



Public Safety, Health and Judicial Committee

Meeting Minutes

Lee County, Illinois

Oct 12, 2022 at 9:00 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 9:00 a.m., by Chair Mike Koppien.

II. Committee Member Roll Call: Chair Mike Koppien, Vice Chair John Nicholson, Marilyn Shippert, Keane Hudson, Jack Skrogstad, and Mike Zeman

All members were present in person.

Also present: Charley Boonstra (State's Attorney), Stephanie Sasscer (Assistant State's Attorney), Wendy Ryerson (Administrator), Amy Johnson (Circuit Clerk), Staci Stewart (Director of Probation and Court Services), Bob Thompson (Public Defender)(9:00-9:22), John Simonton (Sheriff), Clay Whelan (Chief Deputy Sheriff), Kevin Lalley (EMA Director), and Becky Brenner (Board Secretary) were all present in person.

III. Public Attendees

No one from the public was in attendance.

IV. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting - (September 14, 2022)

Minutes from the September 9, 2022, Lee County Public Safety, Health, and Judicial Committee Meeting were approved as presented without modification.

V. Circuit Clerk

A. Report

Amy Johnson reported the following information from the Circuit Clerk's Office:

- The Fifteenth Judicial Circuit and Sauk Valley Community College entered into a four (4) year contract for the college to offer a traffic safety program. The classes will be online and in person.
- The County will continue to use Rock Valley College in Rockford.
- Ogle County offers classes at the Public Library.
- Carroll County offers classes at the Great River Outreach.
- Stephenson County offers classes at Highland Community College

VI. EMA (Emergency Management Agency)

A. Report

Kevin Lalley reported that the office lost a drone due to an unintentional hard landing. The drone is insured with a \$1,000 deductible and can possibly be repaired. However, the drone is at end of life and there are no longer parts or batteries available. Kevin walked the committee through the quotes that he had received for two different models that could be purchased and what the advantages would be for a newer more advanced model. No action was taken, and Kevin will be presenting the information to the Finance Committee later in the week.

VII. Probation

A. Report

Staci Stewart reported the following information from the Probation Department:

- The per diem for juvenile detention would be increasing from \$135 to \$195 a day.
- She also reported that there is an increase in the number of juveniles that are being detained. GPS services are now being used to monitor these cases when appropriate.
- Several officers in the department are being trained with domestic violence risk assessment tools. This will be utilized in the pre-trial phase and will assist the court in determining whether the individual should be detained or released.

VIII. Sheriff

A. Report

John Simonton reported the following information from the Sheriff's Office:

- John introduced Clay Whelan. Clay is currently serving in the position of Chief Deputy but is the only candidate on the November ballot for Sheriff.
- He reported that he would be discussing the overtime budget and fuel budget later in the week with the Finance Committee.
- John will be asking the Finance Committee to consider increasing the EMA Director's salary by \$3,000 and his equipment line-item by \$3,000. These funds would be coming from a \$6,000 stipend the office receives annually from the Northwest Illinois Preparedness Response Coalition.

B. Quarterly Update on Dangerous and Abandoned Properties

No specific report was given on this topic.

IX. State's Attorney

A. Report

Charley Boonstra and Bob Thompson walked the committee through the request that they would be presenting to the Finance Committee for software to be used in both the State's Attorney's Office and the Public Defender's Office. Following are highlights from the discussion:

- The current case management software will no longer be supported after September 2023. The current software provider would assist the office with support, but at a cost of \$150 per hour.
- The current software provider suggested Prosecutor by Karpel and Defender by Karpel. This software comes highly recommended from the Illinois State's Attorney's Association and other Counties in Illinois that are currently using the software.
- A proposal was requested and received from Karpel. The proposal included modules for the State's Attorney's Office and the Public Defender's Office.
- The go live date, if the software is purchased now, would be September of 2023.
- The first-year cost to purchase the State's Attorney's module would be \$86,800. There is a first year and subsequent annual support service fee of \$13,100.
- The first-year cost to purchase the Public Defender's module is \$34,100. There is a first year and subsequent annual support service fee of \$4,050.
- A demo of the software was reviewed by the office and Board Member Jack Skrogstad.
- The software is web-based and can be used anywhere with a data connection or Wi-Fi that can connect to the internet.
- The software would be used for the transmission of discovery for a seamless transition to the Public Defender's Office.

Charley also introduced Stephanie Sasscer to the committee. She is the new Assistant State's Attorney in the office. She will be assisting with the civil and misdemeanor divisions.

****During the State's Attorney's software discussion, there was a hiccup with the new technology in the Boardroom. The meeting was paused from 9:10 a.m. - 9:18 a.m.

B. Quarterly Update on the Collection of Unpaid Fines - State's Attorney

Charley Boonstra reported that the total of unpaid fines and fees collected in September were \$6,573.84. The total collected thus far in 2022 was \$53,675.38.

X. Judges, Coroner, and Public Defender

A. Reports

No reports from the Judges or the Coroner's Office. There was no report from the Public Defender's Office apart from the Karpel software discussion.

XI. Unfinished Business

A. Rescind Parcel 11-16-06-329-007 from Tax Auction Sale

There was a discussion by the committee regarding the old Lee Center School that is located on parcel# 11-16-06-329-007. This parcel was included in the resolutions that were passed during the County Board Meeting in September. After the meeting it was discovered that the building was uninhabitable. This resolution approval from September will be considered during the October County Board Meeting. This will allow the county to address the numerous public safety issues.

XII. New Business

A. TEST Voting System

Wendy Ryerson walked the committee through a test vote using the OnBoard software. With the new Boardroom technology installed, it is the goal of the Board to start using electronic voting on all motions beginning with the December 2022 meetings.

XIII. Executive Session

There was no request for an executive session.

XIV. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 10:03 a.m. **Moved** by Keane Hudson. **Second** by Jack Skrogstad. **Motion** passed unanimously by voice vote.

The next meeting of the Public Safety, Health, and Judicial Committee is scheduled for 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 16, 2022.