

Jefferson County Public Defender Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Monday December 28, 2020 – Courthouse Commissioners conference room. Start of meeting, 5:53 P.M.

Present: Board members; Jason Pattison, Robert Little, Heather Foy
Also in attendance; Judge Mote

This meeting followed an executive session with all three board members in attendance. This included one additional interview conducted via Zoom, then discussion regarding the Public Defender Administrative position.

- Board member R. Little made a motion to hire Devon Sharpe as the Jefferson County Public Defender Administrator. This position will include a .7% contract as a PD. H. Foy seconded the motion and board member J. Pattison abstained due to a conflict of interest. The motion was approved 2-0-1 with no further discussion.

- Based on the contract percentage for the PD Admin. Position, the following 2021 contracts were presented:

Drew Adams 100%

Sherry Porter 100%

Mary Beth Mock 100%

James Spencer 100%

Michaelia Gilbert 100%

Ashley Ecklund 80%

Jennifer Joas 75%

Jason Judd 50%

Della Swincher 80%

Tinisha Bowles-Densford 80%

PD Administrator Devon Sharpe

Board member J. Pattison made a motion to approve these contracts, R. Little second. Contracts approved 3-0.

- A brief discussion took place about the need for a second PD to be present in initial hearing cases. This is required for grant funding. Judge Mote echoed the need for this position. The board decided to let the new PD Admin. get started with work for 2021 and this subject will be brought up at the first 2021 board meeting.

- Jason will email contracts to all 2021 Public Defenders and will ask Diane Barton to collect these contracts once they are turned in. Board members need to see Diane to sign contracts once they have been submitted.

- Heather will make sure meeting minutes are posted to the website and emailed to all judges. Jason will ask Diane to set up quarterly meeting dates for 2021. Judge Mote will reach out to newly elected Judge Goode to update him on funding/reimbursement for the Public Defender program. Jason will also notify all four PD Admin. candidates who were interviewed for the position.

- R. Little made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 PM, J. Pattison second.

Minutes submitted by Heather Foy.