

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

**August 24, 2023 @ 3:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Greg Mattingley, Chair  
Debra Kraft  
Bill Oliver (arrived at 3:01)  
Andrew Hogan

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Grant Noland

**COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Judge Griffith, Circuit Court  
Pat Berter, Probation  
Sheriff Jim Root  
Sherry Doty, Circuit Clerk  
Tammy Wilcox, County Administrator  
Sheriff Matthew Jedlicka  
Jon Perona, Public Building Commission  
Michelle Sanders, Public Defender  
Scott Rueter, State's Attorney's Office  
Courtney Tuggle, Public Defender Office  
Crystal Hugger, County Board Office

Chair Mattingley called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING- July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Motion made to approve by Ms. Kraft, seconded by Mr. Hogan. Motion carried 3-0.

**REPORTS**

*Circuit Clerk – No report*

*Circuit Courts –*

Judge Griffith reported that one of the long-time associate judges Judge Coryell who many of you know well as a very fine judge is retiring as of August 31<sup>st</sup>. I think he was a public defender for a long time and in private practice for a long time that is when you can hold a public defender's spot and be in private practice. He has a world of knowledge and has been a great judge so he will be hard to replace although we do have several fine applicants. One who is here today and one who is typically here and we are going to do the interviews on September the 14<sup>th</sup> and we will make a selection shortly after that time.

*Coroner – No report*

*Court Services / Probation –*

Mr. Berter reported that he spoke to Brian Brown from Peoria County. They are willing to give us additional bed space for 2024 and another one for 2025 if we would like. I did reach out to the Chief of Police to see if he would like to share in that cost and I haven't heard anything back yet but I think it would be wise for us to move forward. I will present that when I do finance but that will give us six guaranteed bed spaces. I think it will be smart for us to do that.

***Emergency Management Agency – No report***

***Decatur Public Building Commission – No report***

***Public Defender's Office –***

Ms. Sanders reported that they do have a new attorney who started with them a couple of weeks ago. She is an experienced felony attorney and she is already jumping right in. I have given her some murder cases which is relieving our load quite a bit. We are focusing on the changes that are going to be coming with the pre-trial fairness act getting all of our paperwork together and all of our documentation ready. We are also preparing printed-out forms that are going to be needed as of September 1<sup>st</sup> where any defendant in a criminal felony or misdemeanor case who has a public defender their criminal assessment is automatically waived now.

We just have to file a certificate for that. We have gotten a copy of that certificate it is going to go out to every courtroom on September 1<sup>st</sup>. I recognize and I don't control this but it is going to impact the Circuit Clerks because of those fee waivers. Looks like that ten million dollars that I mentioned before in the public defender fund has now been funded and they are looking at the distribution of that money all of the specific is still being worked out they are trying to get each public defender's office or the counties the money by September 18<sup>th</sup>. I am not sure if that is going to happen I don't know the exact amount that our county is getting. I don't know if Judge Griffith knows that yet. Once they have that I will finalize and figure out if that is being dispersed to the counties and how it is going into the budget but that money is coming.

***Sheriff's Department –***

Sheriff Root reported that today's population is 409 and I have twenty-two from Champaign forty Federal four people who are unfit fifteen people who have been sentenced to IDOC and nine people who have been sentenced to the Macon County jail. We will probably ship out in a few days to clear out those that have been sitting to IDOC.

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving Appropriations for Funds for Equipment To Purchase Tables in the Jail FY23***

In 1990 in that area, they did increase the capacity and converted some storage space to a living space for the jail. That space did not contain stationary tables we have been using folding tables the cafeteria-style. Those have been fixed, prodded, and are at the last portion of their ability, and under jail standards we are required to provide seating. We did get a quote and where there is money available in the surplus building fund to be able to pay for that. That is 15,506 dollars is what the cost of those permanent seats is going to be. Building Commission will be the one to install it though.

Chair Mattingley said I assume these tables are specific kind for the jail used by this vendor. Sheriff Root said they are built specifically for correctional facilities in this particular model is stainless steel. All of the ones we have in there now are painted and those are in bad shape and need to be repainted. We are looking into some possibilities maybe doing an overlay stainless steel on the tops of those because they scratch the paint and carve their names, and initials in them. We are going to come up with a plan with the Building Commission to either replace or start coming

up with the ability to fix some of those. They typically will break welds and have to be re-welded but for the most part, they are built specifically for correctional facilities.

**Ms. Kraft made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Oliver. Motion carried 4-0.**

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving Acceptance of Grant with Health Management Associates for Medication Assisted Recovery in the Macon County Jail for Fy23***

Sheriff Root reported that this is an opioid grant money that is funneled through the state. We also have an additional amount of opioid money that is in the state attorney's office right now that we are not using. This is an additional amount there are three parts to this grant. One is for medicated assistant's medication for opioids or people suffering from addiction. One is for cohored housing through are redeploy program which puts those people who have the same similar classification so that they can have that support network between themselves that are in there. The other was 25,000 dollars to be used for training and things to help staff get the program up and running. It is a 100,000 dollar grant and we plan on starting our program in the jail to get people on medicine before they get out of jail so that they can continue their recovery after they are out.

**Mr. Oliver made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Hogan. Motion carried 4-0.**

Ms. Kraft said Sheriff I want to congratulate you. I see that you got the OSAC award for forensics. Sheriff Root said yes we did. Ed German is a part-time employee for us and he does a lot of our fingerprints and forensic stuff. On fingerprint and facial recognition he is a national person who does this for a lot of different agencies to help people get up and running. He is instrumental in solving a lot of the city cases they send him and we will run them through our database and we will get hits based on fingerprint analysis that they lift from a crime scene somewhere. We will run it through our database and get it but it is a very good program. If you ever want to learn more Ed German is our person and we can arrange for and sit down with him to explain the things that we do. For most agencies, it would cost thousands and thousands of dollars to be able to do what we are doing with a very small budget. Once he retires I don't know but we have got a guy that we trained but I don't know if he is quite ready to take over that program. I am sure hoping he is because it has been beneficial mostly to the City of Decatur but it has also been beneficial to us.

*State's Attorney - No report*

**CITIZEN REMARKS – PUBLIC COMMENT** – Ms. Aber Moten talked about her concerns.

**Old Business** None

**New Business** -

**Closed Session** – None needed

**NEXT MEETING** September 21, 2023

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Mattingley @ 3:14 p.m.

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