



## **Public Safety, Health and Judicial Committee Meeting – Wednesday, August 11, 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 Vice Chair Marilyn Shippert

**Member Roll Call:** Vice Chair Marilyn Shippert, Keane Hudson, Mike Zeman, Jack Skrogstad, and Katie White were all present in person.

**Members Absent:** Chair Mike Koppien

**Board Members, Department Heads, or County Employees Present:** County Board Chairman Bob Olson (9:40-9:50), John Nicholson (County Board Vice Chair)(9:16-9:53, 10:11-10:25), Charley Boonstra (State's Attorney)(9:00-9:46), Wendy Ryerson (Administrator), Staci Stewart (Probation), Amy Johnson (Circuit Clerk), John Simonton (Sheriff), Kevin Lalley (EMA), Jonathan Henrikson (IT), and Becky Brenner (Board Secretary) were present in person.

**Visitors:** Steve Dilger and Mark Imfeld (9:00–9:52) from Blackhawk Trail Riders were present to speak on behalf of the UTV ordinance on the agenda.

Wendy Ryerson reported that every Monday morning she sends an update to the Executive Committee on the projects and activities that she is working on. She stated that she was happy to send the report to any of the Board Members not on the Executive Committee if they were interested in see it.

In light of potential changes being made to the claims process for streamlining, Wendy Ryerson brought before the committee an example of how DeKalb County processes their claims. The County Clerk's Office enters claims into the accounts payable/receivable system and from that system prints out a report that is presented to the appropriate committee for review. The invoices are available for the committee for review as well. These reports are then combined for the County Board meeting and approved as a whole. Wendy talked to the County auditors, and they were in favor of the process because of the paper trail and full transparency it provided. Wendy also reported that she had contacted Whiteside County and their system is similar to how Administrative Services is currently working through claims. In Whiteside any claim \$1,000 and budgeted is approved by the Department Head through the County Clerk's Office, \$1,000 to \$10,000 requires approval by the County Administrator, \$10,000 to \$30,000 requires approval by the committee and anything greater than \$30,000 requires a decision by the County Board for approval. She will continue to research the topic and consult with the Treasurer's Office and the County Clerk's Office for input and software compatibility before bringing a recommendation to the committee. The system was discussed in length by the committee.

Minutes of the July 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 Keane Hudson:** 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 – No update**

**Department Head Reports:**

Kevin Lalley reported that the storms that went through earlier in the morning had closed parts of route 26 because of debris and 8606 customers, including all of Woodhaven Lakes, without power.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business**

Amy Johnson reported that during budget hearings she had requested \$10,000 in capital funds to cover an upcoming Supreme Court mandated software change/update. Since then, she has met with the Winnebago County Circuit Clerk and they have agreed to split the cost of the January 1, 2022, mandated software. Lee County's cost is \$65,000. She does have the money in the miscellaneous expense line item in her document storage and automation fund. She will be meeting with the Treasurer to go over her options because she does not want to deplete that line item with the cost of the software.

Steve Dilger and Mark Imfeld from the Blackhawk Trail Riders attended the meeting to support the UTV Ordinance discussion on the agenda. The committee did have some concerns about the ordinance which included equipment for eye protection, slow moving vehicle signs, windshields, and windshield wipers, and what various citations might be. Charley Boonstra explained that the ordinance only pertained to County roads. Townships would have to individually approve UTV's to be allowed on Township roads. John Simonton explained that discussion in a preliminary meeting identified the Sheriff's Office as the logical location to process the permits and complete the inspections on the UTV's.

John Simonton reported that he would be meeting with the Finance Committee later in the week for a second budget hearing meeting. He explained that he had done a staffing study for the office and the report showed that the office needed a minimum of 12-14 additional deputies. He is requesting five (5) additional deputies, two (2) in corrections and three (3) in the law enforcement division. He emphasized the critical need to provide time off for his deputies from a personal health perspective and an overall safety standpoint.

**Motion from Jack Skrogstad:** To show support for the Sheriff's requests for additional staff.

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

**Motion to adjourn by Jack Skrogstad:**

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

With no further business, meeting was adjourned at 10:25 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, September 8, 2021*