

JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING
September 25, 2014
3:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Greg Mattingley, Chair
Jay Dunn
Merv Jacobs
Gary Minich
Matt Brown

MEMBERS ABSENT

David Drobisch
Bill Oliver
Jon Baxter

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Lois Durbin, Circuit Clerk
Rodney Forbes, Public Defender
Lt. Jon Butts, Sheriff's Dept
Jim Root, EMA
Mike Baggett, State's Attorney's Office
Jay Scott, State's Attorney
Mike Day, Coroner
Sheri Wallace, HR
Judge Webber
Jerry Lord, DPBC
Pat Berter, Probation
Carol Reed, Auditor
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

This meeting was called to order by Chair Greg Mattingley at the Macon County Office Building.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

Motion to approve the minutes of prior meeting (August 28, 2014) made by Merv Jacobs, seconded by Gary Minich, and motion carried 5-0.

CLAIMS

Motion to approve the claims as presented made by Gary Minich, seconded by Matt Brown, motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS

Circuit Clerk

Lois Durbin reported that a vender would be coming next Tuesday on the e-citations, the Digit Tickets. The sheriff and another county are coming over to see the demonstration. Gary Minich & Greg Mattingley asked what that was. Greg asked if everything was going to proceed online. Lois said that was the intent, but they would see how it works.

Circuit Court

Judge Webber reported that the newest judge, Jeff Geisler will be sworn in a week from today on October 3rd at 11 a.m. in Courtroom 3A. Everyone is invited. It will bring us back to full strength for the first time since January, 2013. He will be going to work in Courtroom 1 as of Monday, October 6.

Chair Mattingley asked if the 2nd spot on the timing of filling the Circuit position. Judge Webber explained that the same day that Judge Geisler takes office, the Administration Office will post as open on October 6 Judge Bollinger's Associate seat provisionally. That would be the closest date

30 days prior to the election. It will remain open for 30 days. The people who interviewed the first time around were advised that their interview would be considered for both positions, so unless someone else submits an application, those interviews and bar polls will be used and the selection can be done very soon after November 6th when the window closes so the 2nd judge can get online as soon as possible. Ideally, on Monday, December 1, Judge McCarthy will retire and Judge Bollinger will take her seat and the new judge yet to be selected will take Judge Bollinger's seat.

Coroner –

Mike Day had no report

Court Services / Probation –

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Revenue in the Probation Grant Fund Court Enhancement Grant

Pat Berter explained they had received information about 2 weeks ago that they received this grant. The reason for the resolution is because of the Federal fiscal year and the County fiscal year difference.

Jay Dunn made a motion to pass the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation for approval, seconded by Gary Minich and motion carried 5-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Amending the Probation's FY14 Budget

Pat Berter explained that the DUI grant prepaid for treatment for alcohol addiction and the treatment was not used, so there was about \$6,500 that has been reimbursed. They would like to put that into the misc fund and pay it toward the existing Drug Court drug test that they have been receiving from Hybrid Court. Chair Mattingley said then this is just money out of the previous budget and we are just getting it refunded. Mr. Berter confirmed.

Jay Dunn made a motion to pass the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation for approval, seconded by Matt Brown and motion carried 5-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Revenue in the Probation Grant Fund for IDOT DUI Grant

Pat Berter explained that this is a grant timing issue. Jay Dunn asked if this had been received last year. Mr. Berter confirmed. Mr. Dunn asked if it was the same amount. Mr. Berter said it is a decreased amount. This amount only covers the Probation Officer's position whereas last year it was a position and treatment.

Chair Mattingley asked if part of the money just dealt with on the previous resolution would help with part of the treatment we are losing funding for through the grant. Mr. Berter said that was exactly right.

Jay Dunn made a motion to pass the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation for approval, seconded by Merv Jacobs and motion carried 5-0.

EMA-

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Agreement for Relocation during a Disaster or Extreme Emergency between Main Place Properties and the County of Macon

Jim Root explained that this is part of the County's Business Continuity Plan. In the event that there is some type of displacement from one of the departments within the County, whether the County Offices or State's Attorney's or Sheriff's etc..., we are entering into an agreement that Main Place Properties would provide us with office space for relocation until that facility is back up and running. The MOU is attached. There is a correction requested by the State's Attorney's Office to replace the word "department" with the word "county" so we will make those changes prior to going to the Finance Committee.

Chair Mattingley asked about fees. Mr. Baggett explained that there will be no financial obligation on the part of the County unless we utilize the plan and have someone situated in one of their properties at which point there would be potential rent and copier fees.

Matt Brown made a motion to pass the resolution with the corrected wording on to the Finance Committee with recommendation for approval, seconded by Merv Jacobs and motion carried 5-0.

Public Building Commission –

Jerry Lord reported that the demolition for the Franklin Mall property is scheduled for Monday of next week. They will start the setting of equipment on site and it is expected to be about a 3 week time period for the project.

Public Defender –

Rodney Forbes distributed his monthly report and explained that the numbers were really good this month. A total of 274 felony cases were opened and 353 were closed. That means a lot of cases were moved through the system. A lot of caseloads were lightened.

The DUI Drug Court got some press in the paper today. It was a nice article. We are running at full capacity. There are 38 in the Drug Court program, 19 in the DUI Court program. The total numbers there are 14 and 20, we are at near full capacity in our DUI Drug Court program. It is running very efficiently. Mental Health Court is also running very well and currently has 18 participants. Judge McCarthy presides over the Mental Health Court and will be missed when she retires.

There were 9 Shelter Care Hearings. Twenty three attorneys were involved in those 9 Shelter Care Hearings. Those are hearings where the State is alleging that it is an immediate and urgent necessity to remove a minor from their home.

There were four Detention Hearings. The number of juveniles in custody is still high – at 10. Of the 10, nine are charged as adults. Mr. Forbes said they've been trying to do what they can to address that issue because it is a costly issue for the county as well.

There is one intern working in the office and the office remains stable as it has been for quite some time.

Mr. Minich asked who the Public Defender represents in a Shelter Care Hearing. Mr. Forbes explained that there is one attorney in the office that represents the child as Guardian ad litem, one attorney represents the mother, and one attorney for each father. Sometimes there are more than one father. There may be 4 to 5 attorneys per case depending on the situation. It takes a lot of resources for these cases. Mr. Minich asked if the parents have to be low income before we represent them. Mr. Forbes explained that at the Shelter Care Hearing, the Public Defender's Office is assigned because it is an emergency type of hearing. After that, the Court sets an Appearance of Counsel and the Court determines whether they are indigent or if they can afford to hire their attorney.

Sheriff –

Jon Butts reported that there was a deputy graduating today from the Police Training Institute at the University of Illinois after the 12 week academy and there will be another deputy starting his academy on Sunday the 28th. There is currently a testing process going on for new deputy applicants that expires at the end of October.

State's Attorney

Jay Scott had no report

CITIZEN REMARKS – PUBLIC COMMENT – none

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS –

Greg Mattingley commented that he had been looking at the paper and gotten the sense that bonds seem to be running higher than in the past. He said he has asked the Sheriff to have Frank Miller see if he can pull data together to see if it is a trend. He said he was just giving notice that he is looking at it and would bring it up again later. He said if he is right, he thought the committee might be concerned with why we are seeing that trend.

CLOSED SESSION – none needed

NEXT MEETING – Thursday, October 23, 2014

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Jay Dunn, seconded by Merv Jacobs, motion carried 5-0, and meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, County Board Office.