

## **Minutes of the Justice Committee**

The Justice Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, April 5, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Rackauskas; Members McIntyre, Wollrab, Schafer, Rankin and McKibbin

Members Absent: None

Other County Board  
Members Present: None

Staff Present: Mr. Terry Lindberg, County Administrator; Mr. Bill Wasson, Assistant County Administrator; and Ms. Judith LaCasse, Assistant to the County Administrator

Department Heads/  
Elected Officials  
Present: Ms. Lori McCormick, Director, Court Services; Ms. Cathy Waltz, Superintendent, Juvenile Detention Center; Ms. Judy Brucker, Director, Children's Advocacy Center; Ms. Kim Campbell, Public Defender

Others Present: Mr. Mike Donovan, Deputy Director, Court Services

Chairman Rackauskas called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

Chairman Rackauskas presented the Minutes from the Tuesday, March 1, 2011 Meeting and the February 15, 2011 Stand-up Meeting.

Motion by McIntyre/Wollrab to Approve the Minutes of the March 1, 2011 Meeting and the February 15, 2011 Stand-up Meeting.  
Motion carried.

Ms. Lori McCormick, Director, Court Services, presented a request for approval of an Agreement with Chestnut Health Systems for Recovery Court Treatment and Services. She explained that Chestnut Health Systems will provide Recovery Court Dual Diagnosis services to eligible adult clients. Ms. McCormick indicated that this service is available due to the two year \$600,000 U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant that was accepted by the County in November of 2010. Ms. McCormick introduced Mr. Mike Donovan, Deputy Director, Court Services who works with her on the Adult Redeploy Program.

Ms. McCormick noted that Ms. Hannah Eisner, First Civil Assistant State's Attorney has worked with the Court Services Department and Chestnut Health Systems regarding this Agreement. She pointed out that this grant can be extended beyond the two years that is shown in this Agreement.

Ms. McCormick advised that Recovery Court will be accepting its 10<sup>th</sup> client on Thursday and may have the 11<sup>th</sup> client by next week.

Ms. Wollrab asked if the County runs any risk of having potential malpractice issues. Ms. McCormick responded that Chestnut Health Systems would have all of those liabilities. Chairman Rackauskas pointed out that the County also has insurance.

Motion by McIntyre/Rankin to Recommend Approval of  
an Agreement with Chestnut Health Systems for  
Recovery Court Treatment and Services.  
Motion carried.

Ms. McCormick presented a request for approval to apply for an Adult Redeploy Grant through the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (funding to be received through the U.S. Department of Justice/American Recovery and Reinvestment Act). She advised that the Crime Reduction Act (Public Act 96-0761) establishing the Adult Redeploy Illinois Program became effective on January 1, 2010. McLean County applied and received grant funding in 2010 for assistance in research/planning/developing a local program plan that specified how to reduce commitments of non-violent offenders to prison and provide supervision and community-based services for such individuals.

Ms. McCormick asked that Court Services be allowed to apply for a \$250,000 grant. She indicated that the grant is due to the Authority on April 2, 2011. Ms. McCormick noted that the 18 month grant is expected to begin on July 1, 2011. There is no match required, and the grant allows for personnel to be hired that will enhance programming and the supervision of eligible individuals that are on felony probation for non-violent offenses. Ms. McCormick added that Drug Court and Intensive Probation clients are the targeted population. She explained that increased programming to the targeted population at this time would include electronic monitoring, cognitive programming, advocacy/mentoring services, increased drug/alcohol monitoring, job and educational skill building and client assistance.

Ms. McCormick stated that personnel could be added with this grant with no match. This person could work non-traditional hours such as weekends and evenings. Ms. McCormick added that someone could be hired who could assess immediately for drug or mental health issues and assist with counseling. She advised that the idea of redeploy is to take that money from Corrections and place it in the community. Ms. McCormick stated that each site who wishes to provide the Redeploy Program is allowed to choose their target population and develop their own program.

After a brief discussion, Ms. McCormick advised that the Illinois State University Stevenson Center is already working on ongoing statistical information associated with the Redeploy Program. She indicated that she will periodically provide status reports to the Justice Committee.

Motion by Wollrab/Rankin to Recommend Approval to apply for an Adult Redeploy Grant through the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (funding to be received through the U.S. Department of Justice/ American Recovery and Reinvestment Act).

Motion carried.

Chairman Rackauskas asked for a report on the "bath salts" being used as a drug. Ms. McCormick advised that the "bath salts" are, in fact, not your usual bath salts used in your bath, but a new designer drug that is currently still legal. She indicated that Chestnut Health Systems would be a good source of information regarding this new drug. Ms. McCormick added that this drug can be purchased at local tobacco shops. She reiterated at that this time the "bath salts" are legal.

Ms. McCormick stated that every time new legislation comes out that prohibits the use of a drug, a new drug takes its place. She indicated that the Drug Court staff is knowledgeable about this new drug because a lot of the Drug Court clients who are trying to stay sober, will pass along the information about new designer drugs that are available

Chairman Rackauskas asked how long this drug has been available in this community. Ms. McCormick replied that the probation community here just learned about it in December or January.

Ms. McCormick advised that she will prepare information on this new drug and share it with the Justice Committee.

Mr. Donovan stated that he ran the Court Services Drug testing lab for several years. He reported that the "bath salts" is it basically synthetic cocaine that is ground up and snorted. Mr. Donovan indicated that the driving chemicals to this drug are trying to be determined so that the chemicals can be banned. He noted that the state determined the chemical components of last year's designer drugs "K-2" and "spice" and subsequently banned those drugs. Mr. Donovan added that the Federal Government banned the chemicals used to make the drugs rather than just banning the drugs. He explained that unless the chemicals that comprise the drug are banned, the drug itself can be altered and then become a different legal drug. Mr. Donovan noted that this new drug will probably be banned once its chemical makeup is determined.

Mr. Donovan explained that these are not really bath salts, but a crystallized, synthetic form of cocaine that has been given the moniker "bath salts." He added that it is similar to the drugs K-2 and spice that were supposed to be an incense or potpourri.

Chairman Rackauskas asked where these are being made. Mr. Donovan replied that the research he has done suggests that the drugs are being made in China. He indicated that the "bath salts" drug cannot as yet be tested since they haven't identified the chemical that causes the "high."

Chairman Rackauskas suggested that it is the responsibility of the Health Department to educate the schools and the community about this drug.

Ms. McCormick reviewed the Court Services Adult/Juvenile Division Statistics for February 2011, as well as the Juvenile Detention Center statistics.

Chairman Rackauskas asked if there were any additional questions or comments. Hearing none, she thanked Ms. McCormick and Ms. Waltz.

Mr. Will Scanlon, Administrator, Circuit Court, presented a request for approval of Renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement between the Department of Healthcare and Family Services and McLean County Office of the Chief Judge, Agreement 2011-55-008-K2, Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement Grant. He explained that this is the second year of a three-year contract that was approved last year.

Mr. Scanlon stated that this three-year grant has been in existence since 1999 and requires an annual renewal that runs from July 1 to June 30th. He indicated the \$33,400 pays for the hearing officer and one phone line. Mr. Scanlon noted that the Child Support Enforcement Program involves the following three departments:

- The Circuit Clerk's Office portion of the grant is for filing Child Support cases;
- The State's Attorney's Office portion of the grant is for enforcement of the Program;
- The Circuit Court portion of the grant is to fund a Hearing Officer and one phone line.

Mr. Scanlon advised that all of the cases get filed go through the Circuit Clerk's Office. He noted that only those cases that need enforcement go through the State's Attorney's Office and those that need to see a judge go through the Circuit Court., which is the smallest portion of the grant. Mr. Scanlon indicated that in the event that this contract goes away, the Circuit Court would transfer all of these cases and responsibilities to an Associate or Circuit Judge in the Family Division. He added that the Circuit Clerk's Office and the State's Attorney's Office would find it more difficult to absorb the caseload without additional funding as they have staffing that is funded by the grant.

Motion by Rankin/Schafer to Recommend Approval of Renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement between the Department of Healthcare and Family Services and McLean County Office of the Chief Judge, Agreement 2011-55-008-K2, Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement Grant.  
Motion carried.

Mr. Scanlon reminded the Committee that Criminal Justice Coordinating Council is scheduled for Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

Chairman Rackauskas asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, she thanked Mr. Scanlon.

Chairman Rackauskas presented the Jury Commission 2011 First Quarter Report as submitted by Ms. Cindy Brand, Jury Commission. There were no questions on the report.

Mr. Don Everhart, Circuit Clerk, presented his February 2011 Statistical Reports. He noted that there is nothing unusual in the reports.

Mr. Everhart indicated that he would like to have a stand-up Committee meeting to approve his portion of the Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement Grant should he receive the paperwork in the near future.

Chairman Rackauskas asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, she thanked Mr. Everhart.

Ms. Judy Brucker, Director, CAC, announced that April is Child Abuse Awareness Month. She indicated that "blue kid" yard signs are available for distribution following the meeting.

Ms. Brucker presented the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) Monthly Statistical Report and the CASA Report. She advised that the CAC report is running on par with last year. Ms. Brucker stated that CASA Program continues to do well. She noted that training began Monday night with six trainees.

Ms. Brucker stated that TIP a VIP netted \$27,000, which is down from last year's total of \$33,000.

