

Jefferson County moving ahead on medical examiner

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JEFFERSON -- The Jefferson County Human Resources Committee met this week and conducted discussion on how it wishes to handle the newly created position of medical examiner in the county.

At the January meeting of the county board, supervisors agreed to eliminate the coroner's position at the end of this year and move to having that job handled by a medical examiner.

The human resources committee's discussion centered on recruitment of, and compensation for, the medical examiner.

According to Jefferson County Administrator Ben Wehmeier, the county will be working on making the overall adjustment before the end of the year and will be creating what he called "a recruitment time line" for filling the position.

The committee also agreed it should send a recommendation to the county board regarding wages and benefits for the 2015-19 term for the constitutional elected positions of clerk of courts and sheriff. These two positions are up for election in the fall.

"We want to know how to set those rates," Wehmeier said.

There was also a discussion, which will be ongoing, regarding obtaining and maintaining sufficient interpreters at the human services and health departments.