

JUDICIAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

January 27, 2009

The Judicial and Public Safety Committee met on Tuesday, January 27, 2009, at the Kane County Government Center, County Board Room, 719 S. Batavia Avenue, Geneva, Illinois.

Present: Chairman Kenyon, Tredup, Allan, Fahy, Ford, and Shoemaker. Absent: Davoust. Also present: Sheriff Perez and staff Keaty; Drug Rehab Court staff Scott; Court Services Admin. Dir. Mueller and staff Hyatt, Brown, and Anselme; Merit Commission staff; Finance Dir. Pattelli and staff Rossman; Coroner West; Auditor Keck; State's Atty. Barsanti; Asst. State's Atty. Shepro; Chief Judge Brown; Judiciary staff O'Brien; and members of the press and public.

Chairman Kenyon called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Minutes of December 29, 2008 - were approved on motion by Ford, seconded by Tredup. Motion carried.

Public Comment – None

Monthly Financial Report – A written report was provided. Pattelli provided information on some new reports the committee would begin receiving next month, which would provide more detail than the reports they were used to receiving.

SHERIFF

Monthly Report – Perez provided a written report on crime statistics for the month, noting that crime has been on the downturn. He reported that Sergeants Mayes and Collins had recently graduated from the Northwestern School of Staff and Command. Four deputies are currently out on injured leave. Perez directed committee members to the Community Policing section of their website to view real time crime statistics for specific townships.

DRUG REHABILITATION COURT

Monthly Report – A written report was provided. Per a question, Scott confirmed they are still in their same location, operating out of the Judicial Center.

JUVENILE CUSTODY

Monthly Report – Dr. Brown reported they currently have 20 youth in placement, 65% for crimes of violence. They also have nine youth awaiting placement. Referencing a written report, he noted it showed no expenditures for Board and Care for December, as that was paid in November.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Monthly Report – A written report was provided. Klimt indicated they were making some changes to their report and that starting next month he hoped to bring a report that more accurately portrays what they do. He reported that on Monday they start arraignment court which involves restructuring of the Felony Division Courthouse. The idea is to use the arraignment court to dispose of cases prior to them going up to the trial court. Cases should be closed more quickly.

CIRCUIT CLERK

Monthly Report – No report.

STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Monthly Report – Barsanti referenced a written report on the Bad Check Restitution Program and provided forfeiture statistics. He reported that total restitution to victims was close to \$500,000. Forfeiture statistics show \$10,000 begun on administrative forfeitures and judgments of \$3,845 in the month of December. Barsanti discussed some interesting trends, noting that in 2008 felonies authorized dropped by 235, which is a significant decrease. He commented that normally in a bad economy, property crimes spike, but they have not seen that happen. In 2007, 124 felony cases were tried out of the 3,800 cases filed, compared to 140 cases out of 3,600 cases filed this year. Barsanti thought it was good for the entire system to try cases. In both 2007 and 2008, 1,500 domestic violence cases were filed. In 2008 they tried 169 of those cases, and in 2007 they tried 147. Conviction rates have stayed at 96-97%. Barsanti provided year-end statistics from the Child Support Division noting in 2008 they collected \$17 million in delinquent child support, which was a \$3 million increase from the prior year. He noted Kane County is one of the best in the state for collecting delinquent child support. The unit is funded completely with state funds. Barsanti reported they had closed one of the felony court rooms to open up an arraignment court which will be the initial stop for all felony cases in the system. This will give them an opportunity to get cases out of the system early. When arraignment court works correctly, they should reduce the felony trial caseload by a significant amount. He thanked the Chief Judge for his efforts in making this happen. Explaining how it would all work, Barsanti announced that afternoon bond call starts in the Tri-Cities next week. He felt that by moving the bond call back a few hours, they will be able to accomplish a lot more and impact the jail population. Barsanti felt it couldn't have been done without the collaborative efforts of the Chief Judge, Jim Mueller and his staff, the Circuit Clerk, and Sheriff Perez.

JUDICIARY & COURTS

Monthly Report – No report.

