



Public Safety, Health and Judicial Committee

Meeting Minutes

Lee County, Illinois

Jan 12, 2022, at 9:00 AM CST

Old Lee County Courthouse, Third Floor, 112 E. Second Street, Dixon, IL 61021

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m., by Chair Mike Koppien.

II. Committee Member Roll Call: **Present:** Chair Mike Koppien, Vice Chair Marilyn Shippert, Keane Hudson, Jack Skrogstad, and Mike Zeman. **Absent:** Katie White.

III. Meeting Attendees and Visitors

Board Members, Department Heads, Employees, and Visitors present: John Nicholson (County Board Vice Chair), Charley Boonstra (State's Attorney), Wendy Ryerson (Administrator), Kevin Lalley (EMA), Amy Johnson (Circuit Clerk), Staci Stewart (Probation), John Simonton (Sheriff) and Becky Brenner (Board Secretary) were all present in person.

IV. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting(s)

The December 15, 2021, Public Safety, Health and Judicial Committee minutes were approved without modification.

V. Review of Claims Report Provided by the Claims Committee

Wendy Ryerson walked the committee through the different elements included in the new claims report provided to the members. She explained that the report did not include the number of claims that the committee typically saw during the month due to the timing of the new claim's software training.

VI. Administrator and Department Head Reports

Staci Stewart reported that the Probation Department is in the recertification process for the Veteran's Treatment Court and Drug Court by the State of Illinois through the Administrative Office.

John Simonton reported that the two (2) lateral transfers that came on board late last year did not work out and he has a patrol deputy that left for deployment overseas. This leaves the patrol division short three (3) deputies. He went on to explain that two (2) squad cars had been damaged the week prior and will be out of service being repaired. John went on to explain that his fuel line item would be over budget due to the rise in fuel costs and he reiterated the need for an additional squad car. Lastly, he reported that IDOC had paused their intake for County inmates once again and because of the uptick in Covid cases, Judge Ackert had notified him that the New Courts Building would be going back to modified business practices, allowing only those that had business with the courts to enter the building.

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

Charley Boonstra reported that \$1,042.70 was collected during the month of December. He also reported that the tax intercept option that was discussed for use this Spring would include an exemption handed down from the Comptroller for cases involving tax credit for children.

VIII. Quarterly Update on Dangerous and Abandoned Properties - Sheriff

John Simonton reported that the Sheriff's Office and the Zoning Department are working on a document that would detail the time and resources spent on the process of cleaning up dangerous and abandoned vehicles and properties. This report would include the number of vehicles and/or properties and citations issued.

IX. Old Business

A. UTV ordinance update - Jack Skrogstad

Jack Skrogstad reported that he had received an official document from Bradford Township adopting the County's Ordinance which would allow the use of ATVs on their roadway and that Ashton Township had contacted him requesting help putting their ordinance together to mirror the Lee County ordinance. He went on to report that he had received an email from Viola Township explaining that they were not going to allow ATVs on their roadways. He is requesting a written statement from any Township that is not in favor of adopting a UTV ordinance for their roadways.

X. New Business

A. Harmon Incident - recognition

John Simonton explained that he would presenting awards to an entire shift of deputies that had gone above and beyond the call of duty on December 22, 2021, to save a toddler that had wandered away from his home in the early morning hours in 17 degree temperatures. The toddler was unresponsive when found and the deputies worked tirelessly to revive the toddler that was ultimately flown to Peoria. Due to the quick response and diligence of the deputies, the toddler is expected to make a full recovery.

B. Commissary Fund - audit

John Simonton reported that the commissary audit had been completed. There was one (1) minor finding that required updating the commissary products to current local pricing.

C. Stipends / bonus criteria

At the Sheriff's request, the committee skipped this topic and will be discussing it in the February meeting.

XI. Executive Session: No executive session

XII. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn. **Moved** by Jack Skrogstad. **Second** by Mike Zeman. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.,

The next meeting of the Public Safety, Health, and Judicial Committee will be 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 16, 2022