

## Minutes of the Justice Committee

The Justice Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 4:44 p.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman William Caisley, Members Susan Schafer and George Wendt

Members Absent: Members Carlo Robustelli and Don Cavallini

Other County Board  
Members Present: Member James Soeldner

Staff Present: Mr. Bill Wasson, County Administrator; Ms. Hannah Eisner, Assistant County Administrator; Mr. Don Knapp, First Civil Assistant State's Attorney; and Ms. Julie Morlock, Recording Secretary;

Department Heads/  
Elected Officials Present: Mr. Don Everhart, Circuit Clerk; Ms. Kathy Davis, Coroner; Ms. Judy Brucker, Director, Children's Advocacy Center; Public Defender, Carla Barnes; Mr. Jason Chambers, State's Attorney; Jon Sandage Sheriff; Lori McCormick, Director, Court Services;

Others Present: Mr. Greg Allen, Chief Deputy Sheriff

Chairman Caisley called the meeting to order at 4:44 p.m. and stated for the record that there was not a quorum at that time.

Ms. Carla Barnes, Public Defender presented her monthly report. Ms. Schafer asked Ms. Barnes to confirm they already have 20 involuntary commitments for this year. Ms. Barnes confirmed they do. She stated they are generated by the hospitals, but they are not all committed. Chairman Caisley asked if there were any further questions for Ms. Barnes; hearing none, he thanked Ms. Barnes.

Jon Sandage, Sheriff presented his monthly report. Chairman Caisley commented and Mr. Sandage confirmed that the numbers were staying below the level where we would need to send detainees to another facility. Chairman Caisley asked if there were any questions for Mr. Sandage; hearing none, he thanked Mr. Sandage and indicated that the Committee would address the action item later in the meeting.

Ms. McCormick, Director, Court Services presented her monthly report. Chairman Caisley asked if there were any questions for Ms. McCormick; hearing none, he thanked Ms. McCormick.

Mr. Jason Chambers, State's Attorney for McLean County presented his monthly Caseload Report and Asset Forfeiture Fund Report for the Committee. Chairman Caisley stated that the DUI numbers seemed to be staying about the same. Mr. Chambers stated that we have seen a decline in the last couple of years, but not a major decline. Chairman Caisley asked if there were any questions or comments; hearing none, he thanked Mr. Chambers.

Ms. Kathy Davis, Coroner presented her monthly report. Ms. Davis stated that she appreciates the work done to arrest and prosecute DUI's because 72% of fatalities in motor vehicle crashes are related to drugs and alcohol. Chairman Caisley asked if there were any questions for the Coroner; hearing none, he thanked Ms. Davis.

Ms. Judy Brucker, Director, Children's Advocacy Center presented her monthly reports and information regarding Child Abuse Awareness month in April. Member Schafer thanked Ms. Brucker for the memo regarding Child Abuse Awareness month as it provided information she felt all Board members would appreciate having. Chairman Caisley asked if there were any further questions or comments for Ms. Brucker; hearing none, he thanked Ms. Brucker.

Mr. Don Everhart, McLean County Circuit Clerk presented his monthly statistical reports. Chairman Caisley asked if there were any questions or comments; hearing none, he thanked Mr. Everhart.

Chairman Caisley asked that the record reflect Vice Chairman of the Board, James Soeldner joined the meeting at 4:50 p.m. and there was now a quorum.

Mr. Wasson presented the monthly employment report. He stated that there were nine positions refilled in the last 30 days under the oversight of the Committee. Mr. Soeldner asked if that was an unusually high number. Mr. Wasson confirmed that it was. Chairman Caisley asked if there were any further questions for Mr. Wasson; hearing none, he thanked Mr. Wasson.

Jon Sandage, Sheriff presented for action requests to approve a new FTE Inmate Assessment Specialist I/Counselor and an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2016 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Sandage indicated that these services were previously provided in a contract with an outside vendor and by hiring our own Inmate Assessment Specialist/Counselor; we could provide increased hours of service for less cost. Chairman Caisley asked about psychiatric services. Mr. Sandage indicated that was a separate service that would continue to be provided by a separate

outside vendor. Ms. Schafer asked if the person had been hired. Mr. Sandage indicated they had not.

Motion by Wendt/Schafer to recommend approval of both the new FTE Inmate Assessment Specialist/Counselor position and approval of the Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2016 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for the Sheriff's Department.

Motion Carried.

Mr. Jason Chambers presented for approval a request to replace the Assistant State's Attorney II position. He said this position had been lost when grant funding had been removed; and over the last 8 months they had tried to reduce caseloads to adjust for this lost position, but they need a person to cover the caseload. Mr. Chambers stated they had not filled an OSS II position and would use the budgeted salary for that position to help offset the salary for the ASA II position. Mr. Wendt asked if there was money in the budget for this request. Mr. Wasson stated that due to recent turn over experienced in the State's Attorney's Office there is sufficient salary to cover the position this year. Mr. Soeldner stated that cost of payroll is one consideration but if we can speed up the process and keep beds empty in the jail then it is a savings as well. Mr. Chambers agreed that if there is a back up in one area then it causes issues in other areas. Mr. Soeldner asked if the attorneys come to Mr. Chambers if their caseload is overwhelming. Mr. Chambers said they do not always let him know, so he has to monitor the caseload and the types of cases the attorneys are handling. Mr. Caisley asked if this has affected screening of cases. Mr. Chamber said it has a little, as they like to have screenings done in a few weeks and right now, we are at a month, which is longer than he would like to see. Chairman Caisley stated that the Circuit Clerk's report showed there were 10 cases tried in the month of January and several of them were felonies. Mr. Chambers stated that we do see more felonies charged because people do not want to plead those out as they affect their future more than a misdemeanor.

