

Lake County Illinois

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

9:00 AM

Assembly Room, 10th Floor

Law and Judicial Committee

1. Call to Order

Chairman Nixon called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Present 8 - Chair Nixon, Vice Chair Cunningham, Member Bartels, Member Calabresa, Member Frank, Member Hart, Member Mathias and Member Weber

Absent 1 - Member Paxton

Donna Jo Maki, Executive Justice Council

Linda Pedersen, County Board Member

RuthAnne Hall, Finance and Administrative Services

Jeannine Thompson, Emergency Telephone System Board

Gary Gordon, Finance and Administrative Services

Farrah Watson, Finance and Administrative Services

Michael Wheeler, Finance and Administrative Services

Amy McEwan, Deputy County Administrator

Cameron Davis, Assistant County Administrator

Barry Burton, County Administrator

Ryan Horne, Finance and Administrative Services

Heidie Hernandez, County Board Office

Mary Stevens, Court Administration

Ben Gilbertson, County Administrator's Office

Steve Carlson, County Board Member

Raymond Rose, Sheriff's Office

Patrice Evans, Circuit Clerk's Office

David Wathen, Sheriff's Office

James Chamernik, Sheriff's Office

Chairman Nixon identified there is a physical quorum present and Member Bartels will be participating electronically due to a health illness.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Nixon led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Minutes**4. Addenda to the Agenda**

There were no items added to the agenda.

5. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

6. Chairman's Remarks

There were no Chairman's remarks.

7. Old Business

There was no old business to conduct.

8. New Business

CIRCUIT COURT CLERK

8.1 [17-0093](#)

Report from Erin Cartwright Weinstein, Clerk of the Circuit Court, for the month of December 2016.

A motion was made by Member Weber, seconded by Member Mathias, that the communications or reports, items 8.1 and 8.2 be received and placed on the consent agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Aye: 8 - Chair Nixon, Vice Chair Cunningham, Member Bartels, Member Calabresa, Member Frank, Member Hart, Member Mathias and Member Weber

Absent: 1 - Member Paxton

PUBLIC DEFENDER**8.2 [17-0114](#)**

Report from Joy Gossman, Public Defender, for the month of December 2016.

A motion was made by Member Weber, seconded by Member Mathias, that the communications or reports, items 8.1 and 8.2 be received and placed on the consent agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Aye: 8 - Chair Nixon, Vice Chair Cunningham, Member Bartels, Member Calabresa, Member Frank, Member Hart, Member Mathias and Member Weber

Absent: 1 - Member Paxton

SHERIFF**.8.3 [17-0119](#)**

Presentation on the Jail Daily Population Reports.

Under Sheriff Raymond Rose and Chief David Wathen reported on the Jail's Daily Population Report. Undersheriff Rose noted that the jail is mandated to provide a report to the Illinois Department of Corrections and explained why inmates are placed in specific categories within the report.

Chief Wathen provided further detail regarding what each category in the Jail's Daily Population Report means, and how the totals in each field are calculated. Deputy County Administrator Amy McEwan noted that the Sheriff's Office is frequently asked if the jail rents out beds to other governmental entities. She clarified that the jail does not rent out beds and if there is an increase in the amount of inmates with the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) status, it is because there is a delay in the process for moving inmates to the IDOC.

Chief Wathen provided detail on Early Disposition Court, which is used for inmates who are low offenders, have low bonds and/or have short sentences. The inmate would go before a judge, and the judge would determine if that individual was eligible for release. He added that the Sheriff's Office was in charge of keeping track of individuals eligible for Early Disposition Court but that recently, the Early Disposition Court was place on hold which he believes impacts jail population.

Member Hart asked if there is a potential for more people to utilize the electronic

monitoring program to reduce the jail's population and what is the average amount of time for a case to go through the courts.

Ms. McEwan noted that total number of annual jail admissions are down over 3000 persons from the peak year. Member Hart further inquired why the jail populations is so high if the number of admissions are down. Additionally, she would like the cost of opening an additional pod to hold inmates in the jail compared to the cost of holding Early Disposition Court and to request similar reports from collar counties to better identify Lake County's situation. Ms. McEwan explained that there is a graduated expense in holding people in the jail and she provided examples. The goal of the system should be safety, while maximizing the use of available tools so that the County is not paying more than is necessary to hold or monitor an individual. She added that there are annual reports published that can provide basic information from collar counties and indicated that staff can look at their practices.

Undersheriff Rose suggested that the County focus more on what is impacting the community such as, how to get people out of jail and services provided to former inmates, including assistance in finding employment, transportation, and mental health treatment.

Chairman Nixon thanked the Sheriff's Office for providing and clarifying this information.

This matter was presented

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM BOARD

8.4 [16-1232](#)

Joint resolution authorizing an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between the Village of Vernon Hills and the County of Lake for utilization of the Lake County Shared NICE Inform/Organizer System.

Jeannine Thompson of the Emergency Telephone System Board (ETSB) reported that this Intergovernment Agreement (IGA) has been crafted by Matt Fronk of the State's Attorney's Office. This agreement is for the NICE inform/organizer system. The system will aid in the storage and sharing of police data including voice, video, and radio recordings, as well as data from the police agencies' computer aided dispatch. Information on how many villages are joining this program was provided. ETSB has purchased this program and villages participating in the program will share a cost. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Member Calabresa, seconded by Member Cunningham, that this resolution be approved and referred on to the Financial and Administrative Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.

Aye: 8 - Chair Nixon, Vice Chair Cunningham, Member Bartels, Member Calabresa, Member Frank, Member Hart, Member Mathias and Member Weber

Absent: 1 - Member Paxton

9. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

10. County Administrator's Report

Donna Jo Maki, of the Executive Justice Council, provided an update on tasks that were requested by the Law and Judicial Committee Members. The first request was for an update on the Jail's Daily Population Report, which was presented earlier in this meeting. There was also a request for the Behavioral Health Treatment Court Collaborative annual report that Chief Judge Jorge Ortiz offered to share. Ms. Maki noted that this report was emailed to committee members and provided a brief summary. Additionally, a presentation on Problem-Solving Courts, that include drug, mental health, and veterans, and Early Disposition Court was requested. Ms. Maki further reported that the Court Administration advised her that they will provide a presentation in the Spring. County Administration staff will follow up with Court Administration. Ms. Maki also provided a Judicial Facility tour schedule for members interested in participating.

Deputy County Administrator Amy McEwan noted that updates on these requests will be provided under the County Administrator's Report.

11. Members' Remarks

Member Weber noted that there are a few constituents that have expressed their concerns about in-car and portable radios for police officers. Deputy County Administrator Amy McEwan responded that officers only carry portable radios now because when we implemented the new radio system it was tested based on five quality criteria and the portable radios now have excellent signal and service quality.

12. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

A motion was made by Member Cunningham, seconded by Member Mathias, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 8 - Chair Nixon, Vice Chair Cunningham, Member Bartels, Member Calabresa, Member Frank, Member Hart, Member Mathias and Member Weber

Absent: 1 - Member Paxton

Meeting minutes prepared by Heidie Hernandez.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Law and Judicial Committee