

JUDICIAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

March 13, 2009

The Judicial and Public Safety Committee met on Friday, March 13, 2009, at the Kane County Government Center, County Board Room, 719 S. Batavia Avenue, Geneva, Illinois.

Present: Chairman Kenyon, Tredup, Allan, Davoust, Fahy, Ford. Absent: Shoemaker. Also present: Sheriff's Office staff Ziman, Keaty, and Grommes; Drug Rehab Court staff Scott; Court Services Admin. Dir. Mueller and staff Hyatt, Jefko, and Anselme; Finance staff Waggoner; Auditor Keck and staff Sanders; Coroner's Office staff; State's Atty. Barsanti; KaneComm staff Baustian; Chief Judge Brown; Asst. State's Atty. Shepro; and members of the press and public.

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

Minutes of February 23, 2009 - were approved on motion by Fahy, seconded by Tredup. Motion carried.

Public Comment – None

Monthly Financial Reports – were placed on file on motion by Ford, seconded by Allan. Motion carried. Waggoner highlighted three areas, noting that under Adult Corrections salary expenditures are at 24% year to date. While this is close to where the department should be, overtime expenditures are significantly over budget at 71%. Total salary expenditures will continue to be monitored. Waggoner believed the overtime was due to vacancies. Corrections Board and Care have outplacement costs of \$118,000, representing December and January payments to Kendall and Kankakee Counties. There is no budget for outplacement, so any amount spent will create a budget overage for the year. Juvenile outplacement costs are at 24% with only two months of expenditures being expensed. If this trend continues, Waggoner estimated this budget could be approximately \$420,000 over by the end of the year. Discussion followed on the overtime overages. Keaty explained that they had to use overtime to cover vacancies. They currently have nine people in training who are scheduled to graduate, but can't be used in a productive role until May 18. In an effort to cut back on overtime, they are shutting the jail down on Saturday mornings and Sunday evenings so they can reallocate their manpower during the week. Keaty indicated overtime is budgeted at \$171,000. Estimated overtime is at \$55,000 year to date. They have been carrying vacancies since the beginning of the year. In addition to those still in training, they have had 11 employees out due to injury or illness, so they are running about 20 people short. Per a question, Keaty explained they can't put the jail on lockdown to reduce staffing during the week because they have to get people to court. Kenyon commented that it could be cheaper to hire additional staff than paying overtime.

STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Monthly Report – None

Resolution: Replacement Vehicle (Child Advocacy Center) - Barsanti indicated that the Child Advocacy Center is in need of a replacement vehicle due to high mileage and is looking to purchase a Chevy Impala at a cost of \$18,605.13. The vehicle was inspected and recommended for replacement by Fleet Management. (KDOT's written evaluation that was included in the agenda packet showed the 2003 Chevy Cavalier has 111,000 miles on it and is averaging one visit to the shop every three months. Repairs exceed 100% of the trade-in value.) It is anticipated that funding would come from the General Fund contingency fund, as this item is not in the budget. Considerable discussion followed. Committee members expressed concern that an on-call employee living outside of Rockford takes this vehicle home every night. It was pointed out that Sheriff's deputies living outside the county are no longer allowed to take vehicles home. Ziman confirmed that was the case. In response to a question, Barsanti estimated the employee is called out for emergencies 5-10 times a month. Shepro commented that none of the departments or elected officials has capital funds allocated to their budgets, so these types of purchases must be requested and approved. It was suggested that Barsanti consider having the employee use his own personal vehicle and be reimbursed for mileage. After more discussion, Kenyon asked if anyone wanted to make a motion. None forthcoming. Barsanti stated he was withdrawing his request.

SHERIFF

Monthly Report – Salaries and wages for Court Security are at 22%, and overtime salaries are at 6%. Salaries and wages for the Sheriff's Office are at 24%, and overtime salaries are at 12%. All the numbers are well within the quarterly budget. In response to a question asked last month, Grommes reported the copier that needs to be replaced makes approximately 26,000 copies a month. He discussed the budget process noting that they do put these types of items into the budget they submit, but they typically get cut. He indicated the need does not go away, and suggested that it be noted somewhere that these requests have been submitted and denied, so that the committee is aware that at some point in time these issues will need to be addressed. The committee felt there should be some way to track these requests that repeatedly get cut.

