

ANOKA COUNTY

AGENDA

INTERGOVERNMENTAL & COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

and Meeting of the Anoka County Board of Commissioners**

Commissioners Reinert (Chair), Jeppson (Vice Chair), and Look

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023 MEETING

11:30 A.M.

Anoka County Government Center, Conference Room **#710**

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.

1. Consider recommending the county board amend the 2023 Anoka County Legislative Platform to include:

Supporting with the Joint Law Enforcement Council, a new public safety levy for countywide public safety capital projects.

See attached worksheet.

2. Consider recommending the county board terminate Contract #C0004311B with Burnett County, Wisconsin, and approve Contract #C0009751 with said county, converting the contract to a per-case model at \$2,000 per autopsy instead of a case-average model. Terms of this contract are January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 with automatic renewals for two additional one-year terms. **See attached** worksheet.
3. Consider recommending the county board support a Federal legislative fix requiring Veteran's Affairs (VA) doctors to sign certain death certificates within 72 hours or be penalized. **See attached** worksheet and draft language.
4. For informational purposes, consider an update on House File 1233.
5. For informational purposes, consider department updates.

*** 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 IG COMMITTEE ACTION ITEM

February 15, 2023

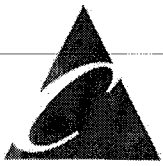
ACTION REQUESTED	<p>Consider recommending the Anoka County Board of Commissioners amend the 2023 Legislative Platform to include:</p> <p>Support with the Joint Law Enforcement Council, a new public safety levy for countywide public safety capital projects.</p>
BACKGROUND	<p><u>Background info:</u></p> <p>The existing public safety levy has been in place for several years and has supported countywide public safety capital projects. That levy has expired. A discussion took place at the county intergovernmental committee meeting late last year, however, there was not support to move forward without a Memorandum of Understanding being in place.</p> <p>JLEC Chair Swenson sent a request to Chair Look on Feb. 1, 2023, asking this be brought to the full board for consideration.</p> <p>Commissioner Look proposed to support with others a public safety levy on the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The public safety levy is a new statute rather than an amendment extending the previous public safety levy• The public safety levy is excluded from the county's certified levy• The projects would need a supermajority vote at JLEC to move forward.• The public safety levy at the county board must receive a super majority vote at the county board level (5 out of 7)• 6 additional seats are added to JLEC for an elected official from each community that contracts with the Sheriff for law enforcement services <p>Commissioner Reinert asked that the issue be added to the February 21 IG Committee for discussion and consideration.</p> <p>JLEC Chair Swenson spoke with Chief Law Enforcement Officials and some city elected officials and there was support for the following conditions which had been previously agreed to or addressed at JLEC. They were not supportive of the other requests by Commissioner Look.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The public safety levy would be excluded from the county's certified levy.• The projects would need a supermajority vote at JLEC to move forward. <p>The draft legislation is in the Revisor's office, so making changes to make it a new law is not feasible due to the backup in the revisor's office and the legislative deadlines.</p>
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION	Draft of the Joint Law Enforcement bill.
FUNDING SOURCE	Joint Law Enforcement public safety levy
RECOMMENDATIONS	Consider supporting the Joint Law Enforcement Council proposal for a new public safety levy.



Anoka County Action Item
Intergovernmental Committee

ACTION REQUESTED	<p>Terminate Anoka County Contract No. C0004311B to approve New Anoka County Contract No. C0009751.</p> <p>Request to terminate an agreement between Burnett County, WI and Anoka County dba Midwest Medical Examiner's Office which will convert Burnett county's contract to a per-case model instead of a case-average model.</p>
Background/Description	<p>On January 5th, 2023, the Burnett County Coroner requested to cancel the existing case average contract and move to a pay per case contract. The Burnett County Coroner has changed leadership and the current coroner intends on using autopsy services less now that they can do independent toxicology using the Wisconsin Crime Lab. The Midwest Medical Examiner's Office does not anticipate a cost impact by changing the terms of the agreement for Burnett County, WI.</p>
Other	<p>If approved, this Agreement will commence on January 1, 2023, and will terminate on December 31, 2023. The Agreement will automatically renew for two (2) additional one (1) year terms (January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024, and January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025) unless notice is given as provided in Section 6. Termination of the agreement.</p>



ANOKA COUNTY IG COMMITTEE ACTION ITEM

February 15, 2023

ACTION REQUESTED	Consider recommending the County Board support a Federal legislative fix requiring the VA to sign certain death certificates within 72 hours or be penalized.
BACKGROUND	<p>When a death occurs within a VA healthcare facility, death certificates, and any other local, city, or state forms required at time of death, need to be processed by a VA Decedent Affairs employee. The personal facts are to be obtained from the patient's records and/or by an interview with the NOK, nearest relative, or friend. The medical information necessary to complete the cause of death entries must be obtained from the physician in attendance.</p> <p>If the death occurs outside of a hospital or institution, an investigation by the medical examiner and/or law enforcement will occur. If the manner of death is deemed natural, and the decedent was under the care of a clinician, the clinician is responsible for the death certificate. The medical examiner's office will send the VA clinic a notice of death certificate responsibility.</p> <p>The medical certification shall be completed and filed with the State within 72 hours after notification of death certificate responsibility by the clinician in charge of the patient's care for the illness or condition which resulted in death (if the death is not due to natural causes and the ME assumes jurisdiction, the clinician will not get a DC responsibility notice)</p> <p>Failure to sign a death certificate within the 72-hour required timeframe shall constitute unprofessional conduct and be subject to a fine of no more than \$5,000 and/or suspension of medical license for up to 3-months.</p>
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION	Draft language for this legislative fix has been attached.
FUNDING SOURCE	If this change becomes law, there will be a financial savings for the Medical Examiner's office.
RECOMMENDATIONS	Consider approving the draft language and have our Federal Lobbyist start working with the Federal Delegation to secure Authors.

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If the death occurs outside of a hospital or institution, an investigation by the medical examiner and/or law enforcement will occur. If the manner of death is deemed natural, and the decedent was under the care of a clinician, the clinician is responsible for the death certificate. The medical examiner's office will send the VA clinic a notice of death certificate responsibility.

The medical certification shall be completed and filed with the State within 72 hours after notification of death certificate responsibility by the clinician in charge of the patient's care for the illness or condition which resulted in death (if the death is not due to natural causes and the ME assumes jurisdiction, the clinician will not get a DC responsibility notice)

In the absence of the clinician or with his/her approval, the certificate may be completed and signed by the following: (i) another clinician employed or engaged by the VA, including physician assistants and nurse practitioners; (iv) the chief medical officer or medical director, or his designee, of the VA or institution, hospice, or nursing home in which death occurred; (v) a clinician specializing in the delivery of health care to hospitalized or emergency department patients who is employed by or engaged by the facility where the death occurred; (vi) an individual to whom the physician has delegated authority to complete and sign the certificate, if such individual has access to the medical history of the case.

If the death is a natural death and a death certificate is being prepared and the physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant is uncertain about the cause of death, he shall use his best medical judgment to certify a reasonable cause of death or contact the health district physician director in the district where the death occurred to obtain guidance in reaching a determination as to a cause of death and document the same.

Failure to sign a death certificate within the 72-hour required timeframe shall constitute unprofessional conduct and be subject to a fine of no more than \$5,000 and/or suspension of medical license for up to 3-months.