



Public Safety, Health and Judicial Committee Meeting – Wednesday, July 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 9:04 a.m. by Chair Mike Koppien

Member Roll Call: Chair Mike Koppien, Vice Chair Marilyn Shippert, Keane Hudson, Mike Zeman and Jack Skrogstad were all present in person. Katie White (9:09-9:57) 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)(9:00-9:11), Amy Johnson (Circuit Clerk), John Simonton (Sheriff), Staci Stewart (Probation), Kevin Lalley (EMA), Wendy Ryerson (Administrator), Arlan McClain (Board Member)(9:50-9:57), Jonathan Henrikson (IT), and Becky Brenner (Board Secretary) were present in person.

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

Review of Claims & Reports

Motion from Keane Hudson: 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 Marilyn Shippert: Jack Skrogstad abstained from the vote. All other members voted in favor.

Collection of Unpaid Fines – States Attorney: No update

Update on Dangerous and Abandoned Properties – John Simonton reported that Corporal Jared Yater had retired in June, so Jake Amesquita would be the Sheriff's Office Civil Process Officer and would continue to work on the abandoned vehicle problem throughout the County.

Department Head Reports

Charley Boonstra reported that he would need to leave early to attend a sentencing hearing for a methamphetamine trafficking case.

Kevin Lalley reported that he had been in Wisconsin for a week with the National Guard for Patriot 21, a national exercise incorporating military and local responders. The Northwest Illinois Incident Management Assistance Team provided the overhead for the six (6) day exercise at Volk Field Camp in Douglas Wisconsin. EMA also helped and assisted with the Petunia Festival and will be doing the same for Depot Days in Amboy.

Old Business:

Mike Koppien reported that there are currently six (6) properties that the Zoning Office has received complaints about, and actions are being taken on each one.

John Simonton reported that he had no additional information to share regarding the access card project on the agenda. He did report that some of the items on the police reform bill had been delayed as far as the effective dates. The office has amended their policies regarding the items that went into effect July 1, 2021, and that qualified immunity is still up for consideration.

New Business

Staci Stewart explained that over the last several years the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts has been working on and is nearing completion on new data element sheets. The Probation Department already compiles stats every month, but the new sheets would contain more than 170 data elements on each form. This includes adult stats, juvenile stats and statistics regarding drug treatment and veterans court, public services work and pretrial. The system that the office currently has, for Probations purposes only, does not work to collect this information. Probation is currently on a package with the Circuit Clerk's Office and this arrangement has worked simultaneously up until the last couple years when things began changing in the Administrative Office. Staci has started looking at a new management information system. The new system would take the Probation Office away from the system that the Circuit Clerk's Office uses where all the criminal case information is held. The office would need to toggle back and forth between the two systems. Staci has identified the program she would like to use and is working with IT to make sure everyone is on the same page. Sara Leisner in the State's Attorney's Office found a way to incorporate the cost of the new system into the Veteran's Treatment Court Federal Grant. The only unknown cost for the project would be the cost to convert the data, which Staci thought could be covered by Probation service fees.

Staci also explained that the Probation Office picked up GPS monitoring in 2016 with only a couple cases and the cost was reimbursed by the client. Currently Probation has 16 individuals with GPS monitoring. Pre-trial reform could potentially bring about enormous changes in the way the Probation Department works. What is about to change with the pre-trial reform is the release of those at the jail to be monitored via GPS tracking. There is a daily fee to monitor the system and track the individual. The change is earmarked for January of 2023 but Probation Office would like to be proactive and have a plan in place by then.

Staci also reported that she will have another employee leaving at the end of July, so she will be looking to hire a replacement employee.

Mike Koppien asked for input from the committee and Department Heads regarding a Compliance Enforcement Employee for the County. The Sheriff suggested keeping the enforcement within the Sheriff's Office under the care of the Civil Process Officer and reevaluating the topic if matter becomes overwhelming.

Motion to adjourn by Marilyn Shippert:

Second by Mike Zeman: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

With no further business, meeting was adjourned at 9:57 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, August 11, 2021