

NOTICE OF AGENDA  
PUBLIC PROTECTION and JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

Multi-Purpose Room, Justice Center  
Balsam Lake, WI 54810  
2:00 p.m. Tuesday February 5, 2013

AGENDA

*The Governing Committee may consider matters noticed herein in any order, regardless of the placement of such item on this notice.*

Call to Order  
Approve Agenda  
Approve Minutes of January 8, 2013

Public Comment

**District Attorney and Victim Witness Office:**

January Report

**Medical Examiner:**

**Clerk of Courts:**

Monthly Report

**Sheriff:**

Sheriff's Activity Report

**Child Support Agency:**

Community Outreach "There Goes My Life"  
Quarterly Report  
Update on year end figures

**Adjourn**

This meeting is open to the public according to Wisconsin State Statute 19.83. Persons with disabilities wishing to attend and/or participate are asked to notify the County Clerk's office (715-485-9226) at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting time so all reasonable accommodations can be made.

## **Public Protection Meeting February 5, 2013**

Chair Jay Luke called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm.

**Present:** Gary Bergstrom, Kathryn Kienholz, Kim O'Connell

**Also present:** Belinda Cash, Malia Malone, Tracy Hemer

**Absent:** Jared Cockroft

**Motion by Bergstrom / O'Connell to approve agenda; carried unanimously on voice vote.**

**Motion by Bergstrom / Kienholz to approve the January minutes; carried unanimously on voice vote.**

No public comments.

### **District attorney.**

DA Steffen was on vacation. Belinda Cash of his office distributed the department's statistics for January 2013. Committee members commented that the January numbers were high; felonies in particular were significantly higher than any month in 2012. Cash commented that there were a number of meth cases in early January.

**No report from the medical examiner.**

**No report from the clerk of court.**

### **Child support agency.**

Agency director Malone and Hemer reported on their *There Goes Your Life* program, wherein they speak in area high schools about the legal and financial consequences of teen parenthood. They began the program in 2008 and have presented at least twice during each school year in all high schools in Polk County, plus Grantsburg. The presentations usually occur in the fall shortly after school starts and again in spring right before prom, and are made in a variety of settings depending on the school's preference: health classes, school assemblies.

During the tenure of the program, 2008 – 2011 (the latest year for which statistics are available), teen births in Polk County dropped 13.5%. Births to girls younger than 15 dropped to zero. Anecdotally, the one year a certain high school skipped the pre-prom presentation, six girls got pregnant.

They showed the committee members written responses they had gotten from kids who listened to a presentation. In general, students are shocked at the consequences that Malone and Hemer describe – DNA testing, court-ordered child support, court-appointed guardians for both minor parents and the child, the cost to raise the child, etc.

Members of the committee praised the efforts of Malone and Hemer and requested that they distribute the summary of the teens' responses and the statistics to all county board members. This is a program that is working.

Malone also reported that the agency ended the year within \$500 of their budget.

**No report from the sheriff.**

**Motion by Kienholz / O'Connell to adjourn; carried. Meeting was adjourned at 2:27**

**p.m.**