

**JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING  
Macon County Office Building  
Macon County Board Room #514  
141 S. Main Street, Decatur, IL 62523**

**June 24, 2021 @ 3:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Greg Mattingley – Chair  
Dave Drobisch  
Jim Gresham  
Lloyd Holman  
Bill Oliver  
Verzell Taylor

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Debra Kraft – Vice Chair

**COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Mike Baggett, State’s Attorney’s Office  
Scott Rueter, State’s Attorney  
Jim Taylor, Probation  
Judge Griffith, Courts  
Tammy Esposito, EMA  
Sherry Doty, Circuit Clerk  
Carol Reed, Auditor  
Sheriff Root  
Michelle Sanders, Public Defender  
Jessie Smalley, HR  
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mattingley @ 3:00 p.m. at the Macon County Office Building.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING**

Mr. Drobisch made a motion to approve the minutes from the last Macon County Board Justice Committee meeting (5/27/2021), seconded by Mr. Gresham and the motion carried 6-0.

**CLAIMS**

Mr. Drobisch made a motion to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Oliver and the motion carried 6-0.

**REPORTS**

***Circuit Clerk –***

Ms. Doty reported that she had just attended her first conference as Circuit Clerk and learned a few things such as some free things provided by the State which she said she intends to take advantage of very soon. She also learned some things about what money can be spent on. It was a great conference and the Chief Deputy also learned a lot. They are looking forward to the September conference.

Chair Mattingley asked, based upon what was seen last year that necessitated the request to amend the budget being due to reduced filing fees, but also reduction in bond refund money; that is something we’ve got coming. How much of that hit . . . Ms. Doty said it hit us hard and the Supreme Court is thinking about trying to get more funds for us. That was talked about at the conference. She said she thinks the failure to pay will be more of a harder hit. Honest people pay because it affected their license. Nothing is going to affect the license now except driving while suspended which does not go to us anyway. It goes to the state to get them reinstated. The Clerks

also talked about the bonds, but that won't affect us until the following year, but it did affect us during COVID and that is what it is going to look like.

Chair Mattingley asked how much of the 75% did that constitute. Ms. Doty said, of what she asked for, probably 90% of that was due to all the different things that has happened through the new law. She said she has a feeling that the failure to pay are going to affect us. The judges know that we have to combine it, it started January 1<sup>st</sup> where one traffic stop got one fee. Now, they have changed it and it is going to be if you hit traffic and criminal, you get one assessment. That is it. It is going to be a nightmare for the Clerks and the Courts, the State's Attorney's Office because they are going to get less fees also.

Mr. Oliver asked a question about bail bonds. Ms. Doty said no, that would affect the sheriff more. The Circuit Clerk's office won't get their 10%, of course. One clerk said she is looking for a downfall of 80% of her fines and fees going down.

Mr. Baggett explained that the Clerk is right in terms of direct impact on her office. The 10% that they retain would certainly be affected by the new Bond Statute that goes into effect in 2023, but in terms of payment at all, what the committee should be aware of is that most criminal cases, in particular, the majority of the money that we ever see paid off on any fines or fees that are assessed by the court are paid through the application of the bond that has been posted. So, there are a lot of cases where people pay what they owe the County / State over a course of time, but the majority of the money we actually see that goes toward the payoff of those assessed fines and fees comes from the bond that was posted at the time that they were arrested and released. So, that is going to have a pretty significant impact on the payment of fines and fees that are assessed by the Court. Fines & fees are going to be assessed regardless and they are going to be assessed in line with the new Statute that Ms. Doty was speaking about. There is some impact there and that is not going to change. The collection of those monies is going to be dramatically impacted by the fact that bonds will not be assessed in the fashion that they have been assessed in the past. That is by design. The General Assembly intended for that to be the case as part of the Social Justice Movement. This is exactly what they wanted to see happen. As to how it affects County finances is not going to be pretty, but this is what they wanted to happen.

Mr. Rueter explained that that provision was held off. The Legislation initially said it would start July 1<sup>st</sup>. That has been changed to 2023. There is a couple of years before it happens, but it is coming.

Ms. Doty added that they do send into collections still though. CCP (Credit Collection Partners) do a wonderful job. As soon as the judge assesses them, if they don't pay within 30 days, it is submitted to Collections. Some people don't care if they have bad collections record, but some people do, especially if they are trying to change their lives and get a job or house because it will affect them.

