

**COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS**  
**Law, Justice and Legislation Committee**  
**Monday, November 22, 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:**

<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Arrived</b>	<b>Left Meeting</b>
Judy Gilmour	Here		
Amy Cesich	Present		
Dan Koukol	Here		
Ruben Rodriguez	Here		
Robyn Vickers	Here		

**Others Present:** EMA Director Roger Bonuchi, Court Services Director Alice Elliott, Coroner Jacquie Purcell, Public Defender Jason Majer, Circuit Clerk Matthew Prochaska, Court Services Director Alice Elliott, Undersheriff Bobby Richardson, ASA Brandon Rissman

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

**Approval of Minutes** – Member Cesich made a motion to approve the October 25, 2021 meeting minutes, second by Member Rodriguez. **With five members present voting aye, the motion carried by a 5-0 vote.**

**Public Comment** – None

**Status Reports**

**Coroner** – Written report provided. Coroner Purcell stated that there has been an increase in the number of deaths in the last three years. Coroner Purcell stated that there have been 82 suicides, 85 suicide threats, and 92 overdoses suicides. There were 46 deaths in October, 41 due to natural causes, 1 accidental death, and 2 suicide deaths.

Purcell reviewed the statistics of Mental Health Crisis calls versus Coroner Deaths for the past three years with the committee. Purcell said there is a definite need for a community mental health needs assessment.

The Coroner’s Office provided presentations to the Law Enforcement class at Oswego East High School on October 18 and 20. The office co-hosted a “Take Back” event through the DEA, partnering with the Kendall County Sheriff’s Office, Oswego Police Department, and Yorkville Police Department. Together they took in over 500 pounds of unwanted medication, sharps needles, diabetic supplies, etc.

On October 8 & 26, Chief Deputy Gotte provided a presentation for local law enforcement.

**EMA – Written report provided.** EMA Director Bonuchi reviewed the Region 2 Covid-19 statistics with the committee, stating that as of November 22, the Region was at 4.8 percent, and Kendall County was at 6.8 percent.

Bonuchi provided KCEMA volunteer training on October 18 on the topic of Radio Communications. EMA had one new volunteer in October and will have one new volunteer in November.

Director Bonuchi advised the committee on an October 16<sup>th</sup> power transformer fire at the Dresden Nuclear Power Station that caused Unit #3 to automatically shut down around 4:30a.m. Unit #3 will remain shut-down until the transformer can be replaced. Unit #2 was unaffected.

**Public Defender** – Jason Majer introduced himself to the group and stated that he will begin as the Chief Public Defender with Kendall County on January 5, 2021.

**Circuit Clerk – Written report provided.** Circuit Clerk Matthew Prochaska that there was one foreclosure and 25 evictions in October.

Mr. Prochaska reported that manual recordkeeping changes will be implemented on January 1, 2022.

**Court Services – Written reports provided.** Director Elliot reported that The Metropolitan Alliance of Police (MAP) union contract negotiations have concluded and they are awaiting the official vote by members and signatures. The new contract will go into effect on 12-01-21. Salary increases of 3% for the first 2 years, 3.25% and 3.5% for the next two years were agreed upon. As has been past practice, these increases are applied to all of the non-union judicial employees in the department as well. While the support staff positions are not reimbursable salary positions, all of the management positions and all but three of the probation officer positions will be.

Elliot reported that the Probation Department is one of 13 counties in the participating in a Virtual Study. The study is being conducted in conjunction with the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts and Justice System Partners. During Covid we increased the use of technology to conduct appointments virtually and discovered it yielded increased successful discharge rates and better client engagement. They joined this study with the purpose of determining if conducting appointments virtually vs in-person would have significant impact on successful discharges as well as a reduction in re-arrest rates. They believe that by allowing a majority of the appointments to be conducted virtually, we are removing barriers such as transportation, child care, and conflicts with employment. The office has been placing select clients into the study group from April to October, 2021, and those clients will now be tracked for 12 months to determine if the theory of increased client engagement, completion of court ordered conditions, and behavioral change will be supported by the data. Once the full study has been completed and published they will review the data to determine if appropriate policy changes should be made.

**Chief Judge** – No Report

**State's Attorney** – No Report

## **Sheriff's Report**

- a. Operations Division – Written report provided. Undersheriff Bobby Richardson reported that the Sheriff's Office Records Division has seen a significant increase in the number of warrants.
- b. Corrections Division – Written report provided. Undersheriff Richardson was pleased to report that Inmate Work Release Crews have returned to the Animal Control facility, and that the transition has gone well.

Richardson reported that there are currently 79 participants in the Electronic Home Monitoring (EMH) program, and that Jody deals with monitoring, and Tracy assists with billing.

- c. Records Division – Written report provided.

## **Old Business** – None

## **New Business**

- *Discussion of an Ordinance Identifying the Applicable Case Categories for the Civil Fee Schedules set forth in Ordinance 19-13, as amended by Ordinance 21 - \_\_\_\_, in Compliance with Illinois Supreme Court Administrative Order, M.R. 29741* – Circuit Clerk Matthew Prochaska reviewed the Civil Fee Schedules ordinance and the Ordinance decreasing County Law Library fund fees with the committee.

Member Cesich made a motion to forward the item to the County Board for approval, second by Member Koukol. **With five members present voting aye, the motion carried by a vote of 5-0.** The item will be added to the December 7, 021 County Board consent agenda

## **Legislative Update** – No report

## **Chairman's Report/Comments** – No report.

## **Items for the December 7, 2021 Kendall County Board Meeting**

- *Approval of an Ordinance Identifying the Applicable Case Categories for the Civil Fee Schedules set forth in Ordinance 19-13, as amended by Ordinance 21 - \_\_\_\_, in Compliance with Illinois Supreme Court Administrative Order, M.R. 29741*

## **Items for the December 16, 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 Vickers.

**With members in agreement, the meeting adjourned at 4:12p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Valarie McClain  
Administrative Assistant and Recording Secretary