

Minutes of the Justice Committee

The Justice Committee of the McLean County Board met on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 404 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman George Gordon, Members George Wendt, Randall Martin, Susan Schafer and Jim Soeldner (All by remote attendance)

Members Absent: Member Lyndsay Bloomfield

Other County Board
Members Present None

Staff Present: Ms. Camille Rodriguez, County Administrator, Ms. Cassy Taylor, Assistant County Administrator, Ms. Cathy Dreyer, Assistant County Administrator; Chris Spanos, First Assistant State's Attorney – Civil Division; Samantha Vazquez Assistant State's Attorney – Civil Division; Ms. Julie Morlock, Recording Secretary

Department Heads/
Elected Officials Present: Mr. Jon Sandage, Sheriff, Mr. Will Scanlon, Director of Court Administration; Mr. Don Everhart, Circuit Clerk; Judge Rebecca Foley; Ms. Kathy Yoder, Coroner; Mr. Don Knapp, McLean County State's Attorney (all via remote attendance); Mr. Tony Cannon, Metcom (in person)

Others Present:

Chairman Gordon called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and declared a quorum.

Ms. Camille Rodriguez presented for action a request to approve the Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the General Fund 0001, Merit Board Department 0008, Administrative Services Program 0010 and Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the Sheriff Department 0029, including: General Fund 0001, Law Enforcement Operation Program 0027, Criminal Investigations Program 0028; Administrative Services Program 0029, Jail Operations Program 0031, Fleet Management Program 0033, and EMA Operations Program 0052; and Court Security Fund 0141, Court Security Program 0035. Mr. Sandage went over increases in the department budget including costs for sending officers to the academy as they are no longer reimbursed. Ms. Schafer asked if this would cover costs for the entire year. Mr. Sandage confirmed. Chairman Gordon asked about administrative increase Mr. Sandage indicated increase was for microfilming services to keep up with retention schedule. Mr. Martin asked about purchase of body cameras. Mr. Sandage stated Bloomington/Normal had proceeded with purchase and Sheriff's department had done further research and feel Axon will be the best body camera for us. Mr. Sandage showed a video on body cameras and went over highlights and benefits of the cameras as well as cost of body cameras, software, storage, and warranty. Mr. Soeldner asked how many they would be getting. Mr. Sandage confirmed 54 cameras. Mr. Sandage then went over budgets for Jail Operations and Fleet. Ms. Schafer asked about expenses and reimbursements for COVID.

Mr. Sandage stated they have expenses daily and were also working on reimbursements. Ms. Rodriguez indicated a majority of those expenses and reimbursement would fall during 2020. She indicated Staff could provide an update on those at the next meeting. Ms. Schafer asked about spending more on Court Security employees. Mr. Sandage stated that Court Security employees were moved under their budget from Facilities and upgraded uniform and equipment that they have.

Motion by Martin/Soeldner to recommend approval of the Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the General Fund 0001, Merit Board Department 0008, Administrative Services Program 0010 and Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the Sheriff Department 0029, including: General Fund 0001, Law Enforcement Operation Program 0027, Criminal Investigations Program 0028; Administrative Services Program 0029, Jail Operations Program 0031, Fleet Management Program 0033, and EMA Operations Program 0052; and Court Security Fund 0141, Court Security Program 0035.

Motion Carried. Roll call vote – all members presented voted yes including the chairman.

Ms. Rodriguez presented for action a request to approve Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the Metro McLean County Centralized Communications Center Fund 0452, Metro Communication Center Department 0030, Metro Communication Program 0090. Mr. Tony Cannon provided a power point presentation including a brief history on Metcom, current staff and the makeup of the Metcom Operational Board members who met earlier in the month to approve the budget. He went over revenue sources and expenses. Mr. Gordon asked about labors pension contribution as there was an amount listed in 2020 but not in 2021. Mr. Cannon stated that funding does not come from the County, but from employees' salaries and line item was created for tracking purposes only. Chairman Gordon asked about cleaning supplies amount budgeted compared to the amount spent in 2020. Mr. Cannon stated they had stocked up this year because they were not sure what would happen so feel amount will be sufficient.

Motion by Schafer/Martin to recommend approval of Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the Metro McLean County Centralized Communications Center Fund 0452, Metro Communication Center Department 0030, Metro Communication Program 0090.

Motion Carried. Roll call vote – all members present voted yes including Chairman Gordon.

Ms. Rodriguez presented for action a request to approve Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the General Fund 0001, Jury Commission Department 0018, Juror Selection & Admin Program 0017. Mr. Scanlon stated they had hoped to have good data from changes brought in fee structures as a result of the Criminal Adjustment Act, but the pandemic altered the fee projections. He provided history and statutory authority establishing the Court System and provided the staff organizational chart of the court. Mr. Scanlon went over priorities for 2021 including a new justice information system that would include a case management system, record management system and jail management system that would all be integrated. He said they hoped to see some implementation of systems in 2022. He also

went over expanding e-filing as they add criminal filing at the end of this year and plans to reorganize the Court as they take into account new processes and virtual hearings brought on by the pandemic to reduce the paper filing and in person meetings. Mr. Scanlon went over the primary purpose of the Jury Commission. He also went over the establishment of the Law Library, services provided and its expenses and revenues. Chairman Gordon asked about increase in employee salaries. Mr. Scanlon stated it was a change in the role of that job and a reclass to circuit court secretaries. Chairman Gordon asked about revenue side the law library fees included as the amount in 2021 was similar to 2019 but 2020 was different. Mr. Scanlon indicated numbers were based on the Act and how much revenue they felt they would receive in 2020 but now feel more comfortable with the amount they have provided.

