

## JUDICIAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

January 17, 2008

The Judicial and Public Safety Committee met on January 17, 2008 in the Kane County Board Room, Building A, Kane County Government Center, Geneva, Illinois.

Present: Chairman Mitchell, Davoust, Fahy, Noverini, Neuberger, Shoemaker. Absent: Tredup. Also present: Finance Dir. Pattelli; Asst. Public Defender Peccarelli; State's Attorney Barsanti; Coroner West; Circuit Clerk Seyller; Court Admin. Naughton; Court Services Administration Dir. Mueller, staff Dr. Brown; Anselme, Hyatt, Stodiek, Nickels; Sheriff Perez and staff Keaty; Merit Commissioner Chair Klinkhamer, Weber; Drug Rehab. Rep. Scott; Auditor Keck; members of the press and public including Consultant Jim Robertson, VRJS.

Chairman Mitchell called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Minutes of November 21, 2007 - were approved on motion by Noverini, seconded by Fahy. Motion carried.

Public Comment - None

Monthly Financial Report - Pattelli reported the budget was fine at this point.

### STATE'S ATTORNEY

Monthly Report - Barsanti reported the 2007 case load felonies filed totaled 3,801, which was an increase of about 300 from the prior year, most of which were from Aurora, Elgin, and Carpentersville. December's forfeiture figures began at \$17,244 with judgments totaling \$11,876.00. Under the Second Chance program, 444 felony cases were diverted out of the court system and brought in \$186,000 in revenue. The drug/alcohol portion of the sane program brought in approximately \$78,000.

### CORONER

Monthly Report - West reported December 2006 investigations totaled 2,577 cases while 2007 investigations totaled 2,711. Per the committee's request, he researched the price for a new walk-in cooler which totaled \$23,643.00. The chair asked to forward the bid to the Finance Committee with a positive recommendation. **Neuberger moved that the request for walk-in cooler be forwarded to the Finance Committee, seconded by Fahy. Motion carried.** West thanked rescue personnel from the Cities of Batavia, Aurora, and St. Charles for their quick response and cooperation in rescuing a man who drove into the Fox River on January 14. Details followed on the dangerous attempts at the man's rescue. West stated he was down four individuals in his office.

### CIRCUIT CLERK

Monthly Report - Seyller reported turnover is taking place in her office. The criminal team was down by 6 employees, mainly seeking higher paying jobs. The office is working to keep the court room staffed.

### DRUG REHABILITATION COURT

Monthly Report - Scott referenced his report. No questions followed.

### JUVENILE CUSTODY

Monthly Report - Brown reported 26 youth were in placement. The budget was fine. The Diagnostic Center's annual report was referenced, which included many referrals and complaints from the bar due to the delay in receiving psychological reports from the Diagnostic Center. It was noted, however, there 50 more reports than the prior year and the office was down one full person on maternity leave. Also, screenings for the corrections officers to be staff at the new jail have been taking place in addition to the department's regular work load.

### PUBLIC DEFENDER

Monthly Report - Peccarelli reported the office was down two people and still searching to fill the positions.

### JUDICIARY AND COURTS

Monthly Report - Naughton reported the following resolution is for an annual contract for court-appointed counsel to handle cases that the public defender has conflicts over. The money is in the budget for the two attorneys.

**Resolution: Contract with Attorneys for Trial Cases - was moved to the Executive Committee on motion by Fahy, seconded by Shoemaker. Motion carried.**

Presentation on Jail Population Management Report - Robertson discussed that it was encouraging to hear that there is recognition that jail population management requires construction of sufficient bed space and a review and evaluation of key programs and policy activities that occur within the criminal justice systems. He pointed out the jail was moving forward with completion to be expected in July 2008. A specific number of beds have been discussed with the understanding that the county will build an initial capacity of 640 beds with the ability to finish out the shell space with a final capacity of 768 beds. Robertson has begun to have discussions with key policy makers within the criminal justice system and was impressed with the commitment by these individuals to managing the jail population. He is reviewing accepted management practices in other jurisdictions to see what fits in Kane County and is reviewing increased use of pre-trial services, day reporting, and community service programs, etc. He will be returning to this committee and the county board with a cost benefit analysis for each program reviewed. Davoust commended Mr. Robertson for staying on top of the matter and recommended that the same presentation be made to the Committee of the Whole; members concurred. Neuberger raised dialog about reducing the pretrial population, suggesting contacting Lake County for ideas. Robertson stated pretrials have been discussed with Mueller but the concern was public safety and that a number of variables must be considered. Mitchell also added that steps were being taken to provide quicker paperwork and more information. Sheriff Perez pointed out that some issues were out of the Sheriff's control and his office had to be sensitive to an inmate's history and the safety of the public. Chair Mitchell commended the Sheriff's Office and the State's Attorney's Office for their cooperation.

#### SHERIFF

Monthly Report - Perez announced the phone trees for Corrections and Public Safety were removed and a live person answers the phones now. The office's web site is being redesigned to be more interactive with the public. The four-year Public Safety collective bargaining agreement will be voted upon shortly and he feels it will pass. For the first time a fitness for duty policy as well as a mandatory random drug testing policy will take effect. The 911 Center has 17 full-time dispatchers which has reduced overtime levels. Patrol has 8.5 deputies per shift, which was up two deputies from when he began office. He expects that figure to increase when others go on medical leave. He commended Patrol Leut. Swanson for reducing areas of overtime being expended. The office is developing a Critical Incident protocol with the Regional Office of Education so that emergency personnel follow the same protocol in school emergency situations.

#### MERIT COMMISSION

Monthly Report - Fahy reported the Merit Commission Subcommittee met and discussed the per diem rate for those serving on the commission. It was determined to not increase the per diem but to forward all funds toward the hiring process. Klinkhamer reported the commission was conducting oral interviews for deputy sheriff with 66 interviews scheduled. Testing for correctional officers was also expected. He thanked Dr. Brown's office for the screenings, which have been beneficial and cost-effective to the county and Sheriff's Office.

#### ADULT CORRECTIONS

Monthly Report - Keaty reported in-house training of current staff was occurring to reinforce some of the changes that will take place at the new jail. Staff has been working with the Merit Commission to get qualified applicants and also working with Pattelli and Robertson on a staffing plan for the new jail. By ordinance, 104 correctional deputies are allowed but the office is seeking to increase that to 128 deputies. Mitchell reported the resolution was not on the agenda but the money was in the budget. He would present the resolution at the next Executive Committee meeting.

#### COURT SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Monthly Report - Stodieck stated House Bill 1517 was sent to the Rules Committee on January 10, 2008 with an unknown status. He has been communicating with the legislature to explain the significant costs the bill will have to Kane County. Hyatt explained she has been working with researchers in the collar counties to obtain survey information. From what Hyatt understands, the rest of the state is looking to Kane County to communicate to the legislature the significant impacts the bill will have on counties through the survey information. Asked if this information has been made available to the county's lobbyists for the upcoming Legislative Breakfast, Mueller said he assumed it was being addressed through the Legislative Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m. on motion by Shoemaker, seconded by Fahy. Motion carried.

Celeste Weilandt  
Recording Secretary