

ANOKA COUNTY

AGENDA

INTERGOVERNMENTAL & COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE and Meeting of the Anoka County Board of Commissioners Commissioners Braastad (Chair), Reinert (Vice Chair), and West**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2022 MEETING

9:00 A.M.

Anoka County Government Center, Conference Room #772

Public comments are welcome at this time. In consideration of others wishing to speak, please limit comments to two minutes. Questions directed to the committee may not be answered immediately; however, whenever possible, all appropriate questions will be responded to in a timely and effective manner by county staff.

Action Items

1. Consider recommending the county board adopt Resolution #IG-01, Resolution Accepting Dedicated Gifts for Anoka County Medical Examiner's Office. **See attached** worksheet and resolution.
2. Consider recommending the management committee approve a tuition reimbursement for Jamie Reiersen, Medical Examiner's Office Morgue Supervisor. **See attached** worksheet.
3. Consider recommending the county board adopt Resolution #IG-02, Resolution Accepting Dedicated Gifts for Anoka County Veteran Services. **See attached** worksheet and resolution.
4. Consider recommending the county board adopt Resolution #IG-03, Establishment of the Veterans' Support Network by Restructuring the Veterans' Programs Advisory Board. **See attached** resolution.

Information Item

5. For informational purposes, for the remainder of 2022, the Intergovernmental & Community Relations Committee meetings will move to 10:30 a.m., on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, starting March 15.
6. Other.

*** Actions taken by this Committee do not bind the County Board. In addition to the County Commissioners appointed to this committee, additional County Commissioners may attend. Non-committee Commissioners may choose to participate in the discussions and/or ask questions, but they will **not** vote on any item, nor will they agree to take a specific action on business conducted by the committee. If their attendance and limited participation in the committee meeting is considered a meeting of the County Board, this shall serve as notice of a County Board meeting. This shall also serve as notice of a County Board Meeting for any committee comprised of four or more members of the board.*



Anoka County Action Item
Intergovernmental Committee

ACTION REQUESTED	Requesting permission from the Intergovernmental Committee to begin the process for accepting a donation of hand-made clothing from All Saints Lutheran Church (Darwin, MN, Meeker County). The clothing will be provided free of charge to families that want to host a funeral or viewing following a fetal or infant autopsy.
Background/Description	<p>The Angel Dress Program operates out of the All-Saints Lutheran Church in Meeker County. The program consists of 20+ volunteers across the nation that repurpose old wedding dresses and gowns into fetus or infant-sized outfits for parents that lost an infant or child. This program allows family members to have the opportunity to host a viewing or funeral for the infant or fetus with them dressed in outfits that were specially designed to fit.</p> <p>The Angel Dress Program is headquartered in All Saints Lutheran Church, 68166 215th St, Darwin, MN, 55324 and is operated by Patty Hauer.</p>
Other	Anoka County dba The Midwest Medical Examiner's Office is in a unique position to take part in this project since autopsy infant deaths when necessary, and perform infant and fetal demise autopsies for hospitals across Minnesota and western Wisconsin.

RESOLUTION #IG 2022-01

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DEDICATED GIFTS
FOR ANOKA COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE**

WHEREAS, The Angel Dress Program operates out of the All-Saints Lutheran Church in Meeker County; and,

WHEREAS, The Angel Dress Program consists of more than 20 volunteers across the nation that repurpose old wedding dresses and gowns into fetus or infant-sized outfits for parents that lost an infant or child; and,

WHEREAS, The Angel Dress Program wishes to donate hand-made clothing to the Midwest Medical Examiner's Office, so parents can use the clothing to host a funeral or viewing following a fetal or infant autopsy:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anoka County Board of Commissioners, pursuant to Minn. Stat. 465.03, does hereby formally accept the donation of hand-made clothing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Anoka County Board of Commissioners wishes to extend its grateful appreciation to All Saints Lutheran Church, Patty Hauer and The Angel Dress Program.