Motion by Martin/Soeldner to recommend approval of Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the General Fund 0001, Jury Commission Department 0018, Juror Selection & Admin Program 0017.

Motion Carried. Roll call vote – all members present voted yes including the Chairman.

Ms. Rodriguez presented for action a request to approve Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the Circuit Court Department 0016, including: General Fund 0001, Circuit Court Administration Program 0016; and Neutral Site Custody Exchange Fund 0170, Neutral Site Custody Exchange Program 0106; and Children's Waiting Room Fund 0171, Children's Waiting Room Program 0105; and Law Library Fund 0506, Law Library Program 0015.

Motion by Schafer/Wendt to recommend approval of Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the Circuit Court Department 0016, including: General Fund 0001, Circuit Court Administration Program 0016; and Neutral Site Custody Exchange Fund 0170, Neutral Site Custody Exchange Program 0106; and Children's Waiting Room Fund 0171, Children's Waiting Room Program 0105; and Law Library Fund 0506, Law Library Program 0015 as Amended

Motion Carried – Roll Call Vote and all members present voted yes including the Chairman.

Ms. Rodriguez presented for action a request to approve Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the General Fund 0001, Coroner Department 0031, Investigations & Inquests Program 0038. Ms. Yoder indicated she is moving forward the mental health initiative with suicide awareness, opioid epidemic awareness and continue with substance use disorder coalition. She then went over expenses and indicated she moved the cot expense to medical equipment line from the non-major equipment expenses and an increase in autopsy fees for Dr. Denton. She also indicated there was an increase in indigent burial expenses as they previously donated to science but with COVID they will not take bodies that have the virus. Mr. Martin asked about PAPRs and utilizing those. Ms. Yoder stated OSF donated. Ms. Yoder stated that while they would like them, they would come at an additional cost. Mr. Soeldner asked if that cost could qualify as a COVID related expense. Ms. Yoder indicated it has been difficult to get PPE for the Coroner's office as they are the last on the list. Ms.

Schafer asked if she was wanting to increase line item for medical equipment. Ms. Yoder indicated she would gladly accept the increase if the Committee supported it.

Motion Schafer/Wendt to amend budget to increase the medical 0836.0001 by \$8,300 for the two PAPRs and the cot and leave the 0621.0001 line at \$3,648.00.

Motion carried. Roll call vote – all members voted yes including the chairman

Mr. Soeldner asked about impact of this increase. Ms. Rodriguez indicated they would look at the CURES act to see about reimbursement for PAPR equipment.

Motion by Schafer/Wendt to recommend approval of Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the General Fund 0001, Coroner Department 0031, Investigations & Inquests Program 0038.

Motion carried. Roll call vote – all members present voted yes including the Chairman.

Ms. Rodriguez presented for action a request to approve Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the General Fund 0001, State's Attorney Department 0020, including General Fund 0001, Prosecution & Litigation Program 0019 and Administrative Support Program 0020; and IDPA IV-D Project Fund 0156, Child Support Program 0079. Mr. Don Knapp provided a comparison of the budget including FTEs that make up most of the State's Attorney Office budget from 2009 to current with only about a 3.9% increase during that time. Mr. Knapp indicated revenue lines are down almost \$100,000 in 2020 due to Criminal Traffic Assessment Act fees and loss of a grant and COVID. He then went over expenses. Chairman Gordon asked about change in budget under prosecution and litigation as there was nothing in 2019, then amount in 2020 and then nothing in 2021. Mr. Knapp stated they brought in a contractual attorney for that time period. Ms. Schafer asked about the note under appellate prosecutor budget regarding cannabis. Mr. Knapp stated there was a grant that offset some of drug prosecutor salary but in 2019 grant was not funded and he stated with legalization of marijuana did not fee State would fund again. Mr. Knapp went over changes with legalization of cannabis but indicated large amount of meth keeps drug unit busy.

Motion by Soeldner/Martin to recommend approval of Fiscal Year 2021 Recommended Budget for the General Fund 0001, State's Attorney Department 0020, including General Fund 0001, Prosecution & Litigation Program 0019 and Administrative Support Program 0020; and IDPA IV-D Project Fund 0156, Child Support Program 0079.

Motion Carried. Roll call vote – all members present voted yes including the Chairman.

Chairman Gordon asked if there was any other business or communication for the Justice Committee; hearing none, he adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Morlock

Julie Morlock
Recording Secretary