

JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING
December 21, 2017 @ 3:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jay Dunn
Bill Oliver
Dave Drobisch
Greg Mattingley
Grant Noland
Debra Kraft

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jerry Potts

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Sheriff Howard G. Buffett
Mike Baggett, State's Attorney's Office
Dave Ellison, Public Defender
Lt. Jon Butts, Sheriff's Dept
Pat Berter, Probation
Jerry Lord, DPBC
Judge Webber
Carol Reed, Auditor
Lt. Tony Brown
Lt. Jim Root, EMA
Lois Durbin, Circuit Clerk

Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

Chairman Dunn called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

Ms. Kraft made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 16, 2017 meeting, seconded by Mr. Mattingley, and the motion carried 6-0.

CLAIMS

Mr. Drobisch made a motion to approve the claims, seconded by Ms. Kraft and the motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS

Chairman Dunn announced that office holders are being asked to come up to the podium to give reports and present resolutions. There have been issues with being able to hear the minutes on the recording, especially when committee members turn away from the mic to discuss issues with the office holders sitting in the back row.

Circuit Court –

Judge Webber reported that as of January 2, the mandatory e-filing of civil cases in the courthouse will begin. He said that Ms. Durbin has been working very hard on it, but in communicating with Ms. Durbin, her staff and attorneys, it is going to be a learning process to go paperless in the courthouse. There are more questions than answers, but this is the direction of the Supreme Court and so the job is to proceed with it. The Cook County Circuit Clerk along with the Chief Judge of Cook County asked that this be deferred for a year. Judge Webber said he did not know what would happen with that, but Cook County is extremely influential to how the court system operates in this state. Hopefully, if the exemption is granted, it will not be for Cook County only. The court has been very committed to this process and to this deadline. They believe the deadline is the only way to get this done. It is going to be difficult. It is a new way of doing business. He

asked that if anyone has a case in court, to allow some time until the new processes are in place and learned.

Circuit Clerk –

Ms. Durbin added that as soon as the e-filing for the civil gets moving, don't be surprised if the mandate for criminal and traffic cases come right behind it. That will be a new venture also. It truly has been a venture. The integration part was started with the vendor this week and to say the least, there have been several issues that are being dealt with. The new IT person, Robert, has been working very well with the office, the state and the vendors. She said they're getting there and once everything is working the way it should, it will be so much easier.

Coroner – No Report

Court Services / Probation –

Macon County Board Resolution Entering into an Agreement with Peoria County for the Sale of Juvenile Detention Bed Space

Mr. Berter explained that this is the same contract that is brought every year, except this one has a 3% increase. He said they are very fortunate. Peoria County has been very good to us as far as picking up our youth. 98 minors have been detained so far this year. That is down a little compared to last year. Currently there are 2 in detention. He said they have been fortunate to have low numbers.

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

Sheriff's Department –

Macon County Board Resolution Approving an Agreement between the Macon County Sheriff's Office and the Illinois Liquor Commission for FY18

Lt. Butts explained that this is the same agreement as last year. These are deputies that have been trained by the Illinois Liquor Commission to conduct liquor inspections at approximately 50 locations outside the City of Decatur which would be the unincorporated plus all the villages and small towns in Macon County – not counting Decatur. This would be for January 11 – June 30, 2018. Right now there are 12 deputies that have been trained to conduct the inspections, but Lt. Butts will be working with the Illinois Liquor Commissioner in this area to have another training session in the Law Enforcement Center for anybody else in the office who would like to do this. Right now, we are one of 25 Law Enforcement Agencies doing this. We would receive 2 equal payments for a total of \$3,750 which is down from last year due to there being 4 less establishments on the list to inspect.

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

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the Remaining Fund Balance in the FY17 Jail Medical Line be Carried Over to the FY18 Jail Medical for Additional Medical Personnel and Professional Medical Services

Lt. Butts explained that \$62,904.47 (approximately) is the amount left in the FY17 fund balance for the jail medical line. After the consultant did a report for the jail facility, there were some things that should be addressed. The DMH contract had an addendum filed and with the current contract going from 2.75 full time employees to 4 full time, the consultant also recommended adding a tele-medicine psychological service, pharmacy ordering and processing, 8 hours per week of additional physician's assistant – type staffing and other recommended medical services within the jail. To offset some of those costs, \$375,000 was appropriated for the FY18 jail medical line. With that being said, Lt. Butts explained that they are asking that the FY17 fund balance of approximately \$60,000 be carried over to help offset some of those costs in FY18 as recommended by the consultant.