Resolution: Contract with Attorneys for Trail Cases - When the court determines the Public Defender would have a conflict of interest when representing certain indigent defendants, private counsel may be appointed. The Chief Judge will appoint two attorneys - one at a monthly cost of \$3,090 and the other at \$2,585 for the calendar year. There is \$90,000 allotted in the budget for the two attorneys. Kenyon asked that the numbers be clarified in the resolution prior to the Executive Committee meeting. - **Motion was made by Kenyon, seconded by Ford to move to the Executive Committee. Motion carried.**

CORONER

Monthly Report – A written report was provided. West provided an update on activities in his office, noting they are seeing more cases come through with litigation tied to them. The Civil Division is dealing with this on a daily basis, and West was thankful for their cooperation. West reported that eventually a state death certificate will be on line.

MERIT COMMISSION

Monthly Report – The Correction Officer list went into effect November 14 with 86 candidates on the list. Currently the Sheriff's Department is conducting background checks, polygraphs, and psychological testing for 30 of the candidates. Jason Frederick was sworn in as a new deputy in December. Since he was on both lists, his name is being removed from the Corrections list. The Sheriff will be swearing in nine Correction Officers on Monday. They do not anticipate testing again for Corrections in 2009. Sheriff Perez added that they actually had 10 openings, so they will still be one officer short. They will also have another vacancy at the end of February as one officer is due to retire. Perez expects that the hiring of the nine new officers will make a big difference for operations.

ADULT CORRECTIONS

Monthly Report - Keaty reported that Sergeant Cory Hunger of the Sheriff's Department has been named Corrections Officer of the Year by the Illinois Sheriff's Association. He will receive the award on Monday, February 2, in Moline. Kenyon suggested that a presentation be made at a future County Board meeting. Keaty noted that the current count was 623, with 585 in house. For the month, they have been averaging bed space utilization of 93% for males, and 73% for females, for a combined average of 91%.

COURT SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Monthly Report – A written report was provided.

Juvenile Detention Center 2008 Inspection Report - Referencing a written report, Mueller explained that the Department of Corrections comes in on a yearly basis to do an inspection. The inspectors were impressed with the cleanliness and the overall operation of the facility.

Resolution: Global Positioning System Contract – In order to comply with the new Cindy Bischof Law an RFP was issued for GPS equipment rental and vendor services. Of the ten vendors responding, Omnilink scored highest based on cost, ability to provide a functional one piece unit, ability to provide the indoor location of offenders, and references. The contract with Omnilink would be for one year with an option to extend for up to an additional two years at a total cost not to exceed \$200,000 (\$7.05 per unit per day). This number is based on maximum potential usage. The Chief Judge explained that this was an unfunded mandate, so it must be done. He indicated they tried to come up with the cheapest alternative that offered the most protection for the community. Hyatt noted this company monitors the equipment from their location; however, Court Services needs to have staff available 24/7 to go out to the house if they are notified of a problem. The on-call costs are estimated to be an additional \$15,000. In response to concerns that the lowest bidder wasn't chosen, Hyatt explained the reasons this company was selected, noting the benefits of using this company far outweigh the 5% difference in cost. Atty. Shepro added that this was handled as an RFP because the services are unique to each provider. **Motion was made by Kenyon, seconded by Tredup to move to the Finance Committee. Motion carried.**

KANECOMM

Monthly Report - Baustian reported that since the implementation of KaneComm in late 2008, their primary focus has been on the impending migration of the 911 Center from the old Sheriff's Department property on Fabyan Parkway to Building C at the Government Center. They are making significant strides in the project and anticipate taking occupancy of the space in early September 2009. At this point, they are finalizing the migration budget for the move.

Ordinance: Amending Section 6 of Chapter 24 of the Kane County Code to Establish a Subscriber Fee Formula for KaneComm – Baustian provided background information noting that the code is being amended to adopt the subscriber fee formula for KaneComm. Subscriber agencies are divided into tiers based on their call volume. The fee structure will be implemented over the course of three years in order to allow a reasonable time for member agencies to plan and budget for the costs of services. Baustian indicated she would provide the committee with a spreadsheet of 2009 fees. In response to a question, Baustian said they did not anticipate losing subscribers because of this. - **Motion was made by Kenyon, seconded by Fahy to move to the Executive Committee. Motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:33 p.m. on motion by Tredup, seconded by Shoemaker. Motion carried.

Ellyn M. McGrath
Recording Secretary