



Public Safety and Court Services Committee

Minutes

Lee County, Illinois

Apr 10, 2023 at 10:30 AM CDT

Old Lee County Courthouse, Third Floor, 112 E 2nd St, Dixon, IL 61021

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m., by Chair Mike Koppien.

II. Committee Member Roll Call: Chair Mike Koppien, Vice Chair Keane Hudson, Katie White, Angie Shippert, Michael Pearson

Katie White was absent. Mike Koppien, Keane Hudson, and Angie Shippert were present in person. Mike Pearson attended via Zoom video conferencing.

Also present: Charley Boonstra (State's Attorney), Kevin Lalley (EMA), Shannon Langloss (Chief Deputy Circuit Clerk), Wendy Ryerson (Administrator), Staci Stewart (Director of Probation and Court Services), Clay Whelan (Sheriff), Teri Zinke (Animal Control Administrator), and Becky Brenner (Board Secretary) were all present in person.

III. Public Attendees

No members of the public were in attendance.

IV. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting - (March 13, 2023)

Minutes of the March 13, 2023, Public Safety and Court Services Committee Meeting were approved as presented without modification.

V. Animal Control

Teri Zinke did not have a specific report for the committee. However, she did respond to several questions asked by the committee regarding an increase in feral cat population. No action was taken.

VI. Circuit Clerk

Shannon Langloss attended on behalf of Amy Johnson to answer any questions the committee might have.

VII. Judges, Coroner, and Public Defender

No reports from the Judges, Coroner, or Public Defender's Offices.

VIII. Emergency Management Agency

Kevin Lalley cautioned the public regarding burning outdoors. The County has had several house fires in the last week. He also provided the committee with the following office activity for the prior 20 days:

- Hosted NWS Spotter training at SVCC
- Attended IPRA Planning Meeting in Rochelle in anticipation of exercising reception center

- Delivered NWS Weather radios to each school district in Lee County
- Called to fly drone for felony theft of materials - weather - heavy rain and lightning inhibited flight
- Opened EOC virtually and had Disaster Declaration signed by County Board Chairman in anticipation of severe weather
- Monitored weather conditions and sent out emails to employees and partners including Facebook posts
- Conducted damage assessment throughout the County for several storms
- Returning from damage assessment on east side of County - rock damaged windshield. Wind damaged bed cover on truck - cover replaced
- Not confirmed - (2) F2 and (2) F1 tornados
- Provided weather radio to elections department due to the possibility of severe weather
- Hosted SVCC Police Academy students in EOC on Emergency Management

IX. Probation

Staci Stewart reported the following information from the Probation Department:

- There will be a Veteran's Treatment Court Graduation on April 11, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. in the New Courts Building
- The office is getting ready to make the move to the new management information system software. Training is scheduled for May of 2023.
- The Dependent Children's fund started with a budget of roughly \$27,000. The fund is used to detain minors when arrested in the community and moved to a contracted detention facility. The per diem per day to house the minor is \$175. Staci reported that she is likely to reach \$19,000 by the end of April. She may be coming back to the County for additional funds.

X. Sheriff

Clay Whelan reported the following information from the Sheriff's Office:

- On Friday evening, March 31st the first round of storms went through the area. Clay complemented Kevin Lalley for providing everyone with weather assessments and warnings. Multiple power lines were down, structures damaged, trees down. That night the Sheriff's Office received 48 calls for service. Several power poles on Route 52 south of Sublette were down and the road was closed for two (2) days.
- On Tuesday, April 2nd a second storm went through the area. Three semis trucks were blown over: Route 30 near Harmon Road, I88 West of Route 26, and Route 38 near Red Brick Road. More power poles were down just North of Lost Nation Road on Route 2.
- The Sheriff's Office accompanied the Health Department to the property at 251 and Route 30. The building was posted as uninhabitable and there were suspicions that someone was staying there.

XI. State's Attorney

Charley Boonstra reported the following information from the State's Attorney's Office:

- The office has scheduled trials through June of 2023
- County offices continue to work through the issues associated with the Pretrial Fairness Act. The case is in the care of the Supreme Court and a decision has yet to be handed down regarding bond reform.

A. Quarterly Update on the Collection of Unpaid Fines - State's Attorney
No update was given during the April meeting.

XII. Report of Abandoned Property Focus Group

Mike Koppien and Wendy Ryerson updated the committee on the progress coming out of the Abandoned Property Focus Group. Highlights include:

- The Abandoned Property Focus Group met on April 4th. The Lee County Health Department, Sheriff's Office, State's Attorney's Office, and the Zoning Office also attended the meeting.
- The group discussed different methods of ranking properties for future action and putting together a sequence of actions going forward.
- The old Eldena Nursing home was added to the list of properties that need to be addressed. An attempt will be made to contact the owner to address some of the issues with the buildings for safety reasons.
- The committee is currently looking to act on the property at 251 and Route 30. The property has been posted as uninhabited.

XIII. Unfinished Business

There were no items under Unfinished Business.

XIV. New Business

There were no items under New Business.

XV. Executive Session

There was no request for an Executive Session.

XVI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 11:09 a.m. **Moved** by Keane Hudson. **Second** by Angie Shippert. **Motion** passed unanimously by voice vote.

The next Public Safety and Court Services Committee Meeting is scheduled for
10:30 a.m., Monday, May 15, 2023

Respectfully submitted by:
Becky Brenner - Board Secretary