

COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS
Law, Justice and Legislation Committee
Monday, August 12, 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:

Committee Member	Status	Arrived at Meeting	Left Meeting
Tony Giles	Here		
Judy Gilmour	Here		
Audra Hendrix	Here		
Matthew Prochaska		3:16p.m.	
Robyn Vickers	Present		

With four 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 Hendrix made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Member Vickers. **With four members present voting aye, the motion carried.**

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

Public Comment - None

Status Reports

Circuit Clerk – Robyn Ingemunson reported that there has been a decrease in files from last year, and expressed concerns about budgeting for next year due to the decrease in Clerk’s fees. **Written report provided.**

Coroner – Coroner Purcell reviewed the monthly report with the committee, and reported 28 total deaths with three suicides over the July 4, 2019 weekend. Coroner Purcell reviewed the Office/Personnel Activity, including her facilitation of the “Lights of Hope” support group, and presentation for the Senior Service’s Lunch & Learn program at the Beecher Center, and Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) by Chief Deputy Levi Gotte. **Written report provided.**

EMA – Written report provided. Director Gillespie reported that they were involved in a search for missing person(s) involved in an accident in Campton Hills, and in a search for a missing male (since April) in Fox Lake. Director Gillespie reported on the Multi-Agency Search and Rescue Training on the subject of UTM/GPS held at the North Aurora Police Department and Lippold Park, with twenty-six Search and Rescue Professionals from eight area agencies attending, including four from Kendall County EMA Search and Rescue. Gillespie reported on the Dresden Power Station Drill on July 30th, with twelve Kendall County EMA members (Sheriff’s Office, Highway Department, Health Department, School District, Kendall EMA, and Fire District) participating. Gillespie reported high accolades about the Kendall EMA operation from participants and Federal Authorities. Monthly Siren, STARCOM and WSPY Emergency Alert System (EAS) testing continued.

Public Defender – Public Defender Chuffo reported continued increase in all areas. Written report provided.

Court Services – Director Elliott reported that the office concluded Pretrial, Probation and Parole Week by bringing awareness of various issues that their clients deal with on a daily bases, including substance abuse, domestic violence and trauma, and by making a commitment to their clients as it relates to addressing their needs. Ms. Elliott also reported the office was able to collect three large boxes full of toiletries, pacifiers, night lights, pull-ups, underwear, water bottles, etc. for the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program. And lastly, as part of the Pretrial, Probation and Parole Week, they invited their families to join them for lunch on the last day of the week as part of that day’s theme of work/personal life balance.

Director Elliott also reported collaboration with Waubensee Community College on a year-long Leadership Institute for Probation staff that would encourage them to find leadership qualities within themselves. The institute will occur from September 2019 to June 2020, will take place one afternoon a month, and is open to any Judicial System employee in Kendall and DeKalb Counties. The Institute is primarily funded through the Judicial Office via a contract with Waubensee for trainings for judicial staff. Written report provided.

Sheriff’s Report

- a. Operations Division – Commander Langston reported that the office participated in a state-wide speed awareness campaign in July that resulted in 76 traffic stops, 59 warnings and 17 citations. They also recently completed a multi-agency jurisdictional sex offender compliance check that involved assistance from seven other police agencies where they verified registration information of 37 offenders, five of which were identified as potential violations.

Langston said they completed an incident County Fair for 2019, and graduated 18 students from the inaugural Youth Academy Program this month. Written report provided.

- b. Corrections Division – Written report provided. Commander Richardson reported that they have implemented a program called Second Opportunity, which is an individual formerly incarcerated in federal custody, that will come to the jail to present a program to the inmates, to reduce recidivism, and increase their ability for a successful transition back to life once they leave incarceration. They have also partnered with Waubensee Community College to offer a program to inmates that have had some high school education to complete their high school diploma versus a G.E.D. and direct them to a more successful life path.

Discussion about the procedures and policies of dealing with inmates that are on suicide watch/observation. Commander Richardson stated that there are strict policies and procedures in place for these inmates, including a screening tool developed with questions from the Health Department and the State of Illinois utilized upon an inmates booking into the Corrections facility, suicide smocks and housing in an area directly insight of supervision 24 hours a day, seven days per week. Richardson also reported the jail had a “surprise” inspection by the Federal Marshalls, in which they made comment on the policies in place, the actions taken to prevent incidents inside the facility, including every 15 and 30 minute inmate checks to ensure inmate safety, with card swiping technology. Sheriff Baird stressed the importance of family members reporting any discussions or communications from inmates threatening suicide or the possibility of it to jail personnel as soon as it occurs. Baird stated that this information is provided in a video to inmates, and mental health appointments are made readily available to inmates when needed.

- c. Records Division – Written report provided.

Old Business - None

New Business

- *Discussion and Approval of Advanced Correctional Healthcare Proposed Rate and Increase of LPN Hours* – Commander Richardson reviewed the proposed rate and increase of LPN hours from 60 hours per week to 76 hours, and explained that this will take some of the liability off of Correctional Personnel and allow for better coverage in the jail. Motion made by Member Hendrix, second by Member Vickers to forward the item to the County Board for approval. **With five members present voting aye, the motion carried.**
- *Discussion and Approval of Agreement between the Kendall County Drug Court and Gateway Foundation, Inc.* – Melissa Moore provided the changes to the proposed agreement, the increased rate of payment to \$250 per day, and allow for quicker access to treatment. This agreement would replace the current agreement, and has been reviewed by the grant writer and the State’s Attorney’s Office. Member Hendrix made a motion to forward the item to the County Board for approval, second by Member Vickers.

Roll Call: Member Gilmour – yes, Member Vickers – yes, Member Hendrix – yes, Member Prochaska – yes, Member Giles – yes

With five members present voting aye, the motion carried.

- *Discussion of the Regulation of the Sale of Cannabis in Unincorporated Kendall County* - Scott Koepfel provided information regarding recently passed legislation on the sale of cannabis in the State of Illinois, and stated that only Counties and Municipalities can “opt-out” or enact ordinances to prohibit or significantly limit a cannabis business establishment’s location. Discussion of the regulations, the pros and cons of the sale of cannabis, and the additional burden on law enforcement, and judicial system personnel, and the potential dangers of increased traffic accidents, and harm to users and non-users. Member Prochaska made a motion to forward the item to the August 15, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting, second by Member Hendrix.

Roll Call: Member Vickers – yes, Member Prochaska – yes, Member Giles – yes, Member Gilmour – yes, Member Hendrix – yes

With five members present voting aye, the motion carried.

Chairman’s Report/Comments – No report

Legislative Update - None

Executive Session – Not needed

Items for the August 20, 2019 County Board Agenda

- *Approval of Advanced Correctional Healthcare Proposed Rate and Increase of LPN Hours*
- *Approval of Agreement between the Kendall County Drug Court and Gateway Foundation, Inc.*

Items for the August 15, 2019 Committee of the Whole Agenda

- *Discussion of the Regulation of the Sale of Cannabis in Unincorporated Kendall County*

Adjournment – Member Hendrix made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Prochaska. **With five members in agreement, the meeting adjourned at 4:24p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Valarie McClain
Administrative Assistant and Recording Clerk