Jury Trial & Courthouse Operational Plan Committee Meeting Wednesday, May 5, 2021

Minutes

1. Call to order.

Judge Brantmeier called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

2. Roll call.

Judge Brantmeier, Monica Hall, Sarah Rogge, Ben Wehmeier, Michael Neimon; Whitney DeVoe, Samroz Jakvani, Cindy Hamre Incha, Jennifer Weber, Judge Hue, Terri Palm-Kostroski.

- 3. <u>Certification of compliance with the open meetings law.</u>
 Wehmeier confirmed that the meeting is in compliance with open meetings law.
- Review and approve minutes from April 7, 2021 meeting.
 Motion by Hall/Wehmeier to approve the minutes from April 7, 2021. Motion passed.
- 5. <u>Public comment</u>.

None

- 6. <u>Jury Trials / courtrooms (CDC: June 1, majority will be vaccinated)</u>
 Samroz gave an update on our county COVID averages and talked about the possibility of opening and increasing participants in our courtrooms in the next few months with continued modified safety measures. The county is currently at a 40% vaccination rate threshold. At 50% data is showing that the case rates may decrease. Brantmeier said that some courts in the area are going back to business as usual with the use of masks and social distancing. This will be discussed at the next meeting. No action taken.
- 7. More vaccinations. Do protocols need to be modified?

Samroz said that if people are vaccinated social distancing can be decreased to 3' while wearing masks. Brantmeier explained that we will need to look at the Supreme Court mandate that was issued in February. Hue discussed the county operational order. Weber asked for confirmation and a possible amendment to the language in the remote section of the county plan. An amendment to our county operational plan will be sent out for review and discussed at the next meeting. Hamre Incha questioned polling of jurors. This will also be discussed at the next meeting. No action taken.

- 8. Public access to court proceedings / open court / Dacast / broadcasting No action taken.
- 9. <u>Public access to courthouse</u> Can we ask if vaccinated? Currently there is no mask mandate at the courthouse. We will not be asking people if they are vaccinated but rather encouraging everyone to get vaccinated.
- 10. Future meeting dates (Zoom):

June 2, 2021 11:00 a.m. July 7, 2021 11:00 a.m.

- 11. Future agenda items.
 - Discuss opening all branches to jury trials
 - Discuss amendments to the Jefferson County Operational Plan
 - Discussion on elimination of polling potential jurors
- 12. Adjourn.