

Minutes of the Justice Committee

The Justice Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, November 3, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Renner; Members, Wendt, Rankin, Hoselton, Rackauskas and McIntyre

Members Absent: None

Other County Board
Members Present: None

Staff Present: Mr. Terry Lindberg, County Administrator; Mr. Bill Wasson, Assistant County Administrator; and Ms. Judith LaCasse, Assistant to the County Administrator

Department Heads/
Elected Officials
Present: Sheriff Mike Emery; Ms. Lori McCormick, Director, Court Services; Ms. Cathy Waltz, Superintendent, Juvenile Detention Center; Ms. Judy Renner, Director, Children's Advocacy Center; Mr. Don Everhart, Circuit Clerk; Mr. Bill Yoder, State's Attorney; and Ms. Beth Kimmerling, County Coroner

Others Present: Ms. Michelle Anderson, County Auditor; and Rev. Tom Shea, Alternatives to Jail Committee

Chairman Renner called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

Chairman Renner presented the minutes from the October 5, 2009 Special Budget Meeting and the October 6, 2009 Committee meeting for approval.

Motion by McIntyre/Rankin to approve the Minutes of the October 5, 2009 Special Budget and the October 6, 2009 Committee Meetings.

Motion carried.

Sheriff Mike Emery presented a request for approval of a contract with Mr. Anthony Watson for inmate Chaplain services. He noted that there is a 3% increase in the contract, bringing the total contract to \$12,049.72.

Mr. Hoselton asked how often Reverend Watson is available to the inmates. Sheriff Emery replied that there is not a set number of hours required; however, he reassured the Committee that the minister puts in 30-40 hours per week in the Jail. Sheriff Emery added that Reverend Watson also oversees the 75 volunteers and organizes various events.

Chairman Renner advised that the Jail was required to provide a minister in order to receive accreditation.

Motion by Hoselton/McIntyre to Recommend Approval
of a Contract with Mr. Anthony Watson for Inmate
Chaplain Services.
Motion carried.

Sheriff Emery submitted the requests for approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of McLean and the Illinois State University for Centralized Booking; between the County of McLean and the Town of Normal for Centralized Booking; and between the County of McLean and the City of Bloomington for Centralized Booking. Sheriff Emery noted that all three of these contracts reflect a 3% increase in the fee charged to each entity.

Mr. Lindberg advised that before this Intergovernmental Agreement was enacted, each individual police department did their own booking and then transported the prisoner to the County Jail where the County Jail staff went through a second process of booking the person into the Jail. When the addition to the Jail was completed in 1990-1991, former Sheriff Brien suggested that centralized booking be established. At that time, the additional cost the Sheriff's Department would incur was a records expense to create additional records on the prisoners. When the Intergovernmental Agreements were set up, the Sheriff sought to recover the additional support cost involved in generating and maintaining the records.

Sheriff Emery indicated that Centralized Booking eliminates duplication in the process. Since the late 1990s, when EJIS went live, everything went electronic. County personnel enter the information into EJIS but all entities can electronically look up the information on individual inmates.

Motion by Rankin/McIntyre to Recommend Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of McLean and the Illinois State University for Centralized Booking; between the County of McLean and the Town of Normal for Centralized Booking; and between the County of McLean and the City of Bloomington for Centralized Booking.

Motion carried.

Sheriff Emery presented a request for approval of the 2010 ATM Machine Agreement by and between the County of McLean and Bloomington Municipal Credit Union. He reminded the Committee that this was approved in July 2009 and was the first ATM machine installed in the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Emery indicated that the previous contract was for six months and this contract is for one year.

Motion by Rankin/Rackauskas to Recommend Approval of an ATM Machine Agreement by and between the County of McLean and the Bloomington Municipal Credit Union.

Motion carried.

Sheriff Emery presented a request approval of the 2010 Maintenance Agreement with Identix for the Live-Scan Fingerprinting System in the McLean County Detention Facility. He indicated that this agreement is to provide maintenance on the Identix machine in the Jail which does the electronic finger-printing and digitally transmits the fingerprints to the State Police. Sheriff Emery stated that this one-year agreement has no increase in service fees.

Motion by Hoselton/McIntyre to Recommend Approval of the 2010 Maintenance Agreement with Identix for the Live-Scan Fingerprinting System in the McLean County Detention Facility.

Motion carried.

Sheriff Emery reviewed the McLean County Detention Facility Population Report. He noted that the population has been fluctuating. Currently, there are 267 inmates in Jail, 12 were transported to the Department of Corrections and ten inmates are being housed out-of-County. Sheriff Emery added that the ten inmates may be returned to the Jail later today.

Sheriff Emery reviewed the Aramark Correctional Services Monthly Report. He pointed out that 23,091 meals were served in September at an average cost of \$1.269 per meal. Sheriff Emery reported that the County is saving 90 cents per meal by outsourcing, which is a savings of just over \$20,000 in September.