Motion by Wendt/Schafer to recommend approval of a request to replace the Assistant State's Attorney II position.

Motion Carried.

Mr. Chambers mentioned he went to training on body cameras. He told the Committee it is something that they need to look at because he feels it is only a matter of time before Counties have them. Mr. Chambers said there is talk of federal and state money to help purchase them but that does not cover the cost to maintain them or cover the cost for storing data. He indicated that a prosecutor from Phoenix stated they had to add about 1 secretary per 100 body cameras on the street to manage the increased amount of discovery. Mr. Chambers provided another example where a municipality put these in place without considering the cost of data storage and had to find funding to cover the \$78,000 cost. Ms. Schafer asked about the comparison to dash cam data

storage. Mr. Chambers stated that body cams would be used more than dash cams. He provided examples where dash cams are used for DUI or traffic stops but are off when they go to a residence on a call, but with a body cam they would have it on after leaving the car and engaged with any member of the public thereby gathering much more information. Mr. Soeldner stated that it would be hard to determine what they could delete. Mr. Chambers agreed that you would not want to erase or delete information because you would not know what you would need. Mr. Soeldner asked about the amount of storage in the device. Mr. Chambers said it varies by camera but they range from 8-15 hours of recording time and at the end of their shift the officer would put it on a device that charges it and downloads the information. Mr. Chambers also pointed out that on the other side of the high cost of data storage, etc., is the fact there would be few trials because if the evidence on video.

Chairman Caisley stated that Member Cavallini asked about the difference in salaries between an ASA II and an OSS. Mr. Knapp looked up the numbers and provided the figure of \$21,879 per year. Chairman Caisley asked about states attorney's salaries and the ability to attract good candidates. Mr. Chambers stated that we are behind the market because private practice starts a new graduate at about \$60,000 and we start them at \$43,000. He stated that by the time they finish law school they have debt and even if they wanted to be prosecutors, they have to take the job that pays them more. Mr. Wasson stated that the Finance Committee asked Staff to evaluate the impacted position list and Staff is looking to make a recommendation that would provide flexibility to the entry-level salaries for impacted positions with the hope it will help with recruitment. Mr. Chambers stated that higher level positions such as First Assistants is also not even. He stated that Peoria County First Assistants are getting paid \$165,000 and ours caps at \$108,000.

Chairman Caisley presented for approval a transfer from the Court Services Department for \$650.00.

Motion by Wendt/Schafer to recommend approval of the transfer for the Court Services Department for \$650.00.  
Motion Carried.

Chairman Caisley presented the Minutes of the February 2, 2016 meeting of the Justice Committee for approval.

Motion by Wendt/Schafer to approve the minutes from the February 2, 2016 meeting of the Justice Committee.  
Motion carried.

Chairman Caisley presented the Justice Committee bills for review and approval as transmitted by the County Auditor as of February 29, 2016. The Justice Committee bills include a Prepaid Total of \$491,312.42 and a Fund Total that is the same.

Motion by Schafer/Wendt to Recommend Approval of the Justice Committee Bills as of February 29, 2016 as transmitted by the County Auditor.

Motion carried.

**MCLEAN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT**

PAGE 1 OF 28

AS OF 2/29/2016

**EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND**

**Justice Committee**

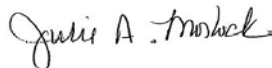
<b>FUND</b>	<b>FUND TITLE</b>	<b>PENDING TOTAL</b>	<b>PREPAID TOTAL</b>	<b>FUND TOTAL</b>
0001	GENERAL FUND		\$241,555.50	\$241,555.50
0129	CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CNTR		\$13,089.59	\$13,089.59
0138	CIRCUIT CLK/OPER & ADMIN		\$2,284.40	\$2,284.40
0141	COURT SECURITY		\$7,169.20	\$7,169.20
0142	COURT DOCUMENT STORAGE		\$3,676.72	\$3,676.72
0143	CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTION		\$1,679.61	\$1,679.61
0146	ADULT PROBATION SERVICES		\$23,320.75	\$23,320.75
0152	ASSET FORFEITURE-SAO		\$2,574.49	\$2,574.49
0155	ASSET FORFEITURE-SHERIFF		\$810.00	\$810.00
0156	IDPA IV-D PROJECT		\$19,123.29	\$19,123.29
0171	CHILDREN'S WAITING ROOM		\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00
0450	ETSB SURCHARGE FUND/E-911		\$125,771.02	\$125,771.02
0452	METRO COMMUNICATIONS CTR		\$43,379.54	\$43,379.54
0506	LAW LIBRARY		\$1,378.31	\$1,378.31
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			\$491,312.42	\$491,312.42

  
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Caisley asked if there was any other business or communication for the Justice Committee; hearing none, he adjourned the meeting.

Adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie A. Morlock  
Recording Secretary