

Minutes of the Justice Committee

The Justice Committee of the McLean County Board met on Monday, December 31, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois. (Note: The Justice Committee moved their January 1st meeting to December 31st due to the New Year's Day holiday.)

Members Present: Chairman Caisley; Members Rankin, McIntyre, Schafer, and Soeldner

Members Absent: Member Wollrab

Other County Board
Members Present: None

Staff Present: Ms. Hannah Eisner, Assistant County Administrator and Ms. Judith LaCasse, Assistant to the County Administrator

Department Heads/
Elected Officials
Present: Sheriff Mike Emery, Ms. Beth Kimmerling, Coroner; Mr. Don Everhart, Circuit Clerk; Ms. Lori McCormick, Director, Court Services; Ms. Judy Brucker, Director, Children's Advocacy Center; Mr. Will Scanlon, Trial Court Administrator-11th Circuit Court

Others Present: Mr. Rusty Thomas, Chief Deputy Sheriff

Chairman Caisley called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

Chairman Caisley presented the minutes from the December 4, 2012 Committee meeting for approval.

Motion by McIntyre/Soeldner to Approve the Minutes of the December 4, 2012 Meeting.
Motion carried.

Chairman Caisley presented the Public Defender's Monthly reports as Ms. Kim Campbell, Public Defender, was unable to attend the Committee. There were no questions on the report.

Sheriff Mike Emery presented a request for approval of Squad Car Bids for the 2013-2014 model year police squad cars. He stated that the Sheriff's Office advertised and asked for bids for five police squad cars. The bids were for full-size, all-wheel drive sedans meeting certain specifications for patrol duties, and

one all-wheel drive SUV for the Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Emery indicated that the Sheriff's Office will be trading five vehicles in for the five replacements.

Sheriff Emery noted that the bids were sent out and an ad was placed in the *Pantagraph* the week of September 29 and 30, 2012. The bids were read aloud in public on November 19, 2012 in room 404 of the Government Center.

Sheriff Emery recommended that four Ford Interceptor sedans and one Ford Interceptor SUV be purchased from Geiser Ford in Roanoke, Illinois. He indicated that the total cost of the four sedans and one SUV is \$120,969.80. Less the value of the trade-in vehicles of \$27,400 (\$5,400 per vehicle), the total cost of the vehicles is \$93,569.80, which is under the State of Illinois bid.

Mr. Soeldner asked what determines when a squad car is ready to be turned in for a new vehicle. Sheriff Emery replied that the vehicles that are traded in have the highest mileage. He indicated that the Fleet Management Program Commander decides which vehicles need to be turned in. Sheriff Emery added that four to six vehicles have been replaced in the last few years as opposed to six to eight previously.

Mr. Soeldner asked if local dealers bid on the vehicles. Sheriff Emery replied that no local dealers placed bids.

Motion by Soeldner/Rankin to Recommend Approval of
Squad Car Bids for the 2013-2014 Model Year Police
Squad Cars.
Motion carried.

Sheriff Mike Emery submitted a request for approval of the clothing bid with Ray O'Herron Co. for police uniforms and equipment purchases. He advised that, on October 29th, requests for bids for uniforms and equipment were sent to three vendors, namely Ray O'Herron, LEON Uniforms and 10-08 Outfitters. Sheriff Emery indicated that the only bid received was from Ray O'Herron Co. who has been the vendor for several years. He recommended that Ray O'Herron Co. be the preferred vendor for uniforms and equipment in 2013.

Sheriff Emery advised that the bid with Ray O'Herron basically sets a maximum price for the year, but does not limit the Sheriff's Department from making purchases from other vendors.

Motion by McIntyre/Schafer to Recommend Approval of the clothing bid with Ray O'Herron Co. for Police Uniforms and Equipment Purchases.
Motion carried.

Sheriff Mike Emery submitted a request for approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Bloomington and the County of McLean regulating the use by the County of McLean of the Police Shooting Range Facility of the City of Bloomington. He pointed out a typographical error under Section V which states "...for use of the facility for 2012," which should say "...for use of the facility for 2013."

Sheriff Emery stated that the cost of using the range remains the same as 2012.

Ms. Schafer asked if the publicized poor maintenance of the facility is a problem for the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Emery replied that it is not. He noted that the City has considered potential capital improvement of the facility in the future, which may, at that time, increase the fee.

Motion by McIntyre/Rankin to Recommend Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Bloomington and the County of McLean Regulating the use by the County of McLean of the Police Shooting Range Facility of the City of Bloomington.
Motion carried as amended.

Sheriff Emery reviewed his Monthly Population Report, noting that the average population is 230-232 inmates. He advised that at midnight tonight, it will be one annual year that no inmate has been housed out-of-County.

Ms. Schafer asked if the Sheriff's Department has received the Assessment Report on housing of mental health inmates from the National Institute of Correction (NIC). Sheriff Emery replied that he expects to get the assessment report today or within the next few days.

Chairman Caisley asked if there were any additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Sheriff Emery.

Chairman Caisley reviewed the Jury Commission Year End Report as submitted by Ms. Cindy Brand, Jury Commission. Mr. Will Scanlon, Circuit Court Administrator, advised that Ms. Brand is retiring as of today. He noted that Ms. Brand has worked for the Circuit Court in various capacities for 35 years.

Chairman Caisley reviewed the State's Attorney's Monthly Caseload Report and Asset Forfeiture Fund Report as submitted by Mr. Chambers who was unable to attend the meeting. There were no questions on the reports.

Ms. Beth Kimmerling, Coroner, reviewed her monthly report. She noted that there were 200 more cases in 2012 than predicted, which will make it necessary to adjust the budget.