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

EMA –

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Donation from the Howard G. Buffett Foundation for the Purchase of Equipment for the Special Response Team (SRT) Including Tactical Vests, Ballistic Helmets, Glock Magazines, Ballistic Helmet Task Lights, AR-15 Magazines, A Direct Link Bridge Series Crisis Response System, and Cold Weather Gear

Lt. Root explained that this was part of things identified as a shortfall within the equipment operations of the Special Response Team and the Foundation was gracious enough to donate the money to purchase this equipment.

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

Macon County Board Resolution Approving an In-Kind Donation from the Howard G. Buffett Foundation of Night Vision Monoculars for the Special Response Team (SRT)

Lt. Root explained that this was also one of the things that was identified as a need and the Foundation was in possession of 6 units and they decided to donate those to the Response Team.

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

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Donation from the Howard G. Buffett Foundation for the Purchase of Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Technology for the Macon County Emergency Management Agency (EMA)

Lt. Root explained that this was money that was needed to continue the technology that was applied for through a grant, but was denied by the state. The Foundation was gracious enough to donate the money to purchase the equipment that was being requested.

Ms. Kraft made a motion to forward this on to the Finance Committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Mattingley, and the motion carried 6-0.

Public Building Commission – No Report

Public Defender –

Mr. Ellison explained that the new bail bond statute that is coming into effect at the beginning of the year affects the Public Defender's office by requiring a Public Defender be on hand every Saturday morning whenever Saturday morning court is held. Per the new Statute, every individual has the right to an attorney for their bail bond hearing. It is anticipating that the office will be representing everyone that comes through. The way the statute reads, we represent them for just that hearing's purposes and then they will apply to the Public Defender's Office if they need one for the remainder of the case. That is the main issue involved. It will also require for a Public Defender to appear on a daily basis throughout the week whenever an arraignment is occurring in the building or a bond hearing is occurring in Courtroom 1. That is all covered as well. Instead of trying to pay people additional money, 2 additional days of comp time per year will be allowed. It is going to average out that every individual in the office will have to do weekend duty about 5 times. These are all additional duties for the Public Defenders office, but it will also affect the Court, State's Attorney's Office and the jail in particular. A meeting concerning all of that will be held.

Sheriff's Department –

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Donation from the Howard G. Buffett Foundation to the Overtime Fund

Sheriff Buffett explained that this is something he wants to establish for the specific reason this year that the City is trying to put together a special team to put an extra effort on getting drugs, guns & drug money off of the streets. There was an issue that came up at the courthouse that he said he had decided to address in a pretty serious way and take it seriously. He said they have now backed off of that, but that could come up again. There are a number of areas where the overtime will not be in the fund. There are a few other things they're going to pull into the fund too.

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

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Donation from the Howard G. Buffett Foundation to Purchase Patrol Rifles

Sheriff Buffett explained that this will actually line up with another resolution being presented today. There has never been a set of rifles that are set up consistently, the same as our SRT team. Often times, patrol officers bring in their personal rifles to take in the patrol vehicles. These will be available in the Command Room for when they want to check these out. In one of the next

resolutions to be presented today, it can be seen where the patrol vehicles will allow individuals to bring their own rifles on patrol when they are approved by the firearms instructor and they are qualified on them. We will not have enough rifles to distribute at all times, so these are for emergency purposes or for easy accessibility to have with them. It is very unusual that a rifle would be used, but if there would be a school shooting or another critical incident, the very first person on the scene is the person who has to respond to that and a rifle can often times be the weapon that is required. This is not something that would be used in the normal course of business, but it is felt that for officer safety and public citizen safety, that we would want to have these on a regular basis in our vehicles.

Mr. Drobisch made a motion to forward this on to the Finance Committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Oliver.

Mr. Oliver asked about where the rifles would be kept. Sheriff Buffett said they will be housed in a safe in the Command Area. The patrol officer will come in and check that rifle out for his patrol time and will check it back in with the Command Officer. Mr. Oliver asked if we want them on the street at all times. Sheriff Buffett said it should help to make sure that every patrol officer who is qualified on the rifle . . . He asked Lt. Root if everyone is qualified on the rifle. Lt. Root said not everybody is qualified. The majority of the officers that did not qualify did not qualify with them because they did not want to purchase their own rifles. This gives them the opportunity to go through the course, become qualified and then actually carry the rifle without having to go out and purchase one. Sheriff Buffett said that they do not have rifles available every day for all of the patrol vehicles. Mr. Oliver asked about a SWAT team. Sheriff Buffett said the standard rifle any agency carries today is an AR15. It is just a matter of how we set it up. We will set them up the same as the SRT Team. The SRT Team has rifles assigned to them.