Ms. Brucker announced that Saturday, May 14, CASA is hosting for the fourth year the Champion for Children Walk, which is a walk of Children's Advocacy Centers from across the state in their own communities. She added that five other states are walking on that same day for the same awareness issue.

Chairman Rackauskas asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, she thanked Ms. Brucker.

Chairman Rackauskas presented the County Coroner's February Monthly Report as submitted by Ms. Beth C. Kimmerling, County Coroner. There were no question on the report.

Chairman Rackauskas advised that Mr. Bill Yoder, State's Attorney, was not available to attend the meeting. Mr. Lindberg presented the State's Attorney's request for approval of a renewal and amendment of the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Department of Healthcare and Family Services and McLean County State's Attorney – Agreement No. 2011-55-013-K2, Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement Grant. He stated that this is the second portion of the IV-D Child Support Enforcement Grant of \$275,000.

Motion by McKibbin/Rankin to Recommend Approval of  
Renewal of the Intergovernmental Agreement between  
the Department of Healthcare and Family Services and  
McLean County State's Attorney – Agreement 2011-  
55-013-K2, Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement  
Grant.

Motion carried.

Ms. Kim Campbell, Public Defender, presented a request for approval of an Extended Leave of Absence for an employee in the Public Defender's Office. She advised that the Public Defender's Office wishes to grant a one-month extended leave on an unpaid basis to a full-time permanent employee who has been on staff for eight years. Ms. Campbell indicated that this employee is undergoing medical treatment for the next several weeks and has exhausted her paid leave and FMLA leave. She noted that during the employee's absence, the workload will be covered by existing staff and a temporary clerical assistance. No budget amendments are necessary. Ms. Campbell advised that she does not know when the employee will return or if it may be necessary to request another extended leave in the future.

Ms. Campbell stated that the County Administrator's Office supports her request.

Motion by McIntyre/Wollrab to Recommend Approval of  
an Extended Leave of Absence for an employee in the  
Public Defender's Office.

Motion carried.

Ms. Campbell reviewed the Public Defender Caseload Report for February 2011. She indicated that there is nothing significant to report. Ms. Campbell noted that felonies are down a little bit.

Chairman Rackauskas asked if Ms. Campbell knew anything about the police operation that occurred this morning. Ms. Campbell was not aware of the event. Mr. Lindberg responded that it was the culmination of an FBI-led drug operation that started last August.

Ms. Campbell invited the Committee to attend a training seminar tomorrow, April 6<sup>th</sup> beginning at Noon. She noted that this is the first ever State's Attorney/Public Defender joint Continuing Legal Education (CLE) training in the County Board Room. The training will include probation treatment alternatives and supervision conducted by Mr. Donovan. Ms. Campbell added that someone from Chestnut Health System will also be available at the training and they might be available to answer questions about the "bath salt" drug.

Chairman Rackauskas asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, she thanked Ms. Campbell.

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Mr. Lindberg advised that Sheriff Mike Emery asked him to convey his apologies for being unable to attend the meeting. He indicated that Sheriff Emery wanted him to announce that the Sheriff's Department has not housed out a single individual since January 1, 2011.

Mr. Lindberg stated that the County's overtime costs related to the Fools Fest event was less than \$4,000. He noted that remote booking was established at the Normal Police Department to keep front-line officers at the incident scenes for booking and bonding.

Chairman Rackauskas presented the March 31, 2011 Justice Committee bills for review and approval as transmitted by the County Auditor. The Justice Committee bills include a Prepaid Total of \$671,138.98 and a Fund Total that is the same.



Motion by McIntyre/Wollrab to Recommend Approval of the Justice Committee Bills as of March 31, 2011, as transmitted by the County Auditor.  
Motion carried.

Mr. Lindberg shared with the Committee his concerns regarding grants management for the County. He indicated that the Federal Government has become much more effective at monitoring and checking grant programs. Mr. Lindberg noted that most of the grants the County receives have strict management requirements. He added that there are incredibly more complex and detailed outside audit requirements as well. Mr. Lindberg stated that the County Administrator's Office will always be vigilant and will not support recommending grants unless it is assured that there is appropriate administrative staff to monitor the grants.

Mr. Lindberg cautioned the Committee that it may become necessary in the near future to request an FTE position for a professional staff member to monitor and manage the plethora of grants currently being received by the County and all potential grants. He indicated that the County Administrator's Office or the Auditor's Office may require a much better trained accounting specialist in this area or a program manager who is an expert in federal grants to make sure that all of the County's fiscal and legal requirements are met. Mr. Lindberg estimated that the FTE position would cost the County \$50,000-\$60,000.

Chairman Rackauskas asked if there was any other business or communication for the Justice Committee. Hearing none, she called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion by McIntyre/Schafer to Recommend that the Justice Committee meeting be adjourned at 5:28 p.m.  
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse  
Recording Secretary