

**JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**May 28, 2015**  
**3:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Greg Mattingley  
Jay Dunn  
Jon Baxter  
Bill Oliver

**COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Jerry Lord, DPBC  
Mike Baggett, State's Attorney's Office  
Lois Durbin, Circuit Clerk  
Carol Reed, Auditor  
Pat Berter, Probation Director  
Lt. Jon Butts – Sheriff's Dept  
Judge Little - Courts  
Laura Lents – County Board Office  
  
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Matt Brown  
Dave Drobisch

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING**

Jay Dunn made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2015 meeting, seconded by Bill Oliver and motion carried 4-0.

**CLAIMS**

Bill Oliver made a motion to approve the report of the claims as submitted, seconded by Jon Baxter, and the motion carried 4-0.

**REPORTS**

***Circuit Clerk –***

Lois Durbin updated the committee on the jury fees. As it sits at this moment, it is \$25 for the first day and \$50 for each additional day. On civil cases, only 6 person juries are allowed. There is a Supreme Court Rule 285 which allows small claim cases to still have a 12 person jury or a 6 man jury. Lois said she got an email just prior to the meeting that said that there is an amendment to another bill. Everyone is in agreement with this amendment and it is going to push it until December 1<sup>st</sup>. It will reduce the juror fees to \$20 for the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> days and \$32 per day after that. Lois said she has been told that this amendment will pass by May 31<sup>st</sup>. So, we would stay status quo on what we are paying right now, which is the \$10 a day and 10 cents a mile. There is also a fee for any alternate jurors which needs to be decided. She said she has a list of other counties and what they are doing. Some are just sitting and waiting to see about whether this amendment will pass. This also creates a \$15 jury service fee to be tacked on for some civil cases when filed. Our lobbyist says this will pass by May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Chair Mattingley repeated that it will be status quo until December and this should be passed by May 31<sup>st</sup>. Lois confirmed and said that because the \$25 for the first day and \$50 thereafter goes into effect June 1<sup>st</sup>, which is Monday. She said their next jury term is June 15 & June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Greg asked if she had anything from the other counties and clerks as to whether they will keep lobbying come December to push it back or is it the expectation that it will be the higher rate come

December 1<sup>st</sup>. Lois said her understanding is that it will be the \$20 for the 1<sup>st</sup> two days and then \$32 for every day after that. We will not be paying mileage. They give some offsets on the third amendment which may include offsets for travel, meals and other expenses otherwise incurred by jurors associated with jury service except for day care as determined by the county board. Greg asked if Lois could give a projection at the next meeting of how much the new rates will cost come December.

Jay Dunn asked if Lois had said that they are passing a new fee that could be charged to offset the cost. Lois confirmed that that is what is in the new amendment that they are saying will be passed by May 31<sup>st</sup>. Jay said that when Lois is figuring what the cost would be under the \$20 / \$32, could she figure what might be recovered on the new \$15 fee. Lois said she would take her best shot at it but it can't be charged on eminent domains, divorces, family cases and possibly some others, but she would figure it out and get it to them.

***Circuit Court –***

Judge Little had no report

***Coroner –*** No report

***Court Services / Probation –***

Pat Berter reported that one of their staff has been battling cancer for a while and is now in hospice and asked that she be kept in prayers and thoughts.

***EMA-*** No Report

***Public Building Commission –***

Jerry Lord had no report

***Public Defender –*** No Report

***Sheriff –***

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Contract for Macon County Sheriff's Police Services for the Village of Blue Mound, Illinois

Lt. Butts explained that this is an identical contract to the one recently passed for the City of Macon and the one that the Village of Argenta has. It is a 36 month contract for one sheriff's deputy to patrol the village on a routine basis. The total contract is \$210,929.16. It would start July 1, 2015 and run through June 30, 2018. Quarterly payments would amount to \$17,577.43 minus credit given for traffic citations. This does not involve a patrol car or fuel. That would belong to the Village and they would pay for gas & upkeep to the vehicle. This was presented to the Village and approved by their board on May 4, 2015.

Jay Dunn made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the finance committee with recommendation for approval, seconded by Bill Oliver and motion carried 4-0.

***State's Attorney's Office-***

Mike Baggett updated the committee on something that was brought to the Finance Committee because of the timing and missing the Justice Committee last month. The upcoming Cutler trial, at this time we were hoping to have an idea of how much it would be necessary to pay the fees that will be incurred as a result of expert witnesses. Fortunately, there are ongoing discussions between the State's Attorney and defense counsel in that case as to stipulations which may eliminate the need for payment of certain experts. The unfortunate part is that there currently is no figure available at this time. The State's Attorney's hands are tied as to what the defense counsel is going to be willing to stipulate to. As more is known, the committee will be updated. The trial is still scheduled to go on June 15<sup>th</sup>, so one way or another, decisions will have been made by that point. If the trial goes, we may be here at the end of June or July with figures in respect to whether additional appropriations will be needed.

**CITIZEN REMARKS – PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS** – None

**CLOSED SESSION** – None

**NEXT MEETING** – Thursday, June 25, 2015

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Bill Oliver, seconded by Jay Dunn and motion carried 4-0, and meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, Macon County Board Office