

LAW AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE
McHenry County Administration Building
667 Ware Road
Woodstock, IL 60098

MINUTES OF MONDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2006

Chairman Brewer called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Don Brewer, Chairman; Jim Heisler; Don Larson; and Dan Shea. Tina Hill and Sue Draffkorn arrived at 8:31a.m. Nick Provenzano arrived at 8:34a.m. Also in attendance: Peter Austin, County Administrator; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Captain Glenn Olson, Rich Weinhandl, Sheriff's Department; Ken Koehler, County Board Chairman; Chief Tom Svoboda, Corrections; Tiki Carlson, E-911; Barry Valentine, Emergency Services and Disaster Agency; Phil Bartmann, Ingrid Ruttendjie, Fox Waterway Agency; and the press.

Donald Brewer, Chairman	
Sue Draffkorn	Jim Heisler
Tina Hill	Don Larson
Nick Provenzano	Dan Shea

MINUTES

Committee members reviewed the Law & Justice committee minutes of January 23, 2005. Mr. Heisler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shea, to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

Ms. Hill and Ms. Draffkorn arrived at 8:31a.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

PRESENTATION

None

Mr. Provenzano arrived at 8:34a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution authorizing entering into a memorandum of understanding with law enforcement and first responders as part of the Prairie Shield Alliance MOU: Committee members entered into discussion with Mr. Weinhandl regarding a Resolution authorizing entering into a memorandum of understanding with law enforcement and first responders from the counties of McHenry, Boone, DeKalb, Ogle, Stephenson and Winnebago as part of the Prairie Shield Regional Alliance. Law enforcement and first responders must be prepared to react to possible terror incidents as well as natural disasters. Critical to this mission is the technology used by law enforcement and first responders and related agencies to communicate, share information and function together. Money has been collected from the agencies involved so far to form this alliance. Not all of the agencies in these counties have joined, but it is hopeful in the future that these entities will join in the future. With the funds collected to date, they have hired a consultant to do an assessment of roaming intelligence. He noted this is a collective agreement to work together. Committee members questioned whether additional municipalities/groups would be joining the Alliance. He noted that they are in the early stages of membership and they hope to obtain additional entities to join. Congressman Manzullo has committed \$170,000 towards this effort. Mr. Shea made a motion, seconded by Mr. Heisler to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye. Committee members requested updates from Mr. Weinhandl on the Alliance.

Resolution authorizing acceptance of the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority and Authorizing Emergency Appropriations to the Sheriff's FY2006 Budget: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing acceptance of the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority and authorizing emergency appropriations to the Sheriff's FY2006 Budget. Mr. Weinhandl stated that a block grant has been obtained to enhance the Juvenile Information Gathering and Sharing Program. Chairman Brewer questioned the local match requirement to come from the Utilization of Fund Balance. He noted that it was too soon to request funds to pay for the local match and this should come from the Sheriff's budget. Mr. Weinhandl noted that this was not budgeted for as the department does not know whether a grant would be received or not and he does not think there are funds available in their budget to pay for the match requirement. Mr. Provenzano made a motion, seconded by Mr. Larson to recommend approval of the above Resolution. Chairman Brewer stated that he did not see the Resolution being approved in the Finance Committee as it stands and the local match requirement should come from the Sheriff's Budget. Mr. Weinhandl stated he would speak to the Sheriff regarding this issue. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Draffkorn, Heisler, Hill, Larson, Provenzano, Shea, Brewer)

Resolution authorizing approval of the 2006 Fox Waterway Agreement: Mr. Shea made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hill to recommend the approval of the above Resolution authorizing approval of the 2006 Fox Waterway Agreement. Mr. Shea stated that he had heard that Lake County has requested an increase in their fees and questioned whether McHenry County would be increasing their fees as well. Mr. Bartman stated that the fees were not raised but an agreement was made where when an ordinance violation is written on the river, that the State's Attorney prosecutes, any fine received would come back to the County instead of being sent to the Fox Waterway Agency. This amendment to the agreement will be made at the

next Fox Waterway Agency meeting regarding the McHenry County contract as well. This should result in an increase in revenue for the County. Mr. Austin stated that