The motion carried 6-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Donation from the Howard G. Buffett Foundation to Purchase Radio Earpieces

Sheriff Buffett explained that this is for 30 earpieces and this also pertains to the final resolution to be presented today. If we were faced with a situation, and we actually were faced with this a couple of weeks ago, where we did not know exactly how it was going to turn out. Most of the guys do not wear ear pieces and that is a personal choice and that is fine, but they all have radios that have speaker mics. It is very easy to put an earpiece into the microphone. The purpose of that is that if you are going to enter a building to clear it or if you're going to enter a schoolhouse because of an incident or anywhere else, you don't want to enter the building and have your radio tell everybody where you are. This goes along with the rifles to equip these guys for an emergency situation.

Ms. Kraft made a motion to forward this on to the Finance Committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Mattingley, and the motion carried 6-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Donation from the Howard G. Buffett Foundation to Implement a Personal Patrol Vehicle (PPV) Program

Sheriff Buffett explained that they have a personal patrol policy that has been approved by Mr. Baggett and the union, which was thought important. He also presented a spreadsheet that shows how the figures were formulated. It will be close, but not perfect. It takes every patrol officer and provides a patrol vehicle for that officer that they take home. It helps create additional presence for law enforcement in the county. It often times deters small crimes in that area. It can also be something that is & can help if a patrol officer is called upon for duty and they are coming in from a distance and they get the detail, they can immediately respond to that detail. Otherwise they are coming in in their personal vehicle. They have to take all of their gear out and shift it to the patrol vehicle. It creates delays in those circumstances. This is a 15 year vehicle program. The Foundation is providing a little over \$2 million. The county ends up contributing \$1 million and that comes after the trade in value for the vehicles as they are moved through the program and then he said he wanted to make sure everybody knows where the money is coming from. There is \$50,000 in each year's budget for vehicles. There will be no reason to use that because they are all being replaced and there is a program to swap them out on a regular basis. There is a line in the budget for \$60,000 for gas, oil and tires. \$15,000 was taken out of that line. That is a total contribution of \$65,000. That accumulates up and when the Foundation money runs out, it pays out bringing the program through 2033. It also includes 4 new Tahoe vehicles for the Command that take vehicles home and 3 vehicles, MC26, MC28, & MC29 that are getting high mileage and getting a lot of high use that will be traded in. The Interdiction Officer had a vehicle that burned 3 or 4 months ago and never replaced. That makes 21 vehicles in the first run.

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

State's Attorney's Office-

Mr. Baggett reported that this is the last week for one of the office's younger Assistant State's Attorneys. He has been with the office since February, 2017. He graduated from law school in December, 2016 and was hired as a 7 / 11 law graduate. He worked in the courtrooms until May when he was officially licensed. He has been both the traffic and DUI attorney and then Juvenile for the last several months. McLean County came in and snaked him. Starting next Tuesday, he will be working as an Assistant States Attorney in McLean County. That will leave our State's Attorney's Office at 15 attorneys which is 2 less than the full compliment of 17. As a result of that, a search has been underway for entry level attorneys for about 2 months. He said they have not been seeing the types of candidates that they'd hoped for. The search continues for candidates that can be brought into Macon County and do good work for the citizens of Macon County as well as who will work here for what we can pay. Those two things have been hard to get into the same vin diagram. Until the office is back up to full speed, Mr. Baggett said that he and 3 other attorneys have volunteered to help out with covering courtrooms. He said he would be taking on a felony assignment for one of the attorneys that will be stepping into the juvenile role temporarily. He said they continue to look. He said that the young man they are losing was a great addition to the office and they are sad to see him go. He was a go -getter and took to prosecution very quickly. There were no complaints from judiciary or opposing counsel on him.

Macon County Board Resolution Designating the Illinois State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor as its Agent to Administer the Operation of Appellate Offices and Process Appellate Cases for Macon County During FY2018

Mr. Baggett explained that this is the annual resolution that appoints the Appellate Prosecutor to hand the appellate cases. It does include a provision appropriating \$24,000 as our annual fee. That has been included in the State's Attorney's FY18 budget. The only other provision is that the county is required to provide reasonable and necessary clerical and administrative support on an as needed basis. This has never been necessary before and this just seems to be a provision that covers them in the case that something comes up.

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

CITIZEN REMARKS – PUBLIC COMMENT – none

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS –

CLOSED SESSION – None needed

NEXT MEETING Thursday, January 18, 2018

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Oliver made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Mattingley, the motion carried 6-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, Macon County Board Office