

Lake County Illinois

*Lake County Courthouse and Administrative Complex
18 N. County Street
Waukegan, IL 60085-4351*



Minutes Report - Final

Tuesday, July 30, 2013

10:30 AM

Conference Room C, 10th Floor

Law and Judicial Committee

1. Call to Order

Chair Nixon called the meeting to order at 10:28 am.

Present 5 - Chair Nixon, Member Carlson, Member Cunningham, Member Pedersen and Member Weber

Absent 2 - Vice Chair Calabresa and Member Hart

Others Present:

Aaron Lawlor, County Board Chair

Brian Keller, Lake County Sheriffs Office

Chris Creighton, Finance and Administrative Services

David Hernandez, Lake County Resident

Gary Gordon, Finance and Administrative Services

Joe Regis, Circuit Clerks Office

John Byrne, Lake County Sheriffs Office

Keith Brin, Circuit Clerk

Mark Curran, Lake County Sheriff

Terry White, State's Attorney Office

Vanessa Roman, Lake County Resident

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Nixon led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Minutes**3.1 13-0834**

Minutes from June 25, 2013.

A motion was made by Member Cunningham, seconded by Member Pedersen, that the minutes from June 25, 2013 be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chair Nixon, Member Carlson, Member Cunningham, Member Pedersen and Member Weber

Absent: 2 - Vice Chair Calabresa and Member Hart

4. Added to Agenda

There were no items added to the agenda.

5. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

6. Old Business

There was no old business to conduct.

7. New Business

SHERIFF

7.1 13-0779

Report from Mark C. Curran, Jr., Sheriff, for the month of June 2013.

A motion was made by Member Carlson, seconded by Member Cunningham, that this item be received and placed on the consent agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chair Nixon, Member Carlson, Member Cunningham, Member Pedersen and Member Weber

Absent: 2 - Vice Chair Calabresa and Member Hart

STATE'S ATTORNEY

7.2 13-0803

Joint resolution authorizing the application, acceptance, and emergency appropriation of a 2013 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) in the amount of \$6,250 for the purpose of enhancing our Special Programs/Community Awareness Division's capacity to provide awareness and education to the community, law enforcement, and social service agencies in Lake County.

- This is an application for the federal Justice Assistant Grant Program. This funding supports a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime and to improve the criminal justice system.
- Under this program, the City of Waukegan and Lake County, on behalf of the Lake County State's Attorney's Office, are eligible for a joint award of \$31,250 in FY2013 grant funds.
- The potential allocation of the eligible funds is \$6,250 to Lake County on behalf of the State's Attorney's Office, and \$25,000 to the City of Waukegan.
- The State's Attorney's Office will use the \$6,250 to enhance a community awareness effort by supporting the purchase of presentation supplies, banners, tablecloths, event giveaways, and an email communication tool (Constant Contact).
- The source of program funding is 100% federal JAG. No match is required.

Terry White, State's Attorney's Office, explained the formula grant monies received will be used to fund the materials needed to deliver programs such as teen dating violence awareness and elder abuse awareness to the community. The amount received varies from year to year, and Lake County has been a recipient of this grant since 2009.

A motion was made by Member Carlson, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this item be approved and referred on to Financial and Administrative Committee. The motion carried by the following vote: The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chair Nixon, Member Carlson, Member Cunningham, Member Pedersen and Member Weber

Absent: 2 - Vice Chair Calabresa and Member Hart

7.3 13-0824

Joint resolution authorizing the renewal of the State's Attorney's Violent Crime Victims Assistance (VCVA) grant program awarded by the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, including grant funding of \$25,600, and an increase in revenue in the amount of \$3,370.

- This is a request to renew the Violent Crime Victims Assistance Act (VCVA) grant administered through the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, with a grant period from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.
- Funding for this grant began in 1990 and has been renewed each year.
- Grant program goals include: to promote fairness, accountability and coordination of services for victims and their families; to distribute and educate the community, law enforcement and prosecution on the Domestic Violence response manual; and to reduce the number of domestic violence cases that result in a "nolle" disposition (prosecution dismisses case with option to re-open) because prosecution is unable to locate the victim.
- The grant will fund \$25,600 to offset the salary of a Domestic Violence Victim Witness Counselor (DV Counselor). Funding has increased from the previous year by \$3,370.

