

JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING
December 20, 2018 @ 3:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Greg Mattingley
Jay Dunn
Dave Drobisch
Debra Kraft
Jim Gresham
Bill Oliver

MEMBERS ABSENT

Verzell Taylor

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Sheriff Antonio D. Brown
David Ellison, Public Defender
Carol Reed, Auditor
Pat Berter, Probation
Judge Webber
Lt. Jim Root, EMA
Sherry Doty, Circuit Clerk's Office
Jerry Lord, PBC
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

Chairman Mattingley 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 15, 2018 meeting, seconded by Mr. Drobisch 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

Circuit Clerk –

Ms. Doty reported that they are working on the expungement summit coming up February 2nd. 250 people have signed up for it. She said it has been a total nightmare trying to get finger prints done. People are not showing up when they are supposed to. Letters are going out. They have 2 weeks to get them done. There are 52 people on a waiting list. It has been a really big turnover. She said they will be there from 7 a.m. until they quit – probably 9. Then it will be a nightmare for the judges.

Circuit Court –

Judge Webber informed the committee that, as everyone knows, Probation is having fewer and fewer officers by attrition and everybody else is absorbing the load. Mr. Berter and Judge Bollinger who is in charge of Mental Health Court had a discussion about what to do there. That takes the services of an officer in Mental Health Court. There are only about a dozen participants now. Hybrid Court, DUI Court is full, but Mental Health Court does not have that many participants currently. So, if Probation continues to lose personnel, Mental Health Court may have to be looked at to see if it has justification to keep an officer in that court. Nothing immediate, just wanted to alert the committee.

Coroner – No Report

Court Services / Probation –

Mr. Berter reported that Ralf Pansch, former Mental Health Court Officer, and then transferred to another area has now taken another position with the Mental Health Board. When the budget process was underway Mr. Berter said he had told his staff that they would rather lose staff through attrition than from layoffs. One of the support staff has also applied for another position within the county. He said that as time goes on, it will continue to be looked at.

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 contract that is presented every year. Mr. Baggett took a look at it. There is a 3% increase from last year. FY18 is the first year Mr. Berter said he has not had to come back and ask for more money for juvenile detention. They have been fortunate as far as the number of juveniles that have had to be housed.

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

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Donation from the Howard G. Buffett Foundation to Fund the Macon County Drug Court Probation Officers for FY 2019

Mr. Berter explained that they had received money last year. This is money for FY19. There is a little increase because of the officer's raises.

Mr. Dunn made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Drobisch, Mr. Oliver asked if this would be a continual problem – not being able to find the money to fund this. Mr. Berter explained that one of the things he had discussed with Mr. Buffett was that if he (Mr. Berter) could support the officers within the Probation budget, he would. As attrition continues or if increased funding from the state is received, then for FY20 The HGB Foundation would not be asked for more money. One of things that is being tried is to decrease the amount used in Probation fees based on what is brought in, trying to decrease the amount of money gotten from the state as far as grants. He said he has been informed last week that the state has not paid them since June 30th. No money has been received from July 1st until this date for the Probation officers and no money has been received from the state for Adult Redeploy. That funds two officers and it has also not been received since June 30th. Any FY19 money has not been received from the state. He said he has spoken to his Field Agent about it and she has no idea, but hopes it won't be as bad as two years ago. Mr. Mattingley asked, if it does end up as bad as two years ago, will the ARI continue? Mr. Berter said that with Mr. Pansch' position being vacant, he would use that money to supplement until he can't. The motion carried 6-0.

Emergency Management Agency –

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Expenditures from the Howard G. Buffett Foundation Grant for the Special Response Team (SRT)

Lt. Root explained that this was a 2018 grant. The money is needed for 2019 to be able to make the expenditures. The amount of the grant was \$53,456 and was done through a resolution in 2018. Chair Mattingley asked about the revenue. Lt. Root explained that the revenue has already been received and this is for an expenditure line so they can continue spending the money.

Ms. Kraft made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Oliver, and the motion carried 6-0.

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

Lt. Root explained that this vehicle program was implemented in 2018. There is no funding required by the County until 2033. This will require a revenue line which will be for reimbursement for the purchases that have already been purchased. The rest will be for expenditures that need to be expended. This was a 2018 grant and done through a resolution through the county board in 2018.

Ms. Kraft made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Gresham, and the motion carried 6-0.

Public Building Commission – Mr. Lord had no report

Public Defender's Office –

Mr. Ellison passed out copies of a resolution he missed the cutoff date for for the Justice Committee agenda. He asked the committee members to allow him to take it straight to the Finance Committee for consideration. It is for expenditures for an expert witness and is not covered in the budget. The reason for that is that it is very hard to determine how much money would be needed in a year because sometimes there are none and sometimes multiple cases where experts for psychiatric examinations or as in this case, an expert in computers that can look at a computer and determine when certain items were placed on it, how they were placed, etc... This is needed to prepare a defense. Part of this request is for an examination of a report and part for his services as an expert witness. There is a possibility that all of this money would not be used depending on the outcome of the report. Chair Mattingley asked if there were any objections from committee members to Mr. Ellison taking the resolution straight to the Finance Committee. There were none.

Mr. Ellison reported that the office is soon to be short another attorney as Mr. Perbix has accepted a position with the Sangamon County States Attorney's Office. He is from there and has elderly parents that he needs to be close too. He has carried a big load, done a great job for the department, and is very confident in what he does.

Sheriff's Department –

Macon County Board Resolution Amending the Rules, Regulations, and Requirements of the Macon County Merit Commission for the Macon County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Brown explained that this is for the position of Chief Deputy. It is currently a Merit protected position. The Sheriff's Office is the only office that cannot pick the #2 individual at his will. This frees him from the Merit Commission rules and gives the sheriff the right to place an individual in that position to serve. Chair Mattingley asked the reason it was set up differently. Sheriff Brown explained that former Sheriff Schneider had in 2009 with security reasons in mind if he had lost the election put this in place. Under this rule, the incoming sheriff is stuck with the previous guy. This change gives the Sheriff the right to pick and choose who he wants to help him out in his office.

Mr. Drobisch made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Dunn. Mr. Gresham asked if there is a downside to this. Sheriff Brown said there is none. The motion carried 6-0.

State's Attorney's Office – No Report

CITIZEN REMARKS – PUBLIC COMMENT – None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – None

CLOSED SESSION – None needed

NEXT MEETING Thursday, January 24, 2019

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Oliver made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Drobisch, the motion carried 6-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, Macon County Board Office