

COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS
Law, Justice and Legislation Committee
Monday, September 27, 2021
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order and Pledge Allegiance – Chair Judy Gilmour called the meeting to order at 3:15p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Committee Member	Status	Arrived	Left Meeting
Judy Gilmour	Here		
Amy Cesich	Present		
Dan Koukol	Here		
Ruben Rodriguez	Here		
Robyn Vickers	Absent		

Others Present: Coroner Jacquie Purcell, EMA Director Roger Bonuchi, Acting Public Defender Ken Johnson, Circuit Clerk Matthew Prochaska, Court Services Director Alice Elliott, Deputy Commander Jason Langston, and Chief Deputy Michael Peters

Approval of Agenda: Member Koukol made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Member Cesich. **With four members present voting aye, the agenda was approved.**

Approval of Minutes – Member Cesich made a motion to approve the August 23, 2021 meeting minutes, second by Member Rodriguez. **With four members present voting aye, the motion carried by a 4-0 vote.**

Public Comment – None

Status Reports

Coroner – **No report provided.** Coroner Purcell reported there were 7 deaths for August, including 4 accidental deaths and 2 due to a car accident. Coroner Purcell attended the Illinois Coroners and Medical Examiners training in Collinsville, IL. Coroner Purcell stated that a new Administrative Assistant has been hired on a PT basis and Chief Deputy Gotte provided new recruit training for the Sheriff’s office. Coroner Purcell reported there were 11 hours of community service hours served in the Coroner’s Office in August.

EMA – **Written report provided.** Director Bonuchi reported that 2 members were sworn in and 2 more are waiting for back ground checks to come back. Director Bonuchi reported that search and rescue activity has increased for August. He acknowledged Kimberly Gotte for her EMA Search and Rescue training that took place in August.

Public Defender – None

Circuit Clerk – Written report provided. Circuit Clerk Matthew Prochaska reported in August other than traffic, most filings were for non-criminal cases. He stressed his concern over the significant increase in juvenile delinquent, abuse and neglect cases. Civil Law, Conservation and Ordinance Violations have remained steady. Mr. Prochaska reported an increase in evictions and foreclosures filings. The Supreme Court is now allowing these cases to be pre-filed. This means landlords and banks must submit information, due to a new judicial branch program, for rental/Covid related aid for the people they are filing against before the cases can go forward.

Mr. Prochaska reported that his staff is in the process of implementing a new standardized court form that the Supreme Court has set. The Circuit Court can no longer produce their own forms and must use the State template that the Supreme Court is requiring all 24 circuits to use. Mr. Prochaska stated all court forms should be complete by end of 2022.

Court Services – Written reports provided. Director Elliot reported that she will be providing a series of mini-informational sessions at future committee meetings to educate and provide an overview of what services the Probation department provides to the community. Ms. Elliot explained that there are 4 specific units in Kendall County that provide services to meet individual needs. She covered the functions and responsibilities for the Adult, Special Programs, Pre-Trial (will be dissolved in a year), and the Juvenile Units.

Chief Judge – None

State's Attorney – None

Sheriff's Report

- a. Operations Division – Written report provided. Operations Commander Jason Langston reported that traffic counts are down due to the results of staffing. With the amount of calls the Department receives the staff does not have the ability to spend their time just on traffic enforcement when other service calls can be more critical. There are 7 open positions for patrol officers.
- b. Corrections Division – Written report provided. Chief Deputy Michael Peters reported that his part time staff have been planning work crew projects in the Sheriff's office and with other offices and agencies.
- c. Records Division – Written report provided.

Old Business – None

New Business

- *Discussion on an Ordinance Regulating Hawkers, Peddlers, Itinerant Merchants, and Transient Vendors* – Member Cesich made a recommendation to update Ordinance 87-2 since the current version is antiquated. Mr. Langston reported only several sonication violation cases in the last ten years. But the committee agreed to look into changing the title and fee section of the Ordinance to meet today's current wording. Mr. Koeppel will check with other counties to see what they have in place and bring samples to next month's meeting for further discussion.

- *Discussion and Approval of an IGA between Kendall County and the State of Illinois Emergency Management Agency* – Director Bonuchi briefed the committee on the Inter-Governmental Grant Agreement. The application is submitted to the State of Illinois for approval showing what EMA will be using the grant money for. This is done annually. Member Cesich made a motion to forward the Approval of IGA between Kendall County and the State of Illinois Emergency Management Agency to the October 5, 2021 County Board meeting for final approval, second by Member Koukol.

With four members present voting aye, the motion carried by a vote of 4-0.

- *Discussion of Elimination of Cash Bail in IL: Financial Analysis* - Matthew Prochaska reported that the Illinois Supreme Court implemented a new operational structure for pretrial services. The report summarizes the financial impact of the elimination of cash bail county by county. Due to this change starting in 2023 this will potentially impact the County. The Supreme Court’s task force has been meeting since the SAFE-T Act became effective, and part of their goal is to make sure the court systems can be properly funded from non-property tax sources. Mr. Prochaska will keep the Committee informed on this topic.

Legislative Update – Chair Judy Gilmore mentioned that the Governor signed into law the State Legislature map but understands that this will be challenged in Federal Court and that the Congressional maps will be worked on in October.

Chairman’s Report/Comments – No report.

Items for the October 5, 2021 Kendall County Board Meeting

- *Discussion and Approval of an IGA between Kendall County and the State of Illinois Emergency Management Agency*

Items for the October 14, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting – None

Chairman’s report/comments - None

Public Comment – None

Executive Session – Not needed

Adjournment – Member Cesich made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Rodriguez.

With four members in agreement, the meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Washkowiak
Temporary Administrative Assistant