



# Association of Minnesota Counties

## Public Safety Policy Committee

*Virtual Meeting*

February 18, 2021

AMC Legislative Conference

### DRAFT MINUTES

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Larry Anderson, Cottonwood County  
Mike Ankeny, Mower County  
Ron Antony, Yellow Medicine County  
Joe Atkins, Dakota County  
Marv Bodie, Carlton County  
David De La Hunt, Hubbard County  
Tim Dolan, Sherburne County  
David Ebinger, Clay County  
Johns Fahey, Carver County  
Linda Flanders, Goodhue County  
Neal Gaalswyk, Cass County  
Jared Gapinski, Benton County  
Scott Hable, Renville County  
Jeffrey J. Jelinski, Morrison County  
Denny Kemp, Nicollet County  
Bruce Lawrence, Pennington County

Mitch Lentz, Fillmore County  
Molly Malone, Murray County  
Mary Jo McGuire, Ramsey County  
Chris Meyer, Winona County  
Bill Miller, Watonwan County  
David Mills, Cook County  
Sheldon Monson, Wadena County  
Susan Morris, Isanti County  
Kurt Mortenson, Otter Tail County  
Rollie Nissen, Kandiyohi County  
Larry Olson, Mahnommen County  
Joe Perske, Stearns County  
John Roper, Faribault County  
Dallas Roskamp, Pipestone County  
Jack Swanson, Roseau County  
Scott Windschitl, Brown County

#### GUESTS PRESENT:

Jason Anderson, Itasca County  
Becky Bales Cramlet, Stearns County  
Wanda Cannon, Hennepin County  
Amy Chavez, Chisago County  
Midge Christianson, 6W Community  
Corrections/MACCAC  
Jim Elmquist, Dodge County  
Terry Fawcett, Pine County  
Kami Genz, Aitkin County  
Rick Gnemi, Steele County  
Travis Gransee, DFO Community Corrections  
Phill Greer, ARC Community Corrections  
Mary Hamann-Roland, Dakota County  
J. Hancuch, Sherburne County  
Catherin Johnson, Hennepin County/MACCAC  
Gary Johnson, Yellow Medicine County  
James Johnson, DFO Community Corrections  
Krista Jones, Crow Wing County

Nicole Kern, Morrison County  
Tami Jo Lieberg, Kandiyohi County  
Matt Massman, MICA  
John Marsolek, Blue Earth County  
Mike MacMillan, Wright County  
David Minke, Pine County  
Josh Milow, Blue Earth County  
Sara Morrell, Washington County  
Margaret Munson, Wright County  
Kareem Murphy, Hennepin County  
Pete Orput, Washington Co. Attorney  
Chris Pelzer, Todd County  
Jim Schneider, Cass County  
Paul Schnell, DOC Commissioner  
Les Schultz, Brown County  
Jacob Sieg, Lac Qui Parle County  
Carli Stark, AMC Staff  
Terry Thomas, Washington County

**I. Call to Order**

Committee Chair Roseau County Commissioner Jack Swanson called the Public Safety Policy Committee to order at 1:00 p.m. and welcomed members. Members said the pledge of allegiance. Carli Stark reviewed Zoom basics and logistics.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Nicollet County Commissioner Denny Kemp made a motion to approve the November 2020 meeting minutes, second by Kandiyohi County Commissioner Rollie Nissen. Motion carried.

**III. The Bail System in Minnesota**

Washington County Attorney Pete Orput presented on the Minnesota Bail System and the constitutional right to bail. He discussed the intersection of public safety and bail, the socioeconomic inequities in the system, as well as proposed alternatives to cash bail for pre-trial defendants such as electronic home monitoring and increased community pre-trial services. Members discussed the cost associated with many of the alternatives and the need for additional funding for counties, community corrections specifically, should any alternatives become law.

**IV. Legislative Update**

AMC Policy Analyst Carli Stark provided an update on legislative activities. Members discussed S.F. 217, which expands the list of legal fireworks in Minnesota. No position was taken on the bill. Also discussed were H.F. 445 ( establishing the State Aid for Emergencies account ), community supervision cuts in the Governor's 2021 budget recommendations, H.F. 499 (appropriating money for emergency management readiness grants), and work that has been done to eliminate the 911 telecommunications fee sunset.

**V. Department of Corrections Updates**

Commissioner Paul Schnell gave an overview of DOC legislative priorities and budget recommendations to the legislature. The budget recommendations include approximately \$8 million in cuts to community corrections, including \$1.6 million in fiscal year 2022 directly to counties. Members expressed concerns about the cuts and the hardship it will place on counties' ability to provide effective services.

**VI. Vice Chair Election**

Isanti County Commissioner Susan Morris announced that she is stepping down from the Vice Chair position due to her role as the AMC NACo Representative.

Chair Swanson called for nominations for Vice Chair. Commissioner Susan Morris nominated Commissioner Denny Kemp. Hearing no other nominations, a motion was made by Morrison County Commissioner Jeff Jelinski, second by Cass County Commissioner Neal Gaalswyk, to cast a unanimous ballot and the motion carried.

**VII. Adjourn**

Nicollet County Commissioner Denny Kemp made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Kandiyohi County Commissioner Rollie Nissen. Motion carried. The Public Safety Policy Committee adjourned at 3:27 PM.