- The counselor position and grant is already included in the State's Attorney's approved Fiscal Year 2013 budget.

Terry White, State's Attorney's Office, recapped the grant explaining that it has been received by Lake County since the 1990's and is designed to help offset the salary expenses for the Victim Witness Counselor in the Domestic Violence Division.

A motion was made by Member Weber, seconded by Member Cunningham, that this item be approved and referred on to Financial and Administrative Committee.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chair Nixon, Member Carlson, Member Cunningham, Member Pedersen and Member Weber

Absent: 2 - Vice Chair Calabresa and Member Hart

CIRCUIT COURT CLERK

7.4 13-0804

Report from Keith Brin, Clerk of the Circuit Court, for the month of June 2013.

A motion was made by Member Weber, seconded by Member Carlson, that this item be received and placed on the consent agenda. The motion carried by the following vote: The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chair Nixon, Member Carlson, Member Cunningham, Member Pedersen and Member Weber

Absent: 2 - Vice Chair Calabresa and Member Hart

7.5 13-0811

Joint resolution establishing a subscription fee for license and use of the Enhanced Access to Court Records service.

- The Executive Justice Council (EJC) recently approved a project that will allow the public to access basic court records, E-filing for civil cases and enhanced access to court records.
- Enhanced access to court records will create a second records access tool for high volume users of the court records. This tool will require the user to annually register to receive a user name and password. The Circuit Clerk's Office will be administering the enhanced access functions.
- It is appropriate for this service to be supported by a subscription fee that is paid annually by the user. Following a review of the staff support and maintenance for this service and a review of what other area counties are charging, the EJC and the Circuit Clerk's Office recommend establishing a yearly subscription fee of \$240 per user for license and use of this service.
- The Circuit Clerk's Office will begin rolling out enhanced access in late September, 2013.

Circuit Clerk Keith Brin explained that Enhanced Access is the second step of a three part technological upgrade which also includes public internet access to court records and full electronic filing. Enhanced Access differs from full public access in that Enhanced Access is geared towards power users defined as commercial vendors and attorneys whom typically visit the Court to gather extensive information; whereas public access provides more basic case information. User fees for Enhanced Access will result in revenue after the second year. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Cunningham, that

**this item be approved and referred on to Financial and Administrative Committee.
The motion carried by the following vote:**

Aye: 5 - Chair Nixon, Member Carlson, Member Cunningham, Member Pedersen and Member Weber

Absent: 2 - Vice Chair Calabresa and Member Hart

PUBLIC DEFENDER

7.6 13-0810

Report from Joy Gossman, Public Defender, for the month of June 2013.

A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Weber, that this item be received and placed on the consent agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chair Nixon, Member Carlson, Member Cunningham, Member Pedersen and Member Weber

Absent: 2 - Vice Chair Calabresa and Member Hart

8. Executive Session

There was not an executive session.

9. County Administrator's Report

Amy McEwan, Deputy Administrator, reminded the members of the 911 Center tour scheduled for Friday, August 9, 2013 immediately following the Committee of the Whole meeting. Ms. McEwan also informed the group that Lake County will go before the Waukegan Development Advisory Board on August 8, 2013 to present a site plan and variance requests. Talking points and informational sheets are being created to help guide Board Members in directing and responding to questions regarding current projects. Gary Gordon shared that a high level preview of a new buy-local program, the Economic Opportunity Program, will be discussed in detail at the Committee of the Whole meeting. This program will provide information and enhanced outreach to local businesses, minority and women owned businesses on how to bid on Lake County projects.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

A motion was made by Member Weber, seconded by Member Cunningham, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 5 - Chair Nixon, Member Carlson, Member Cunningham, Member Pedersen and Member Weber

Absent: 2 - Vice Chair Calabresa and Member Hart

Minutes prepared by Kelly Merz.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Law and Judicial Committee