

**COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS**  
**Law, Justice and Legislation Committee**  
**Monday, July 8, 2019**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Call to Order and Pledge Allegiance** - Chair Tony Giles called the meeting to order at 3:15p.m. who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:**

<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Arrived at Meeting</b>	<b>Left Meeting</b>
Tony Giles	Here		
Judy Gilmour	Here		
Audra Hendrix	<b>ABSENT</b>		
Matthew Prochaska	<b>ABSENT</b>		
Robyn Vickers	Here		

**With three members present voting aye, a quorum was determined to conduct business.**

**Others Present:** Sheriff Dwight Baird, Public Defender Vicki Chuffo, Court Services Director Alice Elliott, EMA Director Joe Gillespie, Deputy Commander Mitch Hatten, County Administrator Scott Koeppel, Drug Court Coordinator Melissa Moore, Presiding Judge Robert Pilmer, Coroner Jacquie Purcell, Commander Bobby Richardson, Facilities Director Jim Smiley, States Attorney Eric Weis

**Approval of the Agenda** –Member Vickers made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Member Gilmour. **With three members present voting aye, the motion carried.**

**Approval of Minutes** – Member Vickers made a motion to approve the June 10, 2019 meeting minutes, second by Member Gilmour. **With three members present voting aye, the motion carried.**

**Public Comment** - None

**Status Reports**

**Coroner** – Coroner Purcell reviewed the monthly report with the committee, and reported 25 deaths: 22 natural, 1 complications from a broken leg received in an accidental fall in home, 2 suicide), and 13 cremation authorizations for the month of June. Coroner Purcell also reviewed the personnel actives and community service hours for the month, including Coroner Purcell facilitating the Lights of Hope support group on June 5th, Chief Deputy Gotte attending the Mental Health First Aid program through NEMRT on June 5th, Coroner Purcell facilitating the Opioid Study Group at the Kendall County Health Department on June 6th, the Coroner’s participation in the Pre-Exercise for the Dresden Drill on June 25<sup>th</sup> and Chief Deputy Gotte providing a morgue tour for the Criminal Justice Youth Academy on June 27<sup>th</sup>. **Written report provided.**

**Court Services** – Written report provided. Alice Elliot provided

**EMA** – Written report provided. Director Gillespie reported Multi-Agency Search and Rescue Training in Hanover Township on June 8<sup>th</sup>, with twenty-eight Search and Rescue professionals from seven area agencies participating, including four from Kendall County EMA Search and Rescue.

Gillespie also reported EMA Meeting and Training on June 10<sup>th</sup>; Exelon and Illinois/Iowa State & County Agency meeting regarding the Electronic Notification Project on June 12<sup>th</sup> with 2 KenCom Directors and Technology participating; as well as a DHS Regional Resiliency Assessment Program meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Monthly Siren, STARCOM and WSPY Emergency Alert System (EAS) testing continued.

**Public Defender** – Public Defender Chuffo reported continued increase in all areas, and busy with jury trials for the month of June. Written report provided.

### **Sheriff's Report**

- a. Operations Division – Deputy Commander Hatten reported that K-9 Luke will be retiring in the month of July, and K-9 Miko assisted the Plano Police Department this month in the search and recovery of a weapon. Written report provided.
- b. Corrections Division – Written report provided. Commander Richardson reported updated the committee on the utilization of the tablets for the inmates. Richardson stated that the tablets are fully functional now, and that the goal is to provide productive activities for the inmates that will keep them focused on positive goals as opposed to them not being engaged and feeling negative about their incarceration. The tablets will allow inmates to search for jobs, and will provide access to mental health information, a phone, education a law library, and connection to their families, friends and the outside world, as they prepare for re-entry into the community. There is also approved entertainment options such as podcasts, music and games. The tablets are a resource being used to encourage good behavior and are considered a privilege that has to be earned by the inmates.

Sheriff Baird reported he is meeting with Waubensee Community College representatives regarding access to online college courses for inmates on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- c. Records Division – Written report provided.

**Old Business** - None

### **New Business**

*Discussion of the Establishment of a Mental Health Court* – Scott Koepfel reported that he met with the Kane County Treatment Alternative Court (TAC) to learn about their program for criminal defendants with mental illness, co-occurring disorders, or developmental disabilities, to enhance public safety and promote the continuity of mental health care in the community, by bringing together community based agencies to address defendants needs

and to provide comprehensive case management in an effort to reduce future criminal activity and incarceration.

State's Attorney Weis reported to the County Board on July 2<sup>nd</sup> regarding the initial funds needed to initiate a Mental Health Court in Kendall County, to offer certain offenders with mental health issues, treatment rather than incarceration. Weis stated that the Drug Court has been successful, and that the mental health court could be operated in a similar fashion, with the required AOIC Certification, development of manuals, policies, and handbooks, as well as the necessary forms. There is also need to define the target population, and gather baseline data on the number of individuals who would be eligible for the program, prior to implementation.

Judge Pilmer introduced Drug Court Coordinator Melissa Moore, and stated that Moore has researched grant options for the Mental Health Court, and will submit an application for partial funding to the Bureau of Justice Assistance by the July 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Judge Pilmer provided information on grant funding up to \$400,000 available to jurisdictions with populations between 100,000 and 499,999 and the grant period would cover 24-months. Up to \$100,000 can be used to follow and document the Planning and Implementation portion of the grant over an 8-month period. There is a match requirement of approximately 20 percent, and priority funding is given to programs that have passed a resolution, completed a provided "stepping up" assessment tool, established a representative planning team or criminal justice coordinating council comprised of key leaders from the justice and health systems, assigned a project coordinator to work across agencies to manage the planning process, and partnered with a local research organization/university to assist with local evaluation, data collection, or performance measurement.

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

**Legislative Update** - None

**Executive Session** – Not needed

**Adjournment** – Member Vickers made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Gilmour. **With all in agreement, the meeting adjourned at 3:55p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Valarie McClain  
Administrative Assistant and Recording Clerk