

**LAWRENCE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
May 20, 2019**

Chairman Tom Brady called the annual meeting of the Lawrence County Public Defender Advisory Board to order at 4:00 p.m. on May 20, 2019 in the Administrative Annex Building of the Lawrence County Courthouse located at 90 Sherman Street, Deadwood, SD with board members, Tim Johns, Jackie Pearson, and Randall Rosenau being present. Absent, Brandon Flanagan.

Director of the Public Defender's Office, Amber Richey, provided a review of the 2018 annual report including the cases and outcomes that were handled by the office.

Richey discussed changes that have been made in the office in the last year and how those have improved the representation of clients and overall workings of the office.

Changes to the current database that is used in the office were discussed and Richey advised that she was still looking at the possibility of obtaining new software, but is working with the IT department to determine if the needs can be met using the current software. The board requested that Richey look into what software Pennington County and Minnehaha Public Defenders' Offices are using. Richey reported that she had already met with a representative of Minnehaha's office and reviewed the database that they had and it doesn't quite meet the needs of the office. Richey advised she will check with Pennington County.

Richey advised she has been looking into different legal research options and was advised that the office is in a contract with Westlaw for minimal services until October 2020. Chairman Brady requested that contract be looked into to determine whether it is a valid contract. Richey advised she will ask Bruce Outka to look into the contract issue.

Richey presented the 2020 budget proposal. Discussion was had regarding the increase in the supplies request due to increase in prices and the possibility of needing to enter into lease of a new copier next year. No other increases in the budget were noted other than in the 3% pay increase request that the county employees are requesting and one step increase for a deputy public defender.

2020 Budget: Moved-Seconded (Brady-Rosenau) to recommend the proposed 2020 Public Defender's Office Budget to the County Commission. Passed by unanimous vote.

Adjourn: 4:35 p.m. There being no further business, Chairman Brady adjourned the meeting.

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Date Approved

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Tom Brady, Chairman