

**JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING  
Macon County Office Building  
Macon County Board Room #514  
141 S. Main Street, Decatur, IL 62523**

**May 25, 2023 @ 3:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Debra Kraft – Vice Chair  
Andrew Hogan  
Bill Oliver

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Greg Mattingley  
Grant Noland

**COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Judge Geisler, Circuit Court  
Sherry Doty, Circuit Clerk  
Pat Berter, Probation  
Michelle Sanders, Public Defender  
Sheriff Root  
Scott Reuter, State's Attorney  
Sheriff Jedlicka  
Tamara Wilcox, County Administrator  
Tammy Schneider, EMA  
Crystal Hugger, County Board

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Kraft @ 3:00 p.m. at the Macon County Office Building.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING**

Mr. Hogan made a motion to approve the minutes from (04/27/2023), seconded by Mr. Oliver and the motion carried 3-0.

**CLAIMS**

Mr. Oliver made a motion to approve the claims, seconded by Mr. Hogan. Motion carried 3-0.

**REPORTS**

***Circuit Clerk-***

Ms. Doty reported that there is a Senate bill out there that is trying to get the state to pay for her salary just like they are for the recorder. I am watching it.

Ms. Wilcox said it is to increase it isn't it?

Ms. Doty replied that it is to increase it, but it may not hit me because I am top paid. If they cannot take money away from us, then they are trying to get it, so it is a percentage of what the Chief Judge does because we have more work than they have piled on us the supreme did in the last three years. The county would only have to pay two thirds of the salary.

Vice Chair said they are doing....

Ms. Doty responded to the Recorder, County Clerk and Public Defender. I have been watching that bill and I will let you know, and I get email constantly and with those past ones it is getting ready to go to the next.

Ms. Wilcox replied, "I thought it was buried in the Sub-Committee.

Vice Chair Kraft said well it did earlier, but they brought it back.

Ms. Doty said it did but that is why we keep watching it. It will not increase that much but if I can get the State to pay for it instead of the County, I am all for it.

*Circuit Court-* No Report

*Coroner-* No Report

*Court Services / Probation –*

**Macon County Board Resolution Amending the Probation FY2023 Budget**

Mr. Berter reported that they have negotiated a 4% raise with FOP. This was back in October, and I presented it to the County Board. Once I submitted my annual plan letter to the State and was approved, we started receiving the money for those raises. That money has started to come in and I wanted to reflect the increase in revenue, court grant, aid, courts pretrial and then the increase in expenditures in elected official, probation officer and the chief probation officer lines. What is does is reflect the 4% increase. When I presented my budget, I put in no raises or anything in those line items until we received approval and I wanted to make sure that once we started to get that money in from the State that I reflected that.

Vice Chair Kraft made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Hogan. Motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Berter reported that last night they received a call from Decatur Police Department that they needed to detain two juveniles. Currently right now we have six individuals in Peoria County who are contract for five. Starting about 8:45p.m until 1:30 a.m. we contacted every detention facility in the State of Illinois being turned down. The reason is they were either full or they were at critical staffing levels to where they could not accept any kids. I and the Sheriff we have a meeting tomorrow with the Decatur Police Department on an issue as far as transportation and who is responsible. We have received a legal opinion from Mike Baggett with his interpretation of the statute that this is where we are at, and this is where the other Counties are at as far as trying to house juveniles. I know that I talked to Kent Holsopple from Sangamon County on Tuesday, and they are down 12 staff so they only have 10 staff in the facility Champaign County the last of my knowledge they were talking about possibly closing their detention facility and St. Clair County we called and we have called all of them.

Vice Chair Kraft asked if these juveniles arrested were in the city limits.

Mr. Berter said yes.

Vice Chair Kraft said but that still makes us responsible to find housing.

Mr. Berter said that is correct and it is the County responsibility to find a sort of placement for those individuals. In a situation like that we did not find placement for a resolution to our situation just temporary and that was declined. The two individuals have since been released.

Mr. Oliver asked if they had to have special facilities for these youths.

Mr. Berter said yes... they cannot be housed in any county jail, or they cannot be within sight of adult inmates. I know that Piatt County has a cell to where juveniles cannot be seen by adults that occasionally they will temporarily house a juvenile before they are transferred to a facility. I spoke to the Sheriff and my only resolution for that situation would be that DPD hold that individual until the courthouse opens then we would put those individuals in the holding cell in the courthouse. My staff would be responsible for monitoring those individuals and then at that time still try to secure a secure bed space.

Vice Chair Kraft said that did not work.

Mr. Berter said no. They did not want that option but that is okay. It is just a bad deal.

Mr. Oliver asked if it was more difficult to get that done over the weekend than through the week.

Mr. Berter said yes... We would have to figure something out. We do have an agreement with Peoria County that depending on the charge no matter at what capacity that they for emergency purposes would take care of us. I just had this conversation with Lt. Auton last week and made a comment. He asked what would happen if we could not find a spot and I was like I could not foresee that ever happening well it happened. Once again, the Sheriff's Department has always been good with everything because we have many kids coming through and they are always taking care of the situation for us. I will continue to update Justice if anything else comes up. The issue is the staffing levels of the detention facilities.

#### ***Emergency Management Agency-***

Ms. Schneider reported that they have two certified drone pilots for the new drone program who are Justin Root from Emergency Management and Detective Cody Woods from MSO. We put out a request for letter of interest from two additional deputies to become trained. (Ms. Schneider asked Sgt. Jedlicka if that was filled)

Sgt. Jedlicka said yes...Seth Major and Toby Walter.

Ms. Schneider said that they will start their pilot training and they will take their test. Chief Deputy Jedlicka is working on the Law Enforcement policy side, and I am working on the Emergency Management policy side of it. They are two different things because they work within the surveillance act. Detective Woods is helping to develop the training program report and we are close to completing the mitigation plan update portion that we are responsible for. There is a public meeting on June 5<sup>th</sup>. The Spanish speaking meeting is at 4:30 p.m. in this room and the general meeting will be at 6 p.m. and that is the last of the meeting that we will have. The survey that we put out is closing the last day of May and then we will do the public meetings and then it goes

from that point they will do all their compilation and put it together in a plan of all those pieces the public comment, survey, all of it... and the projects that has been submitted.

Vice Chair Kraft asked if there was any good response from the survey or can you tell.

Ms. Schneider said at the last count it was 126 or 130 surveys that went out but then we did a social media blast, and I am sure that was shared extensively, and I am hoping we got more.

***Public Building Commission-*** No Report

***Public Defender-*** No Report

***Sheriff-*** No Report

***State's Attorney-*** No Report

**Old Business** - None

**New Business** - None

**Public Comment-**

Vice Chair Kraft said she wanted to share that Kelly Murray from the Illinois County Association contacted me and asked me to join the Legislative committee so that Macon County will have a vote. I am aware of these salaries. Unfortunately, we no longer have a Legislative committee so there is nowhere to share this so after talking to Josh I am just going to email what I learned to the appropriate office holder or employee and just share that way.

**Closed Session** – None needed.

**Adjournment-**Mr. Oliver made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hogan. Motion carried 3-0. The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair Kraft @ 3:15 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Crystal Hugger, Executive Secretary, Macon County Board Office*