

Racine County Chapter 980 Committee
Ives Grove Office Complex
14200 Washington Ave
Public Works and Development Services Auditorium
Sturtevant, WI 53177
April 22, 2024 – 9:15 a.m.

Meeting attended by: Principal Assistant Corporation Counsel John P. Serketich, Assistant Corporation Counsel Erika Frank Motsch, Legal Coordinator for the Office of the Corporation Counsel Bethany Heitman (née Tangerstrom), Aging and Disability Quality Assurance Supervisor Natalie Meinert, Public Works and Development Services Superintendent Brian Jensen, and Hannah Christian from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (“DHS”).

1. Convene meeting

The meeting of the Ch. 980 Committee was called to order at 9:21 a.m. by Principal Assistant Corporation Counsel John P. Serketich.

2. Public Comments

No members of the public present, therefore no comments.

3. Approve Agenda & Minutes

Agenda for April 22, 2024, meeting and Minutes from March 25, 2024, meeting reviewed.

Motion: Brian Jensen moved to approve both the agenda and amended minutes. Seconded by Assistant Corporation Counsel Erika Frank Motsch.

Action: All Ayes, No Nays. Unanimous. **Motion passed.**

4. Legal updates (Office of Corporation Counsel)

9:23 a.m.

Gilbert L. Williams

Racine County Circuit Court Case No: 2004CI02

On February 28, 2024, the Committee Report of Identified Residential Option was sent to DHS and a copy filed with the Court. A review hearing was held on March 4, 2024 and DHS has 30 days to reply with a supervised release plan. A review hearing was held on April 1, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. in front of the Honorable Judge Repischak. The Court approved the plan for placement and Mr. Williams will be placed on April 30th.

James Hinkle

Racine County Circuit Court Case No: 2012CI01

On Friday December 1, 2023, a letter providing the efforts that the Committee has made to locate Mr. Hinkle a residential option was sent to DHS and filed with the Court by the Committee. The Committee continues to search for an appropriate residential option. On February 1, 2024 a Petition for Discharge was filed by Mr. Hinkle and a review hearing is scheduled for April 18, 2024. On April 16, 2024, a Motion to Compel Racine County to Create Residence was filed by Mr. Hinkle. The scheduled review hearing was held on April 18, 2024 and the Court set it over for a status conference on May 17, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. in front of the Honorable Judge Repischak to provide DHS counsel notice and to determine next steps regarding the Motion to Compel.

NOTE - The following legal updates are informational only and no action is required by the Committee at this time:

James Levandowski

Racine County Circuit Court Case No: 2013CI01

The Court signed an order on August 10, 2023, approving the supervised release plan and Mr. Levandowski was placed at his residence on August 29, 2023. Mr. Levandowski continues to reside at that residence. The Office of Corporation Counsel will continue to monitor this case and notify the Committee of any updates.

Daniel R. Williams

Racine County Circuit Court Case No: 1995CF1197

Mr. Williams had a review hearing regarding his ATR on January 5, 2024 before the Honorable Judge Toni Young. At that hearing, DHS requested a six-month extension of Mr. Williams' ATR pursuant to Mr. Williams' agreement to complete six months of additional treatment. Judge Young upheld that six-month extension during a review hearing on March 8, 2024. The Office of Corporation Counsel will continue to monitor this case and notify the Committee of any updates.

Michael Fink

Racine County Circuit Court Case No: 2006CI01

Mr. Fink had a Supervised Release Revocation Hearing on December 21, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. before the Honorable Judge Robert Repischak. Ultimately, the Court ordered Mr. Fink's supervised release revoked on February 13, 2024. The Office of Corporation Counsel will continue to monitor this case and notify the Committee of any updates.

Dennis Yarber

Racine County Circuit Court Case No: 2014CI02

Mr. Yarber continues to reside at the Adult Family Home (“AFH”) where he was placed in June 2023. The Office of Corporation Counsel will continue to monitor this case and notify the Committee of any updates.

5. Residential option updates (Racine County Human Services Department (“HSD”))

9:30 a.m.

