

Bayfield County Administrator

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> Mark Abeles-Allison, *County Administrator* Kristine Kavajecz, *Assistant*

March 21, 2018

The Bayfield County Board approved the following comments at their March 20, 2018 meeting.

Bayfield County supports Rule Petition 17-06 proposing an increase in hourly compensation for court appointed lawyers from \$70 to \$100 and indexing future compensation rates to annual cost of living increases.

It is difficult for Bayfield County to find court appointed attorneys for the \$60 out of court and \$70/hour in court rate.

Bayfield County has gone over budget on court appointed attorney line items the past several years.

The lower rate restricts the County's ability to bill for / go through collections on outstanding attorney fees and limits it to the \$60/\$70 rate even though we are spending considerably more.

Bayfield County supports the \$100 per hour rate together with annual indexing.

Sincerely,

Mark Abeles-Allison

Bayfield County Administrator