

JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING
November 22, 2016 @ 3:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kevin Greenfield, Chairman
Greg Mattingley
Jay Dunn
Dave Drobisch

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jon Baxter, Vice Chairman
Grant Noland
Matt Brown
Bill Oliver

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Mike Baggett, State's Attorney's Office
Lt. Jon Butts, Sheriff's Dept
Pat Berter, Probation
Sherry Doty, Circuit Clerk
Judge Webber, Courts
Lt. Jim Root, EMA
Lisa Wallace, Auditor's Office
Mike Day, Coroner
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin Greenfield at the Macon County Office Building.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

Mr. Mattingley made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 27, 2016 meeting, seconded by Mr. Drobisch and the motion carried 4-0.

CLAIMS

Mr. Drobisch made a motion to approve the report of the claims as submitted, seconded by Mr. Dunn and the motion carried 4-0.

REPORTS

Circuit Clerk –

Ms. Doty reported that Civil E-File had started November 2. There have been a few kinks, but they've been worked out. The public access computers are set up for the public, but they have not been taught yet.

Mr. Mattingley asked about a tour. Ms. Doty said that Stacy, Mary and Cynthia can show how it works. Mr. Baggett commented that Stacy had walked him through it. She made it look pretty easy.

Circuit Court –

Judge Webber reported that Judge Tim Steadman is retiring at the end of the month after 20 years here. There will be a reception at the jury assembly room at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, 11/30.

On Monday, December 5, Judge Tom Little will be sworn in as Circuit Judge at 11 a.m. in his courtroom, 5A.

Judge Dan Flannel has announced his retirement from the bench as Chief Judge. That will be effective sometime mid to late January. There will be a new Chief Judge for the Circuit selected at some point in the future.

By the next Justice Committee meeting on 12/22, there may be a new Associate Judge selected for Macon County to take Judge Little's Associate seat.

Mr. Mattingley asked if Judge Little would retain the Specialty Courts since he was so good with it. Judge Webber explained that he had promised all the judges that when they get a new judge in, there will be some change in assignments. He said he would be asking people what they like and dislike. There will be some docket changes, but not a wholesale switch around. Judge Little has not indicated any dissatisfaction with his present docket. Most of the changes will likely be to accommodate the new judge whoever that may be, probably moving into a lot of what Judge Bowers is doing now. Judge Webber said he would be talking to everyone to see what is on their minds.

***Coroner –
Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations in the FY16 Coroner's Budget***

Mr. Day explained that he was pained to have to be there asking for an increase in the autopsy medical line for the current year of \$10,000 which will most likely have to come from the General Fund. An autopsy had to be done here this month which precipitates the reason why the additional appropriation is needed. Under Illinois Statute, it says the Coroner of said county where an inmate or person in custody dies, they shall do a full autopsy. Under the old "gentlemen's agreement" the Coroner's office had with the Department of Corrections, they would reimburse the costs. However, Mr. Day said he just received communication from the Asst. Warden at the Jacksonville Correctional that said that they would not be paying those bills. That means that the taxpayers of Macon County have to fund it. He assured the committee that the office does everything they can to try to hold the lines down, but unfortunately, there are some things that they cannot help.

Mr. Dunn made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Mattingley and the motion carried 4-0.

Court Services / Probation – No report

EMA –

Lt. Root reported that they completed the full scale exercise in October. Everything went well and they are not required to do another full scale exercise for another 8 years. But, there is a scheduled nuclear exercise scheduled for September, 2017.

Public Building Commission – No report

Public Defender – No report

Sheriff –

Lt. Butts reported that he would have a resolution for the Finance Committee on Monday for expenditures for the single purpose K9 for expenditures on vehicles and equipment for the K9. This was through the Buffett Grant.

Lt. Root reported that the Body Cam Program bids had been sent out for and received back and the purchase will be made by the end of the fiscal year. This was also through Mr. Buffett.

State's Attorney's Office- No report

CITIZEN REMARKS – PUBLIC COMMENT –None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS –

Mr. Dunn reported that they had made amendments to the Sheriff's budget to increase the costs in order to keep the deputies at least through April when they will probably put the LEST tax referendum back on the ballot. This will be presented at the Finance Committee meeting on Monday, 11/28. Mr. Drobisch expressed surprise that the tax did not pass. It has so much impact and he said he would much rather have it on a consumption tax than on his property tax. Mr. Mattingley said he had heard of some misunderstanding about exactly what it would amount to with some people thinking it was 25% versus the 25 cents per \$100.00. Chairman Greenfield said he was surprised it got beat as badly as it did. Lt. Root added that it is all about education. Chairman Greenfield agreed saying that next time we have to do a better job.

CLOSED SESSION – None

NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, November 22, 2016

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Drobisch, seconded by Mr. Dunn and Chair Greenfield adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, Macon County Board Office