

Minutes of the Justice Committee

The Justice Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

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

Other County Board
Members Present: Members Wollrab and McIntyre

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

Department Heads/
Elected Officials
Present: Ms. Kim Campbell, Public Defender; Sheriff Mike Emery; Ms. Lori McCormick; Director, Court Services; Ms. Judy Brucker, Director, Children's Advocacy Center; Mr. Jason Chambers, State's Attorney

Others Present: Mr. Rusty Thomas, Chief Deputy Sheriff; Lt. John Sandage, Sheriff's Department; Ms. Cathy Waltz, Superintendent, JDC

Chairman Caisley called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Chairman Caisley presented the March 4, 2014 Justice Committee Minutes for Approval.

Motion by Soeldner/Rankin to Approve the Minutes of the March 4, 2014 Meeting.
Motion carried.

Ms. Kim Campbell, Public Defender, presented her Monthly Report. She indicated that continuing efforts are being made in regard to the post-conviction issue. Ms. Campbell stated that training on post-conviction matters will be conducted for some of the legal assistants who have expressed an interest in working on cases.

Mr. Rankin asked if the Public Defender's office uses interns. Ms. Campbell replied that the office often uses interns.

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

Chairman Caisley presented the Circuit Clerk's February Statistical Reports as submitted by Mr. Don Everhart, Circuit Clerk. There were no questions on the report.

Sheriff Mike Emery introduced Lt. John Sandage, Sheriff's Department, who is the candidate for Sheriff for the Republican Party.

Sheriff Emery reviewed the March 2014 Detention Facility Population report. He noted that the population average is fluctuating between 230-245 inmates. Sheriff Emery indicated that no inmates are being housed out-of-County, and there are no concerns at this time.

Sheriff Emery reviewed the 2013 Annual Report. He reviewed the following highlights:

- On-line training for Correctional Officers has increased 50% in 2013 over 2012;
- There has been a 35% decrease in inmates attending the GED Program, which may be attributable to the length of stay in the jail;
- There has been a 129% increase in psychiatrist appointments;
- There has been a 26% increase in emotional/psychological classifications;
- There has been a savings of \$1.2 million since September 1, 2009 when the Jail switched from a fully staffed kitchen to using an outside source for meals.
- Law enforcement statistics fluctuate a little, but remain much the same.

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

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

Chairman Caisley noted that the number of detainees in the Juvenile Detention Center was down. Ms. McCormick indicated that there are fewer detainees, but they are staying longer.

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

Ms. Barb Nafziger, Chief Deputy Coroner, presented the February 2014 Coroner's Report and the FY'2013 Annual Financial Report. She expects that out-of-County numbers will begin to go down beginning in March. Ms. Nafziger indicated that Champaign is now doing its own autopsies, and Vermillion County will go to Champaign County as it is closer than coming to McLean County. She noted that the Sangamon County's pathologist recently started providing autopsies. Ms. Nafziger anticipates that there may be only 25 out-of-County

autopsies in March. She indicated that Tazewell County has started going to Peoria County because Peoria is closer and charges less than McLean County. Ms. Nafziger stated that McLean County will pick up LaSalle County. She anticipated that Logan, Macon, DeWitt and Woodford counties will continue to come to McLean County.

Mr. Wasson reminded the Committee that the loss of Sangamon County was expected this year. He indicated that the unexpected losses were Vermillion and Tazewell Counties.

Ms. Nafziger stated that there is a potential that some of these counties may come back.

Chairman Caisley asked what the Death Certificate Surcharge is. Ms. Nafziger replied there is a fee to purchase death certificates. The State of Illinois collects that money, and, at the end of the year, divides the money between the counties. She noted that it is not received every year and cannot be counted on.

Mr. Soeldner asked if the loss of these out-of-Counties will also reduce expenses. Ms. Nafziger replied that it will reduce expenses.