Sheriff Emery reviewed the McLean County Jail 2009 Inspection Report. He noted that this was the first report following the renovation in the Law and Justice Center. Sheriff Emery advised that this is the first time in quite a while that the McLean County Jail was not found in violation of any *Illinois County Jail Standards*. He added that the Correctional staff worked hard every day to run the Jail properly. Sheriff Emery stated that this report reflects their effort.

Chairman Renner asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Sheriff Emery.

Ms. McCormick reviewed the Court Services Adult/Juvenile Division Statistics for September 2009, as well as the Juvenile Detention Center statistics. She invited the Justice Committee to attend the Drug Court Graduation on Thursday, November 5th at 4:30 p.m. on the 5th floor of the Law and Justice Center.

Ms. Rackauskas encouraged the Committee members to attend even if they have to be a little bit late. She noted that it is a very impressive event.

Ms. McCormick reported that the Court Services case loads remain high, but relatively stable. She indicated that the Juvenile Detention Center statistics were very high last week, with 24 juveniles on one day. Ms. Cathy Waltz, Superintendent, Juvenile Detention, pointed out that this was just prior to Halloween, which may have been a contributing factor. Today there are 15 juveniles.

Chairman Renner asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Ms. McCormick and Ms. Waltz.

Ms. Judy Renner, Director, Children's Advocacy Center (CAC), presented the CAC Monthly Statistical Report and the CASA Report.

Ms. Renner announced that the Children's Advocacy Center was recently up for its national reaccreditation, which is a very burdensome process. She noted that the CAC hosted site visitors from the national association on Monday, October 26.

Ms. Renner stated that the individuals from the national association advised her that it was not possible for them to provide the results of their visit, but they could provide a general consensus by the end of the day. She indicated that, at the end of the day, the visitors made the comment that the CAC has nothing to fix and nothing on their "to do" list. Ms. Renner noted that the notification will not be received until the end of January. She added that she feels confident that the CAC will be reaccredited for another five years.

Chairman Renner asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Ms. Renner.

Mr. Don Everhart presented his Statistical Reports for September 2009 and the Third Quarter 2009 Statistical Reports. He indicated that there is nothing unusual to report.

Chairman Renner asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Mr. Everhart.

Mr. Bill Yoder, State's Attorney, presented a request for approval of a Resolution Approving McLean County's continued participation with the State of Illinois Appellate Prosecutor's Office. He explained that this contract is entered into with the Appellate Prosecutor's Office to handle criminal appeals and to handle conflict prosecutions.

Motion by Hoselton/McIntyre to approve a Resolution
Approving McLean County's continued participation
with the State of Illinois Appellate Prosecutors Office.
Motion carried.

Mr. Yoder reviewed his Monthly Caseload Report and Asset Forfeiture Fund Report. He noted that the number of felonies is down this year; however, the severity of the felonies has increased. Mr. Yoder added that the more serious felonies are more complicated and more time-consuming.

Mr. Yoder stated that the CAC is a multidisciplinary team, and includes one Assistant State's Attorney. He announced that the Assistant State's Attorney that was assigned to CAC has just tendered her resignation to join the FBI. Mr. Yoder advised that he will fill the CAC attorney position with an attorney who is currently in the State's Attorney's Office. He noted that attorney's position will also be filled internally and an outside attorney will be hired at a lower salary level.

Chairman Renner asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, he thanked Mr. Yoder.

Chairman Renner presented the Public Defender's Monthly Caseload Report as submitted by Ms. Amy Davis, Public Defender.

Mr. McIntyre asked why there is such a large increase in Mental Health Cases. Mr. Lindberg responded that the increase is not reflective of changes in statute, or changes in how they are handled in court. He indicated that an update on the increase in mental health cases will be provided to the Committee next month. Mr. Lindberg noted that there continues to be an ad hoc committee studying the potential of a Mental Health Court. He commented that the County Jail system appears to have become the predominant mental health provider in the County as there are few other local provider options.

Ms. Beth Kimmerling, County Coroner, presented a letter from the International Association of Forensic Nurses thanking her for serving as a Committee Member for the FNDI Education Guidelines Development Committee and to be a presenter at their conference two weeks ago. She noted that the Education Guidelines Development Committee is the committee that formed educational guidelines for the nurses who want to be death investigators.

Ms. Kimmerling reviewed her September 2009 Monthly Report. She indicated that the report continues to show the trends that fewer deaths are being reported in McLean County but the deaths are deaths that require autopsies. Ms. Kimmerling added that the out-of-County autopsies are similar to last year.

Ms. Rackauskas congratulated Ms. Kimmerling on being asked to serve as a Committee Member for the FNDI Education Guidelines Development Committee.

Chairman Renner asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Ms. Kimmerling.

Chairman Renner presented the October 31, 2009 Justice Committee bills for review and approval as transmitted by the County Auditor. The Justice Committee bills include a Prepaid Total of \$2,011,329.54 and a Fund Total that is the same.

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Motion by Rackauskas/Rankin to Recommend
Approval of the Justice Committee Bills as of October
31, 2009, as transmitted by the County Auditor.
Motion carried.

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Chairman Renner asked if there was any other business or communication for the Justice Committee. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse
Recording Secretary