



This meeting was held via conference call per the Governor of Illinois, J.B. Pritzker's signed "Executive Order 2020-07" on March 16, 2020, Section 6, during the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation of March 9, 2020, the provisions of the open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120, requiring or relating to in-person attendance by members of a public body are suspended and "Executive Order 2020-08" on March 21, 2020, all public gatherings in the State of Illinois of 10 People or more are prohibited during the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation of March 9, 2020.

The public was notified on February 8, 2021, via the Lee County website to email public requests to: countyboardrequests@countyoflee.org and the meeting was live streamed on February 10, 2021, at <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCO3ZPaJgtBWmfph0rstLXA>

Public Safety, Health and Judicial Committee Meeting – Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Third Floor Boardroom, Old Lee County Courthouse – 9:00 a.m.
112 E Second St, Dixon, Illinois 61021

Meeting called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chair Mike Koppien

Member Roll Call: Chair Mike Koppien, Katie White, Keane Hudson, Mike Zeman and Jack Skrogstad were present in person, no committee members attended via Zoom video conferencing.

Members Absent: Vice Chair Marilyn Shippert

Board Members, Department Heads, or County Employees Present: Charley Boonstra (State's Attorney), Amy Johnson (Circuit Clerk), Staci Stewart (Probation), John Simonton (Sheriff), Jonathan Henrickson (IT Intern) and Becky Brenner (Board Secretary) were present in person, Kevin Lalley (EMA), Shelley Dallas (ETSB-911), and Nancy Petersen (County Clerk) all attended via Zoom video conferencing.

Minutes of the January 2021 Public Safety, Health, and Judicial Committee meeting were approved without modification.

Review of Claims & Reports

Motion from Jack Skrogstad: To accept and approve all claims from the Circuit Clerk, Sheriff, Coroner, State's Attorney, Probation, EMA, Public Defender, Judge Ackert, Judge Friel-Draper, Judge Klahn, and Judge Lee.

Second by Katie White: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Collection of Unpaid Fines – States Attorney

Charley Boonstra reported that \$2,483.40 had been collected in December of 2020 and \$1,120.00 had been collected in January of 2021.

Update on Dangerous and Abandoned Properties - Sheriff

John Simonton reported that Corporal Yater headed up ordinance enforcement and had cleaned up about 80 abandoned vehicles in the County in 2020. The Sheriff's Office works with several towing agencies that remove vehicles and assist with obtaining junk titles. There have been 12 properties that have been cleaned up and roughly 20 ordinance citations issued.

Department Head Reports

There were no Department Head reports.

Old Business:

No items for old business.

New Business

Motion from Keane Hudson: To forward the Resolution: Appointment of Mark Appelquist as a Trustee to the Franklin Grove Fire Protection District to the Executive Committee.

Second by Katie White: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Amy Johnson reported that her office had hired a replacement employee that would be starting on February 22, 2021. She also reported that she has two (2) full-time employees that would be taking maternity leave, one (1) in April and one (1) in June, so she is looking to hire part-time help. Amy believes that a part-time position was included in the budget process. If this is not the case, she will be contacting BEST, Inc. to hire an intern to save the County money.

John Simonton presented the committee with a copy of the Sheriff's Office year end of report. The report includes a summary, individual division reports, statistical data from dispatch and the emergency communication center. The report will be kept in the Chairman's office and made available for review.

John Simonton walked the committee through the staffing shortage in his office. He reported that his request for a staffing study conducted by an outside firm was denied in the January Finance Committee meeting. The Finance Committee asked John to put together the study which he will be working on for the next few weeks.

John Simonton reported that there were two (2) findings on the Jail Inspection Report. The commissary audit was one of the findings and was currently being resolved by Wipfli. The other finding was the cell checks that are to be done every 30 minutes. He explained that the only way to fully remedy this finding would be to hire an additional employee to do only cell checks.

John Simonton reported that the Finance Committee had tabled the Taser Project item on the agenda in the January meeting. He provided the committee with a quote to outfit the office with new Tasers for 21 Deputies in the amount of \$61,948.00, which he will be bringing back to the Finance Committee on Thursday. He reiterated that the office currently had only four (4) working Tasers. John explained that with the funds left in the CURES reimbursement program and the \$13,000 he had coming back from the return of two metal detectors, there would be enough money to cover the cost of the Taser project.

Motion from Jack Skrogstad: To move the quote for the Taser Project for \$61,948.00 to the Finance Committee.

Second by Keane Hudson: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

John Simonton walked the committee through the Criminal Justice Reform Bill resolution that he is asking the County Board to unanimously pass on February 18, 2021. This resolution would request that Governor J.B. Pritzker veto House bill 3653.

Motion from Jack Skrogstad: To move the resolution opposing the Criminal Justice Reform Bill to the Executive Committee.

Second by Keane Hudson: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The Sheriff did mention after this motion, that there would be a couple of grammatical corrections and statutory issues at the end of the first and final paragraphs, that would be changed by the date of the County Board meeting. This prompted the following change to the motion.

Amended Motion from Jack Skrogstad: To move the resolution opposing the Criminal Justice Reform Bill to the Executive Committee with the understanding that there would be revisions.

Second by Keane Hudson: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Motion to adjourn by Jack Skrogstad:

Second by Katie White: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

With no further business, meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Becky Brenner – Lee County Board Secretary

The next scheduled meeting for the Public Safety Committee will be 9:00 a.m., on Wednesday, March 10, 2021