   a. Resolution to Adopt the 2020 Juvenile Justice Community Agency Process Calendar

MOVED BY COMM. CRENSHAW, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SLAUGHTER, TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

MOVED BY COMM. CRENSHAW, SUPPORTED BY COMM. CELENTINO TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION TO INSERT THE $125,000 AMOUNT.

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION, AS AMENDED, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Law and Courts Committee
   b. Justice Millage Programming Update and Request for Direction on 2020 Programming Proposals (Discussion)

Greg Feamster, Senior Pretrial Services Investigator, gave an update on how the millage funds have benefitted Pretrial Services.

Commissioner Crenshaw asked how Pretrial Services was able to utilize their interns now that they filled the Clerk position.

Mr. Feamster stated that now the interns were available for special projects and gave an example of a recently conducted audit.

George Strander, Circuit Court Administrator, stated that now that the clerk was there things were much more centralized and understandable.

Chairperson Koenig asked how many interns they had in Pretrial Services.

Mr. Feamster stated that they had one right now, but sometimes they would have two.

Chairperson Koenig asked if they handed out information for people to take home that explained the process.

Mr. Feamster stated that they did.

Commissioner Slaughter asked what the risk assessment process looked like.

Mr. Feamster stated that they used the same Michigan Risk Assessment Instrument for each individual. He further stated that they take into account factors including where the person resides, release address,
employment to determine flight risk and also to ensure the person is pointed to the right resources to better ensure success.

Commissioner Slaughter asked how the risk assessment fed into their bond recommendations.

Mr. Feamster stated that if someone scores into a risk factor, the higher the number the higher the risk of failing to show for court or to reoffend, those offenders would get more contact throughout the process, while low risk scorers would receive less contact.

Commissioner Slaughter asked what would increase a person’s risk.

Mr. Feamster stated that some examples that would increase risk were multiple violent offences, prior failures to show, substance abuse issues, but that part of the process was also to provide those at every risk level with the resources and assistance to be successful.

Chairperson Koenig asked if the Committee could get a copy of the risk assessment they used.

Mr. Feamster stated that he could send them a copy.

Chairperson Koenig asked how many questions they asked.

Mr. Feamster stated that they consider eight factors.

Chairperson Koenig asked how many people Pretrial Services oversaw.

Mr. Feamster stated that the caseload was around 200 people.

Discussion.

Chairperson Koenig stated that a lot of states are using automated phone reminders and that those states are seeing a statistically significant increase in people showing up for court. She further stated that maybe that was something to consider here.

Mr. Strander stated that they have found in Friend of the Court, that it was often just a matter of people not remembering and that they had discussed phone reminders, specifically texts because those could not be avoided like a phone call.

Mr. Feamster stated that the new Pretrial Services Clerk met with the technology liaison to discuss that very topic.

Chairperson Koenig thanked Mr. Strander, Mr. Feamster, and Janice Dooley, Deputy Court Administrator.

Mary Sabaj, Community Corrections Director, gave an overview of how the millage funds were being used to benefit community-based programs.
Commissioner Crenshaw asked how many people would be eligible for electronic monitoring.

Ms. Sabaj stated that it was hard to say because different units had different daily prices, but that she estimated 20-35 depending on unit cost. She further stated that the current vendor could no longer provide Soberlink units and that there were interviews coming up to find a new vendor.

Chairperson Koenig asked why the unit that the current vendor was offering was not working out well for the 55th District Court.

Ms. Sabaj stated that they were having technical issues.

Commissioner Crenshaw what was being used instead of that unit.

Ms. Sabaj stated that she suspected that when a different vendor was used, that the client was responsible for paying.

Commissioner Slaughter asked if the technical difficulties have resulted in errors in testing.

Ms. Sabaj stated that they were working to resolve that.

Chairperson Koenig asked if Sentinel had recalled the units.

Major Darin Southworth, Corrections Major, stated that to his knowledge they had not.

Discussion.

Commissioner Schafer asked what the issues were with Sentinel.

Major Southworth stated that Sentinel could no longer offer Soberlink units and that the product they did offer underserved the needs of 55th District Court. He further stated that overall there was just general dissatisfaction with Sentinel.

Commissioner Schafer asked what replaced Soberlink units.

Major Southworth stated that it still existed but would have to come from other vendors.

Discussion.

Chairperson Koenig stated that the satisfaction with Sentinel had not been 100%, but they were the cheapest of the vendors. She further stated that it was an issue of quantity versus quality.

Discussion.

Chairperson Koenig thanked Ms. Sabaj.
Anne Scott, Deputy Health Officer/Executive Director-Community Health Centers, gave an update on how the Pathways to Care program was benefitting from millage funds.

Commissioner Crenshaw asked if the person did not have healthcare when they were released, if the Pathways to Care support continued out in the community until they did.

Ms. Scott stated that it was intended to be there to a partner with them through their healthcare. She further stated that the intent was to focus on care in jail, but also making sure the handoff was made so they continued to receive the help they needed once out in the community.

Commissioner Celentino stated that he was concerned about the effect the opioid crisis was having on people with genuine chronic pain issues, who were not abusing the medication, being denied medication out of an overabundance of caution. He further stated that he was aware of stories of people having to go cold turkey and even becoming suicidal because they were no longer being prescribed the only thing that helped with their pain.

Ms. Scott stated that she was not sure she could speak to community data on that, but that she could speak to the fact that the goal should be to create responsible providers and patients. She further stated that Community Health Centers did enter into pain contracts with patients which laid out the expectations with controlled medications and that they also considered what alternatives would be offered so the only tool was not opioids.

Discussion.

Commissioner Slaughter asked about the Building Bridges Grant.

Ms. Scott stated that the grant consultants recently did a site visit at the jail and at CMH and that the feedback was positive. She further stated that the County was farther along in many ways than many others across the country and that they were poised to be a leader in establishing the model.

Discussion.

Commissioner Schafer stated that he would like to echo what Commissioner Celentino was saying about the difficulties faced by people who truly needed controlled medication.

Discussion.

Chairperson Koenig asked what the number of inmates on medical assisted treatment was.

Ms. Scott stated that she did not know that off the top of her head. She further stated that the new provider was starting in the jail on Monday.

Major Southworth stated that it was a small handful.

Chairperson Koenig thanked Ms. Scott.
Major Southworth and Cynthia Johnson, Programming Coordinator, asked for questions on the millage funded jail-based programs.

Commissioner Crenshaw stated that he read in the report that it was harder for females to get to the Restorative Justice program because of other programming at the same time.

Ms. Johnson stated that if participation did not improve they would move the class to a different time.

Commissioner Slaughter asked how it helped lower recidivism if you there great programs, but many people may not be in jail long enough to see the full benefit.

Ms. Johnson stated they were working to identify ways to shorten the Break Out Program without reducing the effectiveness.

Commissioner Celentino asked what programs include faith-based programming.

Ms. Johnson stated that they had a Chaplin who organized faith-based programming.

Major Southworth stated that Forgotten Man Ministries had been doing a wonderful job. He further stated that they were very well-coordinated and squared away for best practices.

Commissioner Crenshaw asked what triggered court-ordered participation in the Break Out Program.

Ms. Johnson stated that judges ordered it.

Commissioner Crenshaw stated that there was no assessment that triggered that.

Ms. Johnson stated that that was correct.

Chairperson Koenig asked what program at the jail had the most participation.

Ms. Johnson stated that was the Break Out Program.

Chairperson Koenig asked how many participants there were in the GED program.

Ms. Johnson said that the program had struggled but that they have made changes and with a new instructor coming in, she saw positive things coming.

Discussion.

Teri Morton, Deputy Controller, stated that for 2020 she was recommending an allocation of $1,024,000, allowing for a 2.4% inflationary increase.

Commissioner Crenshaw stated that he agreed to allow the programming to continue over the next year with the 2.4% inflation included and then reevaluate and see where things are next year.
Chairperson Koenig agreed.

Ms. Morton stated that the budget for 2020 would have the lump sum in there.

Chairperson Koenig thanked Major Southworth and Ms. Johnson.

3. **Animal Control**  
   a. Resolution to Adopt an Ordinance Amending the Ingham County Animal Control Ordinance to Permit Keeping Chickens in Non-Agricultural Areas

MOVED BY COMM. CRENSHAW, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SLAUGHTER, TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

MOVED BY COMM. SCHAFER TO AMEND THE NUMBER OF HENS TO SEVEN, RATHER THAN FIVE.

Ms. Morton stated that she wanted to remind the Committee that this was brought forward as an administrative issue because the ordinances were not properly published when they initially passed and that if the Committee would like to make substantive changes, they would need to start the process over again.

THE MOTION TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION DIED DUE TO LACK OF SUPPORT.

Jodi LeBombard, Animal Control Director, stated that she would recommend getting an expert opinion.

MOVED BY COMM. SCHAFER TO AMEND THE NUMBER OF HENS TO SIX.

Ms. LeBombard stated that there had not been many complaints about chickens and as far as she knew there were not any issues with people being permitted to have five hens.

Discussion.

Commissioner Celentino stated that he remembered debating this ordinance and that five was a compromise at the time. He further stated that if this was going to be changed in any way it needed to be brought back and go through the process again.

Commissioner Schafer withdrew his motion.

Discussion.

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AS PRESENTED CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
3. **Animal Control**
   b. Resolution to Adopt an Ordinance Amending the Ingham County Animal Control Ordinance to Delete the Provision Prohibiting Barking Dogs

MOVED BY COMM. CRENSHAW, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SLAUGHTER, TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

Commissioner Schafer stated that he was opposed to the resolution. He further stated that barking dog complaints should be responded to.

Commissioner Celentino stated that this was meant to be an administrative issue. He further stated that he remembered at the time this ordinance was passed, staffing was a concern and it was not a priority to respond to the barking complaints.

Ms. LeBombard stated that she did not believe anything had changed since then.

Commissioner Celentino asked if municipal law enforcement would respond to dog barking complaints.

Ms. LeBombard stated that it was her understanding that the Lansing Police Department would respond on a noise ordinance violation. She further stated that Animal Control did get plenty of follow up from the Police Department responding to those calls and noticing other potential issues.

Discussion.

THE MOTION CARRIED. **Yeas:** Celentino, Crenshaw, Koenig, Slaughter, Trubac  
**Nays:** Schafer, Polsdofer  
**Absent:** None

3. **Animal Control**
   c. Resolution to Adopt an Ordinance Amending the Ingham County Animal Control Ordinance to Transfer the Supervisory Authority over the Animal Control Director to the County Controller/Administrator

THE RESOLUTION FAILED DUE TO LACK OF SUPPORT.

**Announcements**

Commissioner Crenshaw announced the upcoming July 24th Graduation Ceremony and July 25th Garden Gala for the Ingham Academy and encouraged his colleagues to attend.

**Public Comment**

None.
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD