



**Public Safety, Health and Judicial Committee Meeting – Wednesday, October 13, 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, Mike Zeman, and Jack Skrogstad were all present in person.

**Members Absent:** Katie White and Keane Hudson

**Board Members, Department Heads, or County Employees Present:** John Nicholson (County Board Vice Chair), Charley Boonstra (State's Attorney), Wendy Ryerson (Administrator), Staci Stewart (Probation), Amy Johnson (Circuit Clerk), John Simonton (Sheriff), Nancy Petersen (County Clerk), Jonathan Henrikson (IT), and Becky Brenner (Board Secretary) were present in person. Jesse Partington (Coroner) attended via Zoom video conferencing (9:04-9:25).

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

**Review of Claims & Reports**

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

**Collection of Unpaid Fines – States Attorney:** Charley Boonstra reported that collections received in 2021 through the end of September totaled \$34,881.57; total collections received including what is paid to Harris totaled \$46,981.18; and collections received in the month of September was \$2,024.14.

**Update on Dangerous and Abandoned Properties –** John Simonton reported that Jack Amesquita, the Civil Process Deputy, continues to serve notices on properties that are not compliant. He also reported that the office continues to work on the property at 251 and 30 and activity has been reported there.

**Administrator and Department Head Reports:**

Wendy Ryerson reported that the FY2022 Budget, the FY2022 Levy request, and the PACE Program ordinances would be coming to County Board on the 21<sup>st</sup> to lay over until the November 2021 County Board meeting. She also gave the committee a brief overview of the 'On Board' software program being considered for the board and committee meetings that was on the Finance and Executive Committee agendas. The new system would be completely digital, Zoom integrated, and all the necessary documents for meetings would be accessible through a tablet or laptop. This software would require an annual monetary commitment and additional electronic hardware, including devices for every board member.

Charley Boonstra explained that the OVW Grant claim that was paid in October was higher than it normally is because the grant was coming to an end and the funds needed to be spent. He was happy to report that the OVW Grant was reapplied for and approved for the next three years with an option to extend for a fourth year.

**Old Business:**

John Simonton briefly reiterated some of the complex matters regarding the UTV ordinance that are being discussed during the UTV Committee meetings. No action was taken.

**New Business**

Charley Boonstra explained that the City of Amboy had reached out to Lee County to see if the State's Attorney's Office would be willing to take on their city ordinance violations for prosecution. After discussion, it came down to the County handling cases from prosecution to disposition. If there was a jury trial demand the case would fall back to the City of Amboy attorney. For each citation that was filed and prosecuted by the States Attorney's Office, the County would receive \$75.00 per citation. The County does have the option to reject cases and Charley didn't feel like it would take much time away from the office duties.

**Motion from Jack Skrogstad:** To recommend to the Executive Committee that the State's Attorney Office handle ordinance violations for prosecution for the City of Amboy.

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

John Simonton reported that the Jail Inspection Report showed a finding regarding the commissary audit. The audit is in the process of being completed. The report also showed findings regarding cell checks. The report is based on random checks on random days and the average is slightly over by 3 – 5 minutes. The report also showed that the record keeping had greatly improved

John Simonton explained that he had an opportunity for two (2) new hires, one in corrections and one in patrol, that could be hired from out of state or from another department as lateral transfers. The process is allowed through ILETSB if the candidate meets certain criteria and completes required training. This would save the office time and money because the new hires would not have to attend the academy. John reported that he did have funds in his salary line item to pay for an additional month for each employee if they could be hired before December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mike Koppien requested a motion for the appointment of William Mathieu to the West Brooklyn Fire Protection District.

**Motion from Marilyn Shippert:** To move the resolution appointment of William Mathieu to the West Brooklyn Fire Protection District to the Executive Committee.

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

Staci Stewart explained to the committee that her office would soon be starting the process of updating and converting the data management software in her office. She voiced her concern regarding the scope of the project and the amount of IT needs that would be required to install software and convert the data. She also expressed her concern regarding the need for equipment that will be required to complete the project and the availability of the equipment.

**Motion to adjourn by Marilyn Shippert:**

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

With no further business, meeting was adjourned at 10:26 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, November 9, 2021*