

COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS
Law, Justice and Legislation Committee
Monday, April 10, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order and Pledge Allegiance - Chair Matthew Prochaska called the meeting to order at 3:15p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Member Gilmour, Member Prochaska, Member Giles, Member Hendrix were present.
With four members present voting aye, a quorum was determined to conduct business.

Member Purcell arrived at 3:21p.m.

Others Present: Sheriff Dwight Baird, Public Defender Vicky Chuffo, EMA Director Joe Gillespie, Deputy Commander Jason Langston, Undersheriff Harold Martin, Judge Timothy McCann, Commander Mike Peters, Coroner Jacquie Purcell, Facilities Director Jim Smiley, Court Administrator Nicole Swiss, Court Services Director Tina Varney, State's Attorney Eric Weis, County Administrator Jeff Wilkins

Approval of the Agenda – Member Hendrix made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Member Gilmour. **With four members present in agreement with the amendment, the motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes – Member Hendrix made a motion to approve the March 20, 2017 Public Safety and February 22, 2017 Judicial Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes, second by Member Gilmour. **With four members present in agreement, the motion carried.**

Public Comment – None

- ❖ **Coroner** – Jacquie Purcell briefly reviewed her report and stated that her office now has five deputy coroner's and is fully staffed. Coroner Purcell also reported that there were 21 deaths for the month of March, with 19 being from natural causes. She also reported the number of autopsies is already near the budgeted number.
- ❖ **Circuit Clerk** – Written report submitted
- ❖ **Courthouse** – Judge Timothy McCann reported the Drug Court program is moving along, and they currently have 6 enrollees.

Judge McCann also stated that there some capital improvement projects that he would like done in the next 5-years, none of which include the second floor of the Courthouse.

- ❖ **Court Services** – Written report provided

- ❖ **EMA** – Director Joe Gillespie reported that 40 people were in attendance at the EMA Leadership conference, 180 attended the Dresden Pre-Drill, and that he attended the EOC Management meeting in Joliet recently. Director Gillespie stated that siren testing continued and the County Board Chair and Vice Chair actually sounded the siren recently.

Discussion on the sounding of warning sirens and if the sirens can be isolated to specific areas of the County only.

- ❖ **KenCom** – Written report provided
- ❖ **Public Defender** – Vicky Chuffo provided written report and stated that they continue to have a heavy case load, which averages 150 per month.
- ❖ **State’s Attorney** – Eric Weis informed the committee about the Courthouse Volunteer Appreciation Reception scheduled for May 8th prior to the committee meeting in the Courthouse. A special recognition plaque will be presented to the wife of long-time volunteer Edd Tomse, who passed away last year, and certificates to the other volunteers. All County Board members, Elected Officials and Department Heads are encouraged to attend.
- ❖ **Sheriff’s Report**
 - a. Operations Division – Commander Peters reminded attendees that the final stage of the Active Shooter Violent Offender training drill will take place on May 1, 2017 from 5:00-8:00p.m. All were encouraged to attend. Written report provided
 - b. Corrections Division – Undersheriff Martin reported they are currently at 75 Out-Of-County inmates this month, which is up from last year, and increased from previous months. Written report provided
 - c. Records Division – Member Hendrix asked for a copy of all incident reports specifically involving inmates, that have occurred over the past eighteen months so that she can review them and provide an educated and knowledgeable response to concerned constituents regarding this issue. Written report provided

Old Business - None

New Business

- *Discussion on Acquisition of a Government Relations Specialist* – Discussion on the necessity of having a lobbyist working for the County and on the County priorities. Member Prochaska will research and provide additional information on costs, and possible organizations at a future meeting.

Executive Session – Member Hendrix made a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of the review of discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06, 5ILCS 120-2 (1), second by Member Purcell.

Roll Call: Member Giles - yes, Member Hendrix - yes, Member Purcell - yes, Member Gilmour - yes,
Member Prochaska - yes

The committee reconvened in Open Session at 3:57p.m.

Public Comment – None

Items for Committee of the Whole - None

Action Items for County Board - None

Adjournment – Member Hendrix made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Gilmour.
With all in agreement, the meeting adjourned at 4:00p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valarie McClain
Recording Secretary