



Public Safety, Health and Judicial Committee Meeting – Wednesday, April 7, 2021

Third Floor Boardroom, Old Lee County Courthouse – 9:00 a.m.

112 E Second St, Dixon, Illinois 61021

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Mike Koppien

Member Roll Call: Chair Mike Koppien, Keane Hudson, Katie White, Mike Zeman and Jack Skrogstad were present in person, Vice Chair Marilyn Shippert attended via Zoom video conferencing.

Members Absent: None

Board Members, Department Heads, or County Employees Present: John Nicholson (County Board Vice Chair), Charley Boonstra (State's Attorney), Amy Johnson (Circuit Clerk), John Simonton (Sheriff), Staci Stewart (Probation)(9:05-9:50), Jonathan Henrickson (IT Intern), and Becky Brenner (Board Secretary) were present in person, Kevin Lalley (EMA) and Jesse Partington (Coroner) attended via Zoom video conferencing.

Minutes of the March 2021 Public Safety, Health, and Judicial Committee meeting were approved without modification.

Review of Claims & Reports

Motion from Jack Skrogstad: To accept and approve all claims from the Circuit Clerk, Sheriff, Coroner, State's Attorney, Probation, EMA, Public Defender, Judge Ackert, Judge Friel-Draper, Judge Klahn, and Judge Lee.

Second by Mike Zeman: Jack Skrogstad abstained from the vote. All other members voted in favor.

Collection of Unpaid Fines – States Attorney – Charley Boonstra reported that roughly \$15,000 had been collected in March in unpaid fines.

Update on Dangerous and Abandoned Properties – No report for March

Department Head Reports

Charley Boonstra reported that in March his office closed 30 felony cases and filed 19 new cases. This does not include the open pleas that are set up for sentencing.

John Simonton reported that he is looking at a different funding mechanism that may be coming to the County to use toward the demolition of the Old Jail and identifying other projects that the money could be used for. He is looking to collect bids for key card access for the Old Courthouse to enhance security. He also reiterated the urgency with staffing issues in the Sheriff's Office. Covid related and workman's comp related absences continue to make the staffing issue more critical.

Kevin Lalley reported that EMA and the National Guard were actively involved in the Covid vaccination clinic at Sauk Valley College on April 3, 2021. Nearly 600 people were vaccinated. He also reported that the County was experiencing an uptick in Covid positivity rates and that a third wave of the virus was not being ruled out. He encouraged everyone to wear masks, wash their hands often, and practice social distancing.

Old Business:

John Simonton reported that the Qualified Immunity topic on the agenda would be on hold until he can get more information to present to the County Board so action can be taken. He continues to talk with CIRMA along with a coalition of Sheriffs that are involved with CIRMA to see what options they have if qualified immunity is dropped from the police reform bill.

New Business

Motion by Katie White: To motion all four (4) appointments or reappointments on the agenda to the Executive Committee in one motion.

Second by Jack Skrogstad: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Motion by Marilyn Shippert: To move the following four (4) resolutions to the Executive Committee: Resolution Reappointing Mike Koppien, Pat Hilliker and Josh Tucker to the Lee County Emergency Telephone System Board, Resolution Reappointing John Scott Murphy as Trustee of the Franklin Grove Fire Protection District, Resolution Reappointing John N. Prentice as Trustee of the Paw Paw Fire Protection District, and Resolution Appointing Joseph Weinzierl as Trustee of the West Brooklyn Fire Protection District,

Second by Keane Hudson: Mike Koppien abstained from the vote. All other members voted in favor.

Motion to adjourn by Keane Hudson:

Second by Katie White: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

With no further business, meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Becky Brenner – Lee County Board Secretary

The next scheduled meeting for the Public Safety Committee will be 9:00 a.m., on Wednesday, May 12, 2021