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

Ms. Judy Brucker, Director, Children's Advocacy Center, distributed a corrected copy of the Children's Advocacy Center report. She indicated that 61 children have been seen so far this year, which is comparable to last year at this time.

Ms. Brucker stated that CASA advocates are doing an excellent job. She noted that a new CASA training class started yesterday and there are 10 individuals in the class right now.

Ms. Brucker reminded the Committee that April is Child Abuse Awareness Month. She distributed a packet of information to each of the Committee members. She indicated that 12 individuals from the community are on a task force to work on keeping this issue in the public eye. Ms. Brucker indicated that Sugar Mama's Bakery has designated CAC as their charity of choice for April and will feature a cupcake for the effort.

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

Mr. Jason Chambers, State's Attorney, reviewed his Monthly Caseload Report and Asset Forfeiture Fund Report.

Chairman Caisley pointed out that mental health cases have increased dramatically. Mr. Chambers replied that part of that is due to the attention that mental health has been receiving in the community recently. He noted that the statistics do not reflect an increase of mental health issues, but from the recognition of such issues by family members, law enforcement and the courts.

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

Mr. Bill Wasson, County Administrator, presented a request for approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2013 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance (Annual Budget Adjustments). He explained that these are the year-end cleanups for departments and agencies under the purview of the Justice Committee.

Mr. Wasson stated that the first three entries relate to the Circuit Court for psychiatric expense and for non-contractual expenses for an interpreter for the Circuit Court. The State's Attorney non-contractual adjustment is the cost associated with the Beaman defense. Mr. Wasson noted that the Beaman case is now completed except for litigation against the County's previous insurance carrier to recover these costs. He noted that the reason this was not paid out of Tort was to increase the State's Attorney's knowledge of the case, to ensure a consistent information stream relative to the case, and to provide a tracking mechanism.

Mr. Wasson indicated that the Coroner's revenue exceeded the increased expenditures in the budget related to out-of-County autopsies. He noted that there are some modifications to the EMA budget, which are a result of addition funds being received from the State. To recover the funds it is necessary to expend the funds.

Mr. Wasson advised that CAC line items 0129-0062-0021-0599.0001 and 0129-0062-0021-0599.0003 have been identified as distribution errors and should not go to 0129; rather, these funds should come from the 0130 and 0131 funds, the County's IMRF and FICA levies. He indicated that he is working with the Treasurer's Office to determine if it is possible to journal back these entries to address the issue. Mr. Wasson recommended that an amendment be made to delete those modifications from the Emergency Appropriation Ordinance. If journal entry corrections cannot be made, the adjustments will be brought to a Stand-up Meeting.

Motion by Rankin/Soeldner to Amend the Emergency Appropriation Ordinance to delete the CAC Line items 0129-0062-0021-0599.0001 and 0129-0062-0021-0599.0003.

Motion carried.

Mr. Wasson stated that the last adjustment entries are for the Multi-Disciplinary grant. The grant requires the County to only budget these funds for nine months of the year. Mr. Wasson noted that when the grant was extended to the end of the year, it was necessary to make these adjustments.

Motion by Schafer/Rankin to Recommend Approve of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2013 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance (Annual Budget Adjustments) as amended.

Motion carried.

Mr. Wasson presented a request for approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2013 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance (Annual Adjustments). He explained that this is handled independently as it requires separate approval through the process of the Metcom Board. Mr. Wasson stated that Metcom had equipment that needed to be replaced, and they had sufficient funds in their Operational Budget to cover this expense.

Motion by Soeldner/Schafer to Recommend Approve of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2013 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance (Metcom Annual Budget Adjustments).

Motion carried.

Chairman Caisley presented the March 31, 2014 Justice Committee bills for review and approval as transmitted by the County Auditor. The Justice Committee bills include a Prepaid Total of \$833,714.55 and a Fund Total that is the same.

Motion by Soeldner/Rankin to Recommend Approval of the Justice Committee Bills and transfers as of March 31, 2014 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, he adjourned the meeting at 5:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse
Recording Secretary