

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Public Safety & Justice Committee
INITIATED BY

Randy Terronez
DRAFTED BY

Public Safety & Justice Committee
SUBMITTED BY



November 16, 2020
DATE DRAFTED

APPROVING 2021-2025 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH DANE COUNTY FOR MEDICAL EXAMINER SERVICES

1 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors approved Resolution #16-10A-131 on October 13,
2 2016 which continued Rock County's relationship with Dane County to provide Medical Examiners
3 services, contained within an intergovernmental agreement; and,
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the Intergovernmental Agreement expires on December 31, 2020; and,
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7 **WHEREAS**, Dane County has been providing professional and administrative services to Rock County
8 since the transition from a coroner system to a medical examiner system in late 2014; and,
9

10 **WHEREAS**, Dane County is agreeable to provide a five-year agreement to provide professional and
11 administrative services which have been incorporated into the adopted 2021 budget.
12

13 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly
14 assembled this 17th day of December, 2020 approves the Dane County Intergovernmental
15 Agreement that delineates the roles and responsibilities of each county for the period January 1, 2021
16 through December 31, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE COMMITTEE

FISCAL NOTE:

/s/ Mary Beaver
Mary Beaver, Chair

Funds were approved in the 2021 budget for these services and will need to be included in future budgets.

/s/ Brian Knudson
Brian Knudson, Vice Chair

/s/ Sherry Oja

/s/ Ron Bomkamp
Ron Bomkamp

Sherry Oja
Finance Director

/s/ Danette Rynes
Danette Rynes

LEGAL NOTE:

/s/ Jacob Taylor
Jacob Taylor

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to secs. 59.01, 59.51 and 66.0301, Wis. Stats.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

/s/ Richard Greenlee

Recommended.

Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

/s/ Josh Smith

Josh Smith
County Administrator

Executive Summary

Approving the Intergovernmental Agreement with Dane County for Medical Examiner Services

Effective in 2015, Rock County replaced the elected coroner's system with an appointed medical examiner system in order to operate a more efficient, professional manner that would ensure the highest quality of services to the residents of Rock County. Beginning in late 2014, Rock County has contracted with Dane County via an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) to provide professional and administrative services.

The proposed IGA will be the fourth such agreement with Dane County covering the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025. The prior contract lengths covered two-year periods and the proposed covers a five-year length, a request of Rock County staff and meant to ensure more stability. Please note that the contract allows either party to opt out upon six months' written notice. Specifically the IGA calls for Dane County to provide:

1. Office Administrative oversight (via the Dane County Director of Operations, under the direction of the Dane County Medical Examiner, acts as the Director of Operations for Rock County).
 - Dane County management staff are on-site for 12 hours/week. (No change from the prior contract.)
2. Autopsy service, External Exams, Forensic Case Review, Management of Pathologists, Autopsy Medicine (via Chief Medical Examiner, the Deputy Chief Medical Examiner, and the Deputy Medical Examiner of Dane County acting in their capacity for Rock County).
 - Forensic case review of 900 cases.
 - Management – Pathologists at 2 hours/week.
 - Autopsies of 152 cases and covers use of CT scan in lieu of autopsy under certain situations.
 - External Exams of 10 cases.

(No change from the prior contract with the exception of CT scans being new.)

3. Transportation to/from the Rock County morgue and the Dane County morgue.
 - Transport of 304 autopsy cases and 10 external review cases to/from the Rock County morgue and the Dane County Medical Examiner facility.

(No change from the prior contract.)

Please note that Rock County employs five full-time and several part-time field staff (called Medicolegal Investigators) and a part-time office person.

Total contract cost in 2021 is \$335,486.61.

On a related matter, the County's Medical Examiner offices would be scheduled to move to the area currently occupied by the Council on Aging upon completion of the 1717 Center Avenue project.