

Michigan Indigent Defense Commission Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held in person at the Michigan Bankers Association building in Lansing, Michigan. Remote access via Zoom was available for Commissioners and, upon request, for members of the public. The MIDC website and meeting notice included information for members of the public on how to contact the MIDC to obtain the Zoom link for participation. Commissioners were able to participate remotely if they qualified for an exemption under the Open Meetings Act or if they requested an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 USC 12131 *et. seq.*, and Rehabilitation Act, MCL 395.81 *et. seq.*, pursuant to Attorney General Opinion No. 7318.

August 15, 2023

Time: 9:30 am

Michigan Bankers Association
507 S. Grand Ave, Lansing, MI 48933

Commission Members Participating

The following members participated in person:

- Chair Christine Green
- Thomas Adams
- Kimberly Buddin
- Paul Bullock
- Andrew DeLeeuw
- Judge James Fisher
- David Jones
- James Krizan
- Debra Kubitskey
- Judge Paula Mathes
- Margaret McAvoy
- John Shea
- Rob VerHeulen

The following member observed the meeting via Zoom but did not participate in the discussions or voting:

- Tracey Brame

The following Commissioners were absent:

- Kimberly Buddin
- Tom McMillin
- William Swor
- Gary Walker

Chair Green called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Introduction of Commission members and guests

Chair Green invited guests to introduce themselves to the Commission.

Public Comment

The following people provided public comment:

- Jill Recker
- Thomas Hausmann
- Mark Eisenbarth

Approval of Agenda

There were no changes made to the agenda as presented. Commissioner Adams moved that the agenda be adopted, Commissioner Bullock seconded. The motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Judge Mathes moved that the consent agenda containing the minutes from June 2023 meeting be adopted. Commissioner Krizan seconded. The motion carried.

Chair Report

The American Bar Association recently adopted a revised version of the Ten Principles of a Public Defense Delivery System. Chair Green will appoint a committee to review the changes.

Chair Green assigned Commissioner Adams to the Training and Evaluation Standing Committee and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion ad hoc committee. She assigned Commissioner Moon to the ad hoc committee on Data Collection.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director Staley received a letter from former Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Director Orlene Hawks indicating that the Department intends to approve Standards 6 and 7. It is not anticipated that the change in LARA leadership will impact this. MIDC staff is working on planning for these new standards and messaging to systems.

Ms. Staley provided an overview of FY23 spending and anticipated FY24 spending. Commissioner Adams moved for the Executive Director to submit the FY25 budget requests for operational and grant funding. Judge Fisher seconded. The motion carried.

MIDC has been asked to apply for Byrne JAG funding through the Michigan State Police again for FY24.

Commission Business

Standing Committee Reports

Chair Green provided an update on the Executive Committee's meeting. The committee drafted the agenda for the meeting. The evaluation for the Executive Director is upcoming.

Judge Fisher provided an update on the Indigence and Compensation meeting. The committee reviewed the plans submitted by Isabella and Chippewa counties at its July 25 meeting.

Ad hoc Committees

Marla McCowan provided an update on the Data Committee's activities. Research Priorities were circulated to the committee and discussed.

MIDC Standards Implementation

Ms. McCowan provided an update on FY23 compliance. MIDC staff continue to work with Muskegon County.

The following budget adjustment requests were approved by the Grants Director:

- Allegan County
- Berrien County
- Branch County
- City of Birmingham
- City of Pontiac
- Ingham County
- Jackson County
- Kent County
- Livingston County
- Macomb County
- Menominee County
- Monroe County
- Oakland County
- Ottawa County
- St. Clair County
- Washtenaw County

Nicole Walter, Regional Manager for South Central Michigan, provided an update on the activities in her region.

FY24 Compliance Planning

Isabella County requested that its compliance plan be revised and the total system costs increased. The increase will fund salary and fringe benefits, rates for contract attorneys, minor increases for managed assigned counsel support, and indirect costs. MIDC staff recommends approval.

Commissioner Bullock moved to approve the increased costs for Isabella County. Commissioner Blanchard seconded. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.

The next meeting is October 17, 2023 at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcela Westrate