Ms. Heitman reported on behalf of Ms. Christman the following updates regarding the total number of properties that were sent to HSD for evaluation since the last committee meeting and as of April 17, 2024:

- MLS Listings
 - 03/25/2024: 21 single family, 3 two-family, 1 multi-family, and 11 condos (total: 36)
 - 03/26/2024: 22 single family, 3 two-family, 1 multi-family, and 3 condos (total: 29)
 - 03/27/2024: 15 single family, 4 two-family, 1 multi-family, and 15 condos (total: 35)
 - 03/28/2024: 10 single family, 4 two-family, 0 multi-family, and 15 condos (total: 29)
 - 03/29/2024: no list sent
 - 04/01/2024: 23 single family, 1 two-family, 0 multi-family, and 3 condos (total: 27)
 - 04/02/2024: 25 single family, 2 two-family, 0 multi-family, and 3 condos (total: 30)
 - 04/03/2024: 25 single family, 2 two-family, 1 multi-family, and 4 condos (total: 32)
 - 04/04/2024: 28 single family, 2 two-family, 1 multi-family, and 3 condos (total: 34)
 - 04/05/2024: 29 single family, 1 two-family, 1 multi-family, and 7 condos (total: 38)
 - 04/08/2024: 25 single family, 0 two-family, 1 multi-family, and 6 condos (total: 32)
 - 04/09/2024: 22 single family, 0 two-family, 1 multi-family, and 5 condos (total: 28)
 - 04/10/2024: 24 single family, 1 two-family, 1 multi-family, and 2 condos (total: 28)
 - 04/11/2024: 32 single family, 1 two-family, 0 multi-family, and 1 condos (total: 34)
 - 04/12/2024: 25 single family, 0 two-family, 0 multi-family, and 11 condos (total: 36)
 - 04/15/2024: 29 single family, 1 two-family, 2 multi-family, and 3 condos (total: 35)
 - 04/16/2024: 26 single family, 3 two-family, 2 multi-family, and 2 condos (total: 33)
 - 04/17/2024: 22 single family, 3 two-family, 2 multi-family, and 3 condos (total: 30)
 - **Grand total: 546**
 - **403 single family**
 - **31 two-family**
 - **15 multi-family**
 - **97 condos**

Ms. Meinert provided the following updates on HSD’s evaluations of the potential properties provided to HSD by Ms. Christman, and HSD’s other efforts to identify suitable housing for the pending parties:

April: As of April 19th, 431 properties were referred to HSD for evaluation, of which only 25 had not been previously evaluated by HSD for conformity with statutory criteria. Of those 25 properties, 22 met statutory criteria after HSD's preliminary evaluation using the digital mapping tool. Twenty-two properties were sent to vendors for consideration.

Also, the potential property that one vendor was considering was privately sold on March 26, 2024 and our vendor was not the buyer.

6. **Discuss-consider process for making recommendation to DHS and Court for Chapter 980 sex offender placement**

9:34 a.m.

Attorney Serketich reported that the monthly Statewide meeting of Corporation Counsels to discuss Chapter 980 issues was held on April 19, 2024 with Milwaukee County, Fond du Lac County, and Eau Claire County attending along with Racine County. The participants provided brief updates on current cases.

Attorney Serketich also asked for clarification on revoked individuals. When an individual is revoked, the time frame depends on the courts as a new supervised release petition must be filed. When there is an ATR, the individual is expected to be released immediately back to the community and that is why the courts will typically order bed holds.

7. **Closed Session pursuant to section 19.85(1)(d), (e), and (f) of the Wisconsin State Statutes to discuss confidential offender information under Wis. Stat. § 980.06.**

There were no discussions that required a closed session; therefore, the meeting remained open in its entirety.

8. **Adjournment**

9:42 a.m.

Next meeting scheduled for: **Monday, May 20 at 9:15 a.m.** (This was moved to a week before our normal meeting due to the Memorial Day Holiday.)

Motion: Assistant Corporation Counsel Erika Frank Motsch moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:44a.m. Seconded by Brian Jensen.

Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:44 a.m.

Recorded April 22, 2024

Bethany Heitman (née Tangerstrom) - Office of Corporation Counsel