



**Public Safety, Health and Judicial Committee Meeting – Wednesday, June 9, 2021**

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

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Mike Koppien

**Member Roll Call:** Chair Mike Koppien, Keane Hudson, Mike Zeman and Jack Skrogstad were all present in person. Vice Chair Marilyn Shippert and Katie White attended via Zoom video conferencing,

**Members Absent:** None

**Board Members, Department Heads, or County Employees Present:** John Nicholson (County Board Vice Chair), Charley Boonstra (State's Attorney), Amy Johnson (Circuit Clerk), John Simonton (Sheriff), Staci Stewart (Probation), Kevin Lalley (EMA), Nancy Petersen (County Clerk) Jonathan Henrikson (IT), and Becky Brenner (Board Secretary) were present in person.

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

**Review of Claims & Reports**

**Motion from Mike Zeman:** 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 Kean Hudson:** Jack Skrogstad abstained from the vote. All other members voted in favor.

**Collection of Unpaid Fines – States Attorney:** No update

**Update on Dangerous and Abandoned Properties –** John Simonton reported that there is some cleanup being done at the Old Eller and Willey Block Company. John has reach out to Tim Shipman at the City of Dixon to see exactly what is being done. He also reported that the Sheriff's Office continues to clean up abandoned vehicles in the County. John Nicholson reported that the property that was mentioned last month in Nachusa had been mowed and some of the trash had been picked up.

**Department Head Reports**

There were no Department Head reports aside from the agenda items. There was however a brief discussion regarding the combining of the Public Safety Committee with the Administrative Services Committees that was discussed in Administrative Committee on Monday as conversation. The discussion was brought up in Administrative Services Committee in light of the reduction of the County Board in 2022. Mike Koppien expressed his concern with combining the committees.

**Old Business:**

John Simonton reported that he had received a consolidate bid from Procom and Engel Electric for the card reader system at the Old Courthouse. The bid was for \$18,662, which included hardware, labor, two exterior doors (one north door and the south door) and an interior door for the room that houses the election equipment and IT servers. He will be submitting the bid to the Finance Committee and the American Rescue Plan Committee to see if that funding is appropriate for that expense.

**New Business**

Staci Stewart explained that a garden/landscaping project at the New Courts Building is being promoted by the Problem-Solving Court, Drug Court, and Veteran's Treatment Court. The project is in the very beginning stages but would bring beauty and color to the grounds of the New Courts Building. What they are hoping to do is create a garden that would focus on treatment, wellness, and recovery and would be reflective of the problem-solving courts that they have. They are working with the University of Illinois Extension Office Master Gardeners to get plans and ideas for what would grow best in those areas.

Amy Johnson explained that the Circuit Clerk's Office had been short staffed since March, not including Covid absences. One employee that took leave in March has returned. In April, an employee left for a better paying job. In May, another employee left to fill a vacancy in another department within the County. Amy initiated the interview process, which proved to be a very long process. She recently hired two (2) replacement hires which started June 1st and June 7<sup>th</sup>.

John Simonton reported that the Illinois General Assembly introduced a trailer bill that highlighted several issues with the Police Reform Act that was passed in January of 2021. The bill was successful in getting some things amended and delaying the July start dates on many of the issues with the act. Qualified Immunity is still on the table on the state and federal level. He will be emailing a written summary of some of the things on the trailer bill to the members of the committee.

**Motion to adjourn by Keane Hudson:**

**Second by Mike Zeman:** 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, July 7, 2021*