

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Justice Committee

The Justice Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, August 21, 2012 at 8:25 a.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Rackauskas Members McIntyre, Schafer, and McKibbin

Members Absent: Members Rankin and Wollrab

Other County Board
Members Present: None

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

Department Heads/
Elected Officials
Present: Lori McCormick, Director, Court Services

Others Present: Mr. Ryan Leuty, Assistant Director, Information Technologies

Chairman Rackauskas called the meeting to order at 8:27 a.m.

Chairman Rackauskas presented a request for approval of a McLean County Specialty Courts Data Base Enhancement Contract with RSM McGladrey, Inc. – Court Services.

Ms. Lori McCormick, Director, Court Services, reminded the Committee that the Drug and Recovery Courts are involved in local and national evaluations as part of the grant from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). She indicated that the evaluators have examined all parts of the programs, including what data is tracked and how it is tracked. The evaluators have strongly recommended that Recovery Court utilize a format more like the Drug Court database before the data becomes overwhelming in its current format.

Ms. Schafer asked if this database is something that is included in EJS system. Ms. McCormick replied that it is not a part of EJS. She noted that there are so many different data points and information that would not be used by any other part of the justice system. Ms. McCormick added that this information would only be used by the Court Services Department and the evaluators and researchers.

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Ms. Schafer asked if this data base process would be compatible to a potential new justice system. Mr. Wasson replied that this data program is independent of other agencies justice information use. Ms. McCormick noted that specialty courts are rising all over the country and this database may help future specialty courts. She added that the evaluators are very excited about this database because many specialty courts are keeping their data on paper, or in Access or Excel programs. This database provides immediate information to judges when they need it for Drug Court and Recovery Court only.

Ms. Schafer asked if Illinois State University's Stevenson Center could analyze the data. Ms. McCormick replied that there may be potential for that type of analysis in the future.

Motion by McIntyre/Schafer to Approve a McLean
County Specialty Courts Data Base Enhancement
Contract with RSM McGladrey, Inc. – Court Services.
Motion carried.

Chairman Rackauskas asked if there was any other business or communication for the Justice Committee. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse
Recording Secretary