Presentation: RedSpeed Illinois - Michael Lebert from RedSpeed Illinois provided a PowerPoint presentation on photo enforcement, explaining the purpose to make intersections safer. The system works through engineering, education, and enforcement. Engineering in Northern Illinois is pretty good and is responsible for a significant reduction in crashes at intersections. An area that can be improved is education, and that is what their program is designed to do before enforcement. Education is what will make the program successful. Committee members viewed a video of what the cameras actually see. Approximately 1,000 people are killed each year as a result of red light running related crashes. This costs the nation about \$14

billion. At those intersections that have cameras, they have seen a 25-40% reduction in crash rates. Big crashes can be reduced by 30-50%. The idea behind cameras at intersections is to change driver behavior. They are using the same formula the state used for "Click It, or Ticket," which was a well marketed, very successful program. With education and enforcement, the state went from under 50% of people wearing seatbelts to 91% in just a few years. Lebert explained how the process works, noting the ticket goes against the vehicle as opposed to the driver. This is a civil offense, and the owner of the vehicle is responsible for paying the fine. Their marketing department will work diligently on our behalf. Lebert outlined their public awareness program, emphasizing that people need to be aware of the program and understand why we are doing it. Kenyon indicated he had toured their facility and felt it was an impressive, professionally run program. He suggested the Sheriff make arrangements to have this same presentation made at the Transportation Committee and Committee of the Whole meetings. Ford indicated he would like to see guidelines on how it is determined where to place these cameras. It was noted that this program is operated at no cost to the - it is completely violator funded. Lebert invited committee members to take a tour of their facility.

ADULT CORRECTIONS

Monthly Report – Keaty reported they are currently at 98% capacity for males and 78% capacity for females. He discussed things they are doing to keep the capacity as high as possible, such as using more of the infirmary beds as overflow space until a spot can be found in regular housing. They are being diligent about placing inmates in cells without violating any state statutes or rules. If the puzzle fits together right, they can maximize bed space. Keaty reported that their medical contract was up and they are going month to month until November when the JJC's contract is up, so they can send out a combined bid for both of them.

DRUG REHABILITATION COURT

Monthly Report – A written report was provided. Staff had nothing to add.

JUVENILE CUSTODY

Monthly Report – Brown reported they currently have 20 youth in placement. They are currently 1% over budget, but they have no control over that.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Monthly Report – A written report was provided.

CIRCUIT CLERK

Monthly Report – No report.

JUDICIARY & COURTS

Monthly Report – No report.

MERIT COMMISSION

Monthly Report – No report.

COURT SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Monthly Report – A written report was provided. Concerning lifetime probation for sex offenders, Mueller reported they currently have four people who qualify for electronic monitoring. They looked at normal life expectancy, and estimate that these four people would cost the county approximately \$.5 million. As for passing the costs on to the offenders, Mueller said that with only 56% of the people on probation being employed, 44% of those on probation would not have the ability to pay. In addition, 20% of the 56% are only employed part time. Per a question, Mueller said these devices can be purchased, however, with changing technology it doesn't make sense to do that. The equipment is antiquated within a year.

KANECOMM

Monthly Report - A written report was provided. Baustian reported that in February, KaneComm processed 11,780 phone calls. They are currently at 21% of their operating budget, and don't anticipate any issues. Their focus at this point is migration of the 911 Center. The specification package went out two weeks ago for demolition and construction of the center. Bids are due back on Monday. Everything remains on schedule. Referencing her written report, Baustian asked if there was any additional information the committee would like to see.

CORONER

Monthly Report – A written report was provided. Staff indicated there were two homicides this month.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m. on motion by Fahy, seconded by Ford. Motion carried.

Ellyn M. McGrath
Recording Secretary