Ms. Schafer asked if the increased out-of-County cases have been accounted for in the FY'2013 budget. Ms. Kimmerling replied that the predicted number of cases have been increased in 2013. She added that adjustments have been made on both the revenue and expense sides.

Chairman Caisley asked if there were any additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Ms. Kimmerling.

Mr. Don Everhart, Circuit Clerk, reviewed his November 2012 Statistical Reports. He stated that there was nothing unusual to point out in the reports.

There was a brief discussion on the distribution of fees or fines.

Chairman Caisley asked if there were any additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Mr. Everhart.

Ms. Lori McCormick, Director, Court Services, presented her Monthly reports.

Chairman Caisley asked what the reasons are for the out-of-County juvenile population, such as Lake County and DuPage County. Ms. McCormick replied that often juveniles are picked up on a warrant and held in McLean County until the outside county can pick them up.

Mr. Rankin asked how long might a juvenile might spend in McLean County. Ms. McCormick replied that they are usually picked in less than 24 hours.

Chairman Caisley asked if the three pre-sentencing officers are designated for that responsibility only. Ms. McCormick replied that the three officers only do pre-sentence investigations. Chairman Caisley asked if this results in faster reports. Ms. McCormick replied that it is a slow process, but it is improved with these designated officers. There was additional discussion on the benefits of having designated officers for this process.

Chairman Caisley asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Ms. McCormick.

Ms. Judy Brucker, Director, Children's Advocacy Center, reviewed the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) Monthly Statistical Report and the CASA Report. She noted that the CAC report does not include the December statistics as they were not available in time for this early January meeting.

Ms. Brucker advised that she anticipates that the December statistics for CAC will show that there were 9,000 donated hours for CASAs working for 158 children during 2012.

Ms. Brucker reported on the success of the "Blue Kid trees" that were placed in various County departments. She indicated that, as of the end of last week, more than \$10,000 worth of basic need items were donated to the Center to be provided to families during the holiday season and the 2013 year.

Mr. Rankin advised that he is still working on a fund-raiser event for the Children's Advocacy Center. This event would be a group of area athletes who will ride spin bikes for 10-12 hours straight raising money for the program. Mr. Rankin indicated that this group just finished a swimming fundraiser for one of the children who lost his life at Sandy Hook. He expects that as much as \$5,000-\$10,000 can be raised for CAC. Mr. Rankin noted that this fundraising effort may take place in February. He indicated that he will check with Board members who may wish to ride a bike or volunteer in other ways.

Ms. Brucker announced that the Blue Kids Fundraiser benefit is February 16th. She indicated that beginning last year, they started asking individuals to host a table of ten with tickets being \$65.00. Ms. Brucker stated that formal invitations will go out at the end of the week, but reservations can be made now.

Chairman Caisley asked if there were any additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Ms. Brucker.

Mr. Will Scanlon, Trial Court Administrator-11th Circuit Court, presented two requests for approval of renewal of contracts with West Publishing for Westlaw Legal Research Software. The first contract is for Westlaw Legal Research Software for the Circuit Court, State's Attorney, and Public Defender. The second contract is for Westlaw Legal Research Software for the Law Library. Mr. Scanlon indicated that the legal research software provides legal research software for the State of Illinois, all other states, all federal circuits and Supreme Court, and various practice journals, and it covers civil litigation, property law, family law, etc.

Mr. Scanlon advised that bids were requested from Westlaw and from Lexus, which are the only two providers in the United States for comprehensive legal research. He stated that Westlaw, annually, was \$500 more than Lexus for the Circuit Court, State's Attorney, Public Defender subscription, but the subscriptions that are available through Westlaw were 50% less, which provided an \$11,365 savings. The subscription for the Law Library was just \$1.00 more for Westlaw.

Mr. Scanlon indicated that McLean County has used Westlaw Research software since 2005.

Mr. Scanlon stated that the software for the Law Library covers everything except more technical journals and articles. It is a more limited subscription. Mr. Scanlon noted that the Bar Association pays a fee to the County for their access to the Law Library research and there is a filing fee through the Circuit Clerk's Office to support the research material in the Law Library.

Mr. McIntyre asked how much the Law Library is used. Mr. Scanlon replied that the Law Library is used approximately 200 hours a month.

Ms. Schafer asked if attorneys have this software in their own offices. Mr. Scanlon replied that most large firms in town have the software.

Mr. Scanlon advised that this will be a three-year contract, 2013-2015.

There was a brief discussion on the difference between Westlaw and Lexus. Mr. Scanlon noted that both programs are very similar.

Motion by Rankin/McIntyre to Recommend Approval of Renewal of a Contract with West Publishing for Westlaw Legal Research Software for the Circuit Court, State's Attorney, and Public Defender; and to Recommend Approval of Renewal of a Contract with West Publishing for Westlaw Legal Research Software for the Law Library.

Motion carried.

Chairman Caisley asked if there were any additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Mr. Scanlon.

Ms. Schafer advised that there will be a CJCC meeting on January 10, 2013, 1:00 p.m. in the Room 400 of the Government Center Building.

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Chairman Caisley presented the December 31, 2012 Justice Committee bills for review and approval as transmitted by the County Auditor. The Justice Committee bills include a Prepaid Total of \$372,569.96 and a Fund Total that is the same.

Motion by Soeldner/Rankin to Recommend Approval of
the Justice Committee Bills as of December 31, 2012,
as transmitted by the County Auditor.
Motion carried.

Chairman Caisley asked if there was any other business or communication for the Justice Committee. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse
Recording Secretary