COUNTY OF KENDALL ILLINOIS
JUDICIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 25, 2015
Courthouse Jury Assembly Room
807 W. John Street, Yorkville IL

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order
The Judicial Legislative Committee met and was called to order by Chair Matthew Prochaska at 3:30 p.m.

Roll Call
Committee Members Present: Judy Gilmour – here, Dan Koukol – here, Matt Prochaska - here, Bob Davidson – yeah, John Purcell - yes

Also Present: Vickie Chuffo, Marlene Diehl, Chief Judge Tim McCann, Nicole Swiss, Tina Varney, Eric Weis

Approval of Minutes – Member Koukol made a motion to approve the February 25, 2015 minutes, second by Member Davidson. Minutes adopted with all in agreement.

Status Reports

Circuit Clerk – Marlene Diehl, Chief Deputy Circuit Clerk reported they are still down two employees and will begin interviews in the next week or so.

Courthouse – Judge Tim McCann stated the house passed two bills yesterday which would resolve the funding issues for the court reporters, and the bills will go to the Senate tomorrow.

Court Reporters - Judge McCann said he was required to develop plans to implement workforce reductions in the event that there was no action taken by the state and funding restored. Judge McCann said that all four court reporters have been notified that if funding is not restored, they will all be furloughed to half-time status. Judge McCann said these are not county employees, and will not affect the county budget. Judge McCann said in the event the funding wouldn’t be restored, he would run out of funds for court reporter salaries as of the first week of May 2015. He awaits the decision by the senate on March 26, 2015 before making any decisions or taking action.

Progress with Drug Court – Judge McCann reported they will not be implementing a drug court at this time; however they will continue to take steps towards the potential implementation of the drug court in the future. They are internally realigning some court calls so that cases that might be considered drug court cases will be placed on a single
call before a single judge on a single day of the week. They are trying to determine whether there are enough sustainable cases to move forward to the next step.

Judge McCann reported they have received a $15,000 drug court planning grant from the State of Illinois. If they receive the funds it will allow them to hire a drug court consultant and a drug court evaluator.

They have now realigned and set-up their new jury commissioners in compliance of state statute. The state Statute states that jury commissioners are to be considered as elected officials when setting salaries, they have a three year rotating appointments, and we are required to set them for all three years prior to the commencement of their term.

**Court Security** – Chief Deputy Koster reported they are beginning to implement a new cross-training program, with different rotation and deputies coming from the corrections division.

**Court Services/Probation** – Tina Varney distributed the monthly reports for Juvenile Placement and Juvenile Detention, and said the detention was below for February. One minor in placement for an additional 9 months or so. Ms. Varney said the Pre-Trial program is continuing and last week began practice interviews with some of the people at the jail. She praised the Sheriff, Undersheriff and Corrections Commander for their accommodation and assistance to the Pre-Trial staff in the training. They anticipate going live with the program on April 1st.

Ms. Varney reported the AOSE notified them that Probation will receive an additional $33,000 from the state for fiscal year 2015.

**Public Defender** – Vickie Chuffo distributed the monthly report and stated there was an increase in the felony, juvenile and delinquency appointments in February.

**Sheriff’s Office** – Sheriff Baird reported that in working with the State’s Attorney’s Office regarding an ordinance regarding pawn shops, the county does not have the authority to pass an ordinance similar to those of the municipality, so they will rest on the state laws that are in place currently unless they discover a problem, they will report back to this committee.

**State’s Attorney** – State’s Attorney Eric Weis reported the planning grant will be presented for approval at the April 8th County Board meeting.

**Legislative Report and Update** – Jeff Wilkins reported the Local Government Distributed Fund is still in tack for FY15 through June 30, 2015.

**Cook and Collar Counties 2015 Legislative Program** – Mr. Wilkins said that ISCBM sent a notice that the governor’s budget passed the house, and that the local distributive fund for fiscal year 2015 was left intact and will be effective until June 20, 2015.
Mr. Wilkins said there are four areas in the legislative program agenda that the county board chairs determined:

- Subsequent Opportunities for Participation in Drug Courts
- Wireless Surcharge for E-911
- Electronics Recycling Funding
- Court Services Fees

Chair Prochaska updated the committee on some of the bills currently under consideration that would have an impact on the county:

- Senate Bill 59 Rollback of Juror Fees
- Senate Bill 807 Public Budget Hearing
- House Bill 229 Dissolving local Governmental Units
- House Bill 260 Stipend Reduction
- House Bill 303 Severance Agreements subject to the FOIA
- House Bill 365 Restoring of 10% of LGDF by 2025
- House Bill 435 Required Website and copies of all Minutes
- House Bill 2474 Public Budget Hearing
- House Bill 3090 Publish in newspapers in our own borders
- House Bill 3811 PTELL and amending property tax limitation law to take out IMRF payments from the pension cap

**Old Business** - None

**New Business** - None

**Items for COW**

- *The Turnaround Agenda – Local Government Empowerment and Reform*

**Actions Items for County Board** – None

**Public Comments** - None

**ExecutiveSession** – None Needed

**Adjournment** – A motion was made by Member Koukol, second by Member Gilmour to adjourn the Judicial Legislative Committee at 4:10p.m. *With all in agreement, the meeting adjourned.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Valarie McClain
Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary