MINUTES OF THE COURTHOUSE SECURITY MEETING OF NOVEMBER 6, 2015

Call to Order

The Courthouse Security Committee was called to order on November 6, 2015 at 9:17 am by Judge Storck.

Roll Call

Members in attendance were: Judge Storck, Judge Sciascia, Steve Seim, Sheriff Dale Schmidt, Scott Smith, James Ketchem, Russ Kottke, Mary Ann Miller, Lynn Hron, Kurt Klomberg, Bernie Mueller, Greg Vollan and Collin Schaefer.

Public Comment

Judge Storck advises that he has resigned as presiding judge for Dodge County and Judge Steven Bauer has been appointed for the position. Judge Storck will be chairing this meeting on Judge Bauer's request and he thanks the committee for changes that they've done and anticipated ones in 2016 and 2017.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Judge Sciascia to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2015 meeting, 2nd by Miller, Motion Carried.

Who gets a pass to the courthouse without having to go through security and who is entitled to courthouse keys

Judge Sciascia states that in the past it was brought up that only county employees have key access to the courthouse. Corp Counsel and the Public Defender staff are discussed along with Dodge County employees that have offices in other buildings. Klomberg expressed concern about security training for other employees/individuals. Discussion was held about who has access with key fobs and where they have that access.

Regarding the front door court security station, Mielke believes everyone should be going through the station. Risk management was discussed when staff/others would be allowed to go around the station. It was agreed that everyone should be going through the security station, including employees, with police officers being the only exception.

Judge Storck advises that Restorative Justice will be moving to the courthouse in December and discussion was held regarding the placement of and access to their office.

After much discussion regarding key fobs and access to hallways, there as a Motion by Kottke to keep the key fob situation status quo until the planned upgrades for 2016 are done, 2nd by Judge Sciascia, Motion Carried.

Increased protection for court reporters

Judge Sciascia advises that there is a concern about inmates and others that testify next to court reporters. Judge Storck states that the jail has a RAC Belt but it needs to be specifically requested. Discussion whether the belt should be provided for all inmate jury trials and if the request should be put on the writs that go to the prisons. The issue is tabled until next year.

Schedule another courthouse security training

Discussion was held about waiting for the upcoming security upgrades before conducting further security training for staff. Sheriff Schmidt advises that the courthouse upgrades will be late 2016 at the earliest. Judge Sciascia believes we should do refresher training on a regular basis with different sessions so all employees can attend. He will contact the judicial assistants to calendar training.

Security for mock trial at the courthouse

There will be security provided for the mock trial meet at the courthouse. Any teams that come to the courthouse for practice need to come during regular business hours. If a courtroom is not available Sciascia suggests they use the Jury Assembly Room.

New Business

Klomberg advises that there is a new proposed bill making it a felony to spit on a District Attorney or Defense Attorney.

The Court Safety and Security Training is scheduled for March 1, 2, and 3. Dodge County had a team go last year and will attempt to get another team. All participants that attended thought the training was helpful.

Date, time, and location of next meeting

The next meeting of the Courthouse Security Committee will take place following the February Law Enforcement Committee meeting on February 5, 2016 at 9:15 am in Room 3038C of the Dodge County Justice Facility, 210 W. Center Street, Juneau, Wisconsin.

Motion by Ketchem to adjourn, 2nd by Judge Sciascia, Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 am

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Judge Steven Bauer

Lynn Hron, Secretary

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Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended, or corrected at the next committee meeting.