Anoka County Action Item

Intergovernmental Committee

ACTION REQUESTED	<p>Consider the approval of a tuition reimbursement plan for the Morgue Supervisor at the Midwest Medical Examiner's Office (MMEO). The incumbent is pursuing her Master of Public Health (MPH) through St Mary's University of Minnesota. This is a 42-credit program and is very relevant to this individual's position.</p> <p>Course work includes: Advanced Health Policy and Ethics, Strategic Health and Human Services Leadership, Population Health and Community Organizing, and Health Research and Analysis.</p>
Background/Description	<p>The morgue supervisor role has grown significantly over the years as the office has expanded to include 32 MN counties, 12 referral counties, and hospital contracts for autopsies. The morgue supervisor has a solid understanding of health sciences, maintains the autopsy suite, property/evidence room, assists the forensic pathologists with post-mortem examinations, and ensures compliance for all evidence retention and preservation of medical examiner files within each county while supervising 3 forensic technicians.</p>
Solutions	<p>The individual in this role has demonstrated a strong commitment to this position and an interest to continue their career with the MMEO as our operation grows. She has been an employee since 2009 and has proven to be excel leader within the organization. The request is to reimburse tuition at \$437.50 per course completed with a grade C or better up to \$5250.00 per year which is the IRS guideline. This is approximately 50% of tuition. This request is for 2022 and 2023. The cost is covered by revenue and can be included in the MMEO budget.</p>
Conclusion	<p>The MPH program will augment individual's current capacity as the morgue supervisor. Considering the scope and responsibility of this role, the anticipated growth in the MMEO operation and the performance of this individual, this program will be of benefit the office as she gains more insight into emergency management, morgue operations during public health emergencies, public policy within the medical examiner/coroner system, data analytics, and more.</p>



ANOKA COUNTY IG ACTION ITEM

February 2022

Intergovernmental

ACTION REQUESTED	Requesting a resolution accepting dedicated gifts for Anoka County Veteran Services
Background/description	Anoka County Veteran Services received two \$100 checks (#14657, #14658) from the Coon Rapids VFW Auxiliary. These donated funds totaling \$200 will be sent to the Anoka County Medlink Program to assist with costs from transporting Veterans to/from medical appointments.
Amount of contract	N/A
County Contract Number	N/A
Other	

RESOLUTION #IG 2022-02

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DEDICATED GIFTS
FOR ANOKA COUNTY VETERAN SERVICES**

WHEREAS, various organizations in and around the County of Anoka have provided donations to the Anoka County Veteran Services; and,

WHEREAS, the Coon Rapids VFW Auxiliary, Post 9625 donated \$200 (Two hundred dollars) to the Anoka County Veteran Services; and,

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute § 465.03 requires a county to accept the gift by resolution expressed in terms prescribed by the donor in full; and,

WHEREAS, acceptance of the funds in accordance with the donor's terms is in the best interest of the County of Anoka:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anoka County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept the above-described gift from said organization in accordance with the terms set forth herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Anoka County Board of Commissioners wishes to extend its grateful appreciation to the Coon Rapids VFW Auxiliary, Post 9625.

RESOLUTION #IG-03

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE VETERANS' SUPPORT NETWORK BY RESTRUCTURING THE VETERANS' PROGRAMS ADVISORY BOARD

WHEREAS, the Anoka County Board of Commissioners has held the interests of the American veteran high on its priority list for county, state, and federal services for many years; and,

WHEREAS, the Anoka County Board of Commissioners has long recognized veterans' service organizations' major contributions to the improvement of supportive services for veterans within the county; and,

WHEREAS, the county board established the Anoka County Veteran Services Office, which has proved to be an extremely valuable resource not only to the county's various veterans' service organizations, but also to individual veterans in need of assistance; and,

WHEREAS, to maintain a close working relationship between local veterans' service organizations, community stakeholders, and the Anoka County Veteran Services Office, there is a need to restructure and expand the Anoka County Veterans Advisory Board, and,

WHEREAS, this support network will include, but not be limited to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion and Disabled American Veterans Chapters and Posts, Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Networks, local businesses, and governmental entities with a common purpose of supporting veterans and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anoka County Board of Commissioners does hereby establish the Anoka County Veterans Support Network, by restructuring and expanding the Veterans Advisory Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the primary focus of the Anoka County Veterans Support Network shall include, but not be limited to: (1) holding quarterly meetings with local Veteran Services Organizations, Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Networks, and community stakeholders; and (2) sharing information between organizations to support one another and ensure that veterans and their dependents in need who reside within Anoka County have an array of support options available to them.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution supersedes Resolution No. 81-22, which established the Veterans' Program Advisory Board.