***Circuit Courts*** –Judge Griffith had no report.

***Coroner – No Report***

*Court Services / Probation* – Mr. Taylor had no report

*Emergency Management Agency* –

Ms. Esposito reported:

- They are in the middle of the EOP (Emergency Operations Plan) review by stakeholders
- Tri-Annual Exercise with Decatur Airport-June 5<sup>th</sup> full scale
  - Fire
  - EMS
  - Army Aviation
  - United Airlines
  - EMA/LEPC exercise design team will create tabletop and functional exercises based on airport incident and will piggy-back on airport's full scale in three years to fulfill EMA full scale exercise requirement as per Administrative Rule (full scale ex. in four year cycle).
- Tracking local events to provide weather support through the National Weather Service/STIC (Statewide Terrorism and Intelligence Center).
  - Anyone who is hosting/coordinating an event may request support by contacting the EMA office. 217-424-1327 or emailing: [emamail@sheriff-macon-il.us](mailto:emamail@sheriff-macon-il.us)
    - 5k's, festivals, fireworks, concerts, markets, any large gathering where weather information would aid in planning.
    - NWS Support:
      - Link to forecast page specific to location
      - Current conditions
      - Detailed forecast
      - Radar
      - Satellite
      - Forecast discussion
      - Hazardous weather outlook statement
    - STIC Support:
      - Situational awareness of local large gathering. Useful if we have an event to alert potential impact & need of resources
        - A new resource from STIC: Partners can now choose to receive open-source incident alerts during the event within a 1, 5, or 10 mile radius from the special event they submit.
        - Alerts for the following categories:
          - Advisory
          - Aviation
          - Fire
          - Geophysical
          - Hazmat
          - Infrastructure
          - Labor
          - Meteorological

- Security
- Structural
- Terrorism
- Transportation.

The email notification of an alert will contain location, category, and brief description of the incident. In addition to the original event submitter, another two email addresses can be designated to receive this information.

- Example: Farm Progress- 100,00 people, incident occurs in the area. An email is generated alerting designated individuals of the situation.
  - Allows event's coordinator to take timely, appropriate action as necessary.
  - Provides state with situational awareness of events within proximity of an incident that may require additional resources.

Attending several community events over the next several months to increase personal preparedness efforts.

- Outfitting EMA trailer (previously storing EMA ATV) into a dual purpose public outreach, incident trailer
  - Procuring various items to support these functions
- Working on Emergency Buckets with LEPC members

***Public Building Commission – No Report***

***Public Defender's Office*** – Ms. Sanders introduced herself to the committee members as the new Public Defender for Macon County.

***Macon County Board Resolution Amending the Public Defender's FY2021 Budget for the Payment of an Expert Witness Evaluation***

Ms. Sanders explained that they are asking for \$2,917.50 to pay to Dr. Terry Killian for an evaluation he performed on an individual who had been deemed to be not guilty by reason of insanity. The appointment of that expert is provided by Statute and is an additional appropriation that the office does not budget for because they never know what the amounts will be. Each one is brought separately before the County Board.

Mr. Gresham made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Oliver and the motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Oliver asked about evaluations for new hires to the Sheriff's Department. Ms. Sanders was not aware as to whether there was money in the Sheriff's department for this purpose or not.

***Sheriff's Department –  
Macon County Board Resolution Granting Permission to Dispose of Surplus Equipment***

Sheriff Root explained that the equipment is associated with the K9 handlers. Piatt County had a full cage for a K9 and they needed the heat monitoring device for a different K9 vehicle they had. This is just a swap of equipment. They are going to trade their cage for our heat sensor.

Mr. Holman made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Drobisch and the motion carried 6-0.

Chair Mattingley commented that from the numbers, it looks like it is a good deal for us. Sheriff Root agreed saying it will allow them to put a full cage into a vehicle that is currently using just a partial cage. This is the type of cage that will allow transport of both a K9 and a person.

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving a Labor Agreement between Macon County and the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council on Behalf of the Macon County Sheriff's Deputies***

Sheriff Root explained that he had not been a part of the negotiation process but could inform them that the wage increase was 2.75%, 2.75%, 2.75% over 3 years. That is the cost to the County. The contract will go through November 30, 2023. It is retroactive from December, 2020.

Mr. Holman made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Drobisch and the motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Gresham commented that in September of last year, the new medical service for the jail had been approved. It was a last minute thing which was nobody's fault as it was due to a cancellation from the previous supplier that came in right at the end of the contract term. Not knowing if there are many possibilities out there, Mr. Gresham said it is coming up again in 3 months and asked if the process to put this out for bids is underway. Sheriff Root said this contract was previously negotiated with a reoccurring clause unless somebody enacts something that would prevent that. There will be a negotiation on the cost because we are currently paying any overages. The 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters of this year were \$30,000 each. He said he had spoken with the Jail Administrator, Lt. Belcher, and that was associated with all of the extra COVID nursing staff that had to be at the facility in addition to not being able to fill those spots. They had to use people that were part of their upper management in order to provide that service to us. We were having to pay more than normal as a result of that. It is expensive, but under the requirements, some of that will probably be able to be claimed under the COVID money which will free up some of the general fund.

Chair Mattingley asked if there are other providers out there that might do as good a job if this were put out to bid. Sheriff Root said that there are two providers that provide this service. The majority of the ones that have the other provider are leaving that provider to come to this one. Their estimate when they did the last one was well over what this one was in addition to the extras that we have had to pay. They are having a hard time filling the nursing spots in the jail systems nationwide and in general.

***State's Attorney's Office*** – Mr. Rueter and Mr. Baggett had no report

**CITIZEN REMARKS – PUBLIC COMMENT –**

There were no citizens present wishing to speak.

**Old Business** None

**New Business** - None

**Closed Session** – None needed

**NEXT MEETING** July 22, 2021

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Mattingley @ 3:20 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham , Macon County Board Office