

cc: Co. Bd. Chairman; Co. Bd. Members; Co. Bd. Atty.; Department Heads/Elected Officials; State's Attorney Office; Copley; Chronicle; Republican; Tribune; Daily Herald; Northwest Herald

**SPECIAL MEETING
JUDICIAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

October 5, 2009

The Judicial and Public Safety Committee met in special session on Monday, October 5, 2009, at the Kane County Government Center, First Floor Auditorium, Bldg. A, 719 S. Batavia Avenue, Geneva, Illinois.

Present: Chairman Kenyon, Allan, Davoust (late), Fahy, Ford, Tredup, and Shoemaker. Also present: Co. Bd. member Leonberger; Drug Rehab Court staff Scott; Court Services Admin. Dir. Mueller, and staff Hyatt, Jefko, Anselme; Deputy Auditor Sanders; Finance Dir. Pattelli; Juvenile Custody staff Brown; State's Atty. Barsanti; Chief Judge Brown and staff Naughton; Public Defender staff Kliment; Circuit Clerk Seyller; Treasurer Rickert; County Clerk staff Bennett; and members of the press and public.

Chairman Kenyon called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m., noting that this was one of three meetings that had been called for elected officials reporting to the committee to present their revised 2010 budgets. Handouts were distributed at the meeting.

STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE – Atty. Barsanti reviewed a copy of his revised 2010 budget, noting that his original 2010 request was a significant increase from 2009. (Davoust arrives.) After making some adjustments, the revised budget comes in 3.46% (\$240,000) below the amended 2009 budget. While the five positions that were taken out by attrition in 2009 will not be filled in 2010, healthcare costs for 2010 ate up those savings. (Ford arrives.) He provided details on the cuts he had made to get to this number. Barsanti questioned the fairness of employees in the Sheriff's Department and Circuit Clerk's Office receiving salary increases, and thought there should be some concessions from the unions for the 2010 budget. He noted that his staff hadn't received an increase since December 2007, and starting salaries for attorneys is far below those in other counties. Barsanti said he was willing to make these cuts, but if he had to cut further, he would be forced to lay people off. If there are unanticipated costs, Barsanti said he may need to come back to the Board for additional funding.

DRUG REHABILITATION COURT – Scott reported that they had kept their 2010 budget the same as last year with the addition of 3% salaries increases as negotiated in the union contract. The total budget request is \$668,833, which is a 2% (\$250,000) increase from last year. Scott explained that the drug court is supported by Riverboat funds and they are expecting \$6 million next year, compared to \$7.9 million last year. Chief Judge Brown noted that they are cutting back significantly on the drug testing they are doing, and have reduced the number of people in Drug Court significantly. Brown acknowledged the direct relationship to the drug court population and the number of people in jail. (Shoemaker leaves.)

JUVENILE CUSTODY – Dr. Brown indicated their 2010 budget request showed a significant increase from last year. The Chief Judge pointed out that this was due to the fact that the request reflects real numbers based on historical data over the past three years. They are requesting \$1.7 million for 2010, compared to \$950,000 in 2009. They expect to be \$300,000 over budget in 2009. Dr. Brown explained they have no control over these numbers as the services are mandated. In the past they have used surplus from other line items to cover overages, but that won't be the case this year.

PUBLIC DEFENDER – Kliment reviewed his revised budget, pointing out where he was looking to make cuts. He indicated that the salary line item shows a significant increase as he wants to pay his people fairly, and would like to continue to pay their dues and help with training expenses. The total budget request for 2010 is \$2.9 million, compared to the 2009 amended budget of \$2.46 million. The \$300,000 increase for 2010 is mostly salaries. Kliment reminded the committee that 5.5% is being restored to his budget. He did not feel he could make any further cuts. It was suggested that the judiciary look into sharing subscriptions to help reduce costs.

JUDICIARY & COURTS – Naughton provided the committee with a copy of their budget request that was submitted in June, noting it was a 16% increase over 2009. He noted that employees have taken over a 7% salary cut to make the numbers for 2009. Naughton explained that he had put that number back in for 2010, as well as money to cover union contracts. He discussed specific line items and talked about steps they were taking to reduce costs. The amended 2010 request is approximately \$2.3 million, which includes the 9.7% increase in healthcare costs.

COURT SERVICES ADMINISTRATION – Mueller explained that they were governed by what the state does. At this point, they have not laid anyone off. They are holding open 14 positions (down 10% in manpower from last year). They will not be reimbursed from the state for these positions. He explained that they could do away with some non-mandated services such as electronic monitoring or the sex offender program, but by doing so it would cost the county more money overall. In the past, they have supplemented their budget with probation fees, but will be out of money by 2011. Year to date they are under budget by approximately \$275,000. Comment was made that efforts to increase revenues are not

appreciated when budget discussions take place. Pattelli noted that the probation salary reimbursement from the state will down 35% in 2010 (\$914,000 less). The Chief Judge pointed out that they were different than other branches of government, noting he was willing to write a court order if necessary to get things done.

Pattelli outlined next steps noting these requests will go to the Finance Committee on October 15 for a final recommendation. Per a question, she estimated that revenue projections were down close to \$2 million, with a gap of approximately \$3 million. She pointed out that these cuts need to be made; if not here, then somewhere else.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m. on motion by Fahy, seconded by Tredup. Motion carried.

Ellyn M. McGrath
Recording Secretary