

ENROLLED ORDINANCE 179-52

APPROVE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH
WASHINGTON COUNTY FOR THE WAUKESHA COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER
OFFICE TO PROVIDE MEDICAL EXAMINER SERVICES TO WASHINGTON COUNTY

WHEREAS, the authority for a contract agreement, which permits intergovernmental cooperation for public purposes, is contained in Wis. Stat. §66.0301; and

WHEREAS, the Waukesha County's Medical Examiner Office employs board-certified forensic pathologists; and

WHEREAS, Waukesha County and Washington County previously entered into an agreement in 2015 for Waukesha County's Medical Examiner Office to provide medical examiner services to Washington County through the end of 2024; and

WHEREAS, Washington County has expressed an interest for the Waukesha County Medical Examiner Office to continue to provide medical examiner services, but in a reduced amount; and

WHEREAS, the proposed agreement, entitled Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Between Waukesha County and Washington County Regarding the Provision of Medical Examiner Services to Washington County, is estimated to generate \$250,000 in revenue for Waukesha County in 2025, a reduction of \$76,000 from 2024, but would lessen costs to Waukesha County by shifting workload and medicolegal authority responsibilities to Washington County, including decedent identification, death certification, and most external examinations; and

WHEREAS, the Waukesha County Medical Examiner Office will be responsible for performing autopsy services including obtaining and interpreting typical medical testing, and in certain cases when requested by Washington County, providing a medical opinion of the cause of death when sufficient information is available; and

WHEREAS, it will remain mutually beneficial to Washington County and Waukesha County to approve this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the proposed agreement will not require any current budget action and is included within Waukesha County's 2025 Executive Budget.


THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF WAUKESHA ORDAINS that the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Between Waukesha County and Washington County Regarding the Provision of Medical Examiner Services to Washington County is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Waukesha County Medical Examiner or her designee is authorized to execute the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Between Waukesha County and Washington County Regarding the Provision of Medical Examiner Services to Washington County and any other documents necessary to effectuate the intent thereof.

APPROVE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY
FOR THE WAUKESHA COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER OFFICE TO PROVIDE
MEDICAL EXAMINER SERVICES TO WASHINGTON COUNTY

Presented By:
Judiciary & Law Enforcement Committee

Approved By:
Finance Committee



Jacob LaFontain, Chair



Gary J. Szpara, Chair



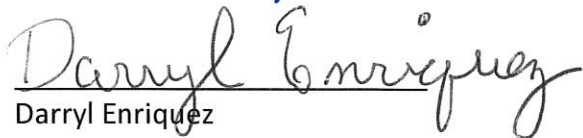
Larry Bangs



Larry Bangs



Jim Batzko



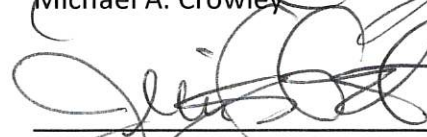
Darryl Enriquez



Michael A. Crowley



Wayne Euclide



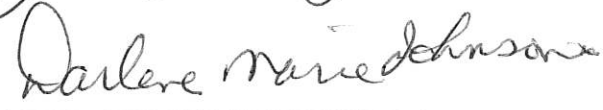
Jennifer Grant



Joel R. Gaughan

Absent

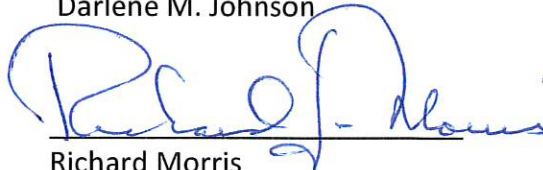
John D. Leisemann



Darlene M. Johnson



Terry Thieme



Richard Morris

The foregoing legislation adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of Waukesha County, Wisconsin, was presented to the County Executive on:

Date: 12/3/24, 
Margaret Wartman, County Clerk

The foregoing legislation adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of Waukesha County, Wisconsin, is hereby:

Approved: X
Vetoed: _____

Date: 12/3/2024, 
Paul Farrow, County Executive

FISCAL NOTE

APPROVE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH
WASHINGTON COUNTY FOR THE WAUKESHA COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER
OFFICE TO PROVIDE MEDICAL EXAMINER SERVICES TO WASHINGTON COUNTY

This ordinance authorizes Waukesha County to enter an intergovernmental agreement to provide medical examiner services to Washington County. The proposed contract is to last one year with a one-year renewal option, for up to two additional times (three years in total), unless otherwise modified or terminated.

The proposed agreement is estimated to result in \$250,000 of revenue in the 2025 budget, which is a decrease of \$76,000 from 2024. There is also a corresponding reduction in workload, with the Waukesha County Medical Examiner's Office (MEO) transferring authority to Washington County for death certificate preparation, most external examinations, and decedent identification. The MEO will still be responsible for performing autopsies, obtaining and interpreting typical medical tests, providing court testimony when necessary, and in certain cases when requested by Washington County, providing a medical opinion of the cause of death when sufficient information is available. Continuing a contractual relationship with Washington County benefits Waukesha County by helping defray the cost of staff, including a pathologist, that provides capacity for handling Waukesha County's caseload and removes the County from liability associated with being the medicolegal authority for Washington County.

Under the previous agreement, Washington County paid an annual fee for medical examiners services. Beginning in 2025, Washington County will pay \$2,500 as a base fee for each autopsy completed and \$1,000 as a base fee for each external examination completed. A fee of \$957 will be charged to Washington County for each half day (0 – 4 hours) spent on additional services such as scene investigation, consultations, court time, and travel. The cost of typical medical tests (e.g., x-rays, toxicology) are factored into the base \$2,500 fee, but Washington County will be responsible for covering the costs of additional services (e.g., dental identification, DNA testing).

At the beginning of each subsequent year, the flat fee and half-day charges will be increased by 2% or the percentage increase in Consumer Price Index, all items in Midwest Urban (CUUR0200SA0), for the most recent 12 months ending on June 30th, whichever is higher. The contract limits the increase to being no higher than 6%.

William Duckwitz

William Duckwitz
Budget Manager
11/5/2024
TL

VOTE RESULTS

Ordinance 179-O-054

23 YES 0 NO 0 ABSTAIN 2 ABSENT

Passed By Majority Vote

D1 - Styza	AVE	D10 - Thieme	AVE	D19 - Enriquez	AVE
D2 - Euclide	AVE	D11 - Howard	ABSENT	D20 - Schellinger	AVE
D3 - Morris	AVE	D12 - Wolff	AVE	D21 - Gaughan	AVE
D4 - Batzko	AVE	D13 - Leisemann	AVE	D22 - Szpara	AVE
D5 - Grant	S AVE	D14 - Mommaerts	AVE	D23 - Hammitt	AVE
D6 - Walz	AVE	D15 - Kolb	AVE	D24 - Bangs	AVE
D7 - LaFontain	M AVE	D16 - Crowley	ABSENT	D25 - Johnson	AVE
D8 - Koremenos	AVE	D17 - Meier	AVE		
D9 - Heinrich	AVE	D18 - Nelson	AVE		