

Minutes of the Justice Committee Meeting

The Justice Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Chuck Erickson, Members Beverly Bell, Susan Schafer, Jack Abraham, Natalie Roseman-Mendoza

Members Absent: Member Geoff Tompkins

Other County Board
Members Present None

Staff Present: Cassy Taylor, County Administrator; Cathy Dreyer, Assistant County Administrator; Anthony Grant, Assistant County Administrator; Julie Morlock, Recording Secretary; Taylor Williams, Assistant State's Attorney

Department Heads/
Elected Officials Present: Ron Lewis, Public Defender; Erika Reynolds, State's Attorney; Kathy Yoder, Coroner; Michael Donovan, Court Services; Don Everhart, Circuit Clerk

Others Present: None

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

Chairman Erickson presented the February 7, 2023, regular meeting minutes of the Justice Committee for approval.

Motion by Abraham/Schafer to approve the February 7, 2023, regular meeting minutes of the Justice Committee.
Motion Carried.

Chairman Erickson confirmed with Administrator Taylor there was an appearance. Mr. Zachary Gittrich was recognized. Mr. Gittrich indicated he felt a recent court case was an example of injustice as he felt it represented a two-tier justice system.

Chairman Erickson indicated Matt Lane, McLean County Sheriff was not present but his monthly reports to the Committee were in the packet. Chairman Erickson indicated if anyone had any questions about the report, they should reach out to Mr. Lane.

Kathy Yoder, McLean County Coroner presented her monthly report to the committee. Ms. Bell stated last month she had indicated suicides were continuing to rise and asked if that had tapered off. Ms. Yoder indicated numbers had not tapered off. Chairman Erickson asked if there were any questions; hearing none, thanked her.

Ron Lewis, McLean County Public Defender presented his monthly report to the Committee and noted that case load remained roughly the same as in the past. Chairman Erickson asked if there were any questions; hearing none, he thanked him.

Mike Donovan, Court Services Director presented his report to the Committee. Mr. Donovan indicated his report looked a little different as they eliminated a position and those numbers were moved to another category. Chairman Erickson asked if anyone had any questions or comments; hearing none, he thanked him.

Don Everhart, McLean County Circuit Clerk presented his monthly reports to the Committee. Mr. Everhart indicated there was nothing unusual in the numbers presented. Chairman Erickson asked if there were any questions; hearing none, he thanked him.

Chairman Erickson indicated that Ms. Molly Evans, Children's Advocacy Center Director was not present but her monthly reports to the Committee were included in the packet. Chairman Erickson asked if there were any questions to please reach out to Ms. Evans.

Chairman Erickson presented on behalf of Mr. Will Scanlon, Circuit Court a request to approve a quote for remodeling of portion of the Jury Assembly Room of the Law & Justice Center. Mr. Scanlon indicated they were going to change coat closet area to form storage area. Ms. Bell asked what types of forms. Mr. Scanlon confirmed office supplies.

Motion by Abraham/Roseman-Mendoza to recommend approval of a quote for remodeling of portion of the Jury Assembly Room of the Law & Justice Center.
Motion Carried.

Chairman Erickson presented on behalf of Mr. Scanlon a request to approve a Sponsored Research Agreement with Illinois State University for work with McLean County's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. Mr. Scanlon indicated this is new format that ISU is using so that all agreements can be uniform no matter the department and entity. Mr. Scanlon indicated there was no increase in 2023 but a 2% increase in 2024. Ms. Bell asked what type of research was being done. Mr. Scanlon indicated there were four projects including Case Management, population management, recidivism and behavioral health topics. Ms. Bell asked what they do with the data. Mr. Scanlon indicated it goes to the courts, the State and the Administrator's office. Mr. Erickson asked him to explain what the CJCC was. Mr. Scanlon indicated the group was set up to improve state, court, jail, attorney communications. Mr. Scanlon indicated there are about 34 members including representatives from the Bloomington and Normal police departments, the Sheriff, all departments in the Law & Justice Center, the local Attorney Bar Association, Illinois State University, Illinois Wesleyan. Ms. Taylor noted CJCC was the work group that initiated the EJIS project conversation. Mr. Abraham asked who determined research topics. Mr. Scanlon indicated they are determined by a consensus of the members of the CJCC. Ms. Bell asked for a list of members of CJCC.

Motion by Abraham/Schafer to recommend approval of a Sponsored Research Agreement with Illinois State University for work with McLean County's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.
Motion Carried.

Mr. Scanlon indicated that they would be taking a request for renovations to jury assembly room to the Property Committee later this week. He noted they were turning a coat closet into storage area for forms and office supplies.

Ms. Erika Reynolds, State's Attorney presented her monthly reports to the Committee. Mr. Abraham asked if she was still down employees in her office. Ms. Reynolds went over an addition to her office of a 7-11 licensed person awaiting results of the Bar exam. She explained they are allowed to practice under the supervision of another licensed attorney and noted that if they did not pass the bar their 7-11 license would be revoked. She also noted they had hired a former intern which left them short two office staff positions and two attorney vacancies. Chairman Erickson asked if there were any further questions or comments; hearing none, he thanked her.

Chairman Erickson presented on behalf of Cassy Taylor, County Administrator a request to approve an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2022 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for the County Board, Sheriff, Coroner and Circuit Court budgets.

Motion by Roseman-Mendoza/Abraham to recommend approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2022 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for the County Board, Sheriff, Coroner and Circuit Court budgets.

Motion Carried.

Chairman Erickson presented on behalf of Ms. Taylor a request to approve an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2022 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for the McLean County Metro Communication Center Fund.

Motion by Abraham/Bell to recommend approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2022 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for the McLean County Metro Communication Center Fund.

Motion Carried.

Ms. Taylor indicated she had no further items for the Committee to consider today. Chairman Erickson asked if anyone had any questions for Ms. Taylor; hearing none, he thanked her.

Chairman Erickson asked if there was any other business; hearing none, he moved to payment of the bills.

Chairman Erickson presented bills for review and approval as transmitted by the County Auditor with a prepaid fund total of \$526,535.74 as well as end of the year transfers included in the packet.

MCLEAN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

AS OF 2/28/2023

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND

Justice Committee

FUND	FUND TITLE	PENDING TOTAL	PREPAID TOTAL	FUND TOTAL
0001	GENERAL FUND		\$225,445.02	\$225,445.02
0129	CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CNTR		\$14,098.84	\$14,098.84
0138	CIRCUIT CLK/OPER & ADMIN		\$3,893.18	\$3,893.18
0140	CIRCUIT CLERK AUTOMATION		\$18,633.99	\$18,633.99
0142	COURT DOCUMENT STORAGE		\$1,583.23	\$1,583.23
0143	CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTION		\$1,717.34	\$1,717.34
0146	ADULT PROBATION SERVICES		\$6,523.97	\$6,523.97
0152	ASSET FORFEITURE-SAO		\$700.25	\$700.25
0155	ASSET FORFEITURE-SHERIFF		\$834.63	\$834.63
0156	IDPA IV-D PROJECT		\$21,584.81	\$21,584.81
0450	ETSB SURCHARGE FUND/E-911		\$177,341.14	\$177,341.14
0452	METRO COMMUNICATIONS CTR		\$52,674.10	\$52,674.10
0506	LAW LIBRARY		\$1,505.24	\$1,505.24
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			\$526,535.74	\$526,535.74

Motion by Schafer/Bell to approve the Justice Committee bills and transfers as presented.
 Motion Carried.

Chairman Erickson stated there was no other business for the Justice Committee to consider and adjourned the meeting at 4:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Morlock

Julie Morlock
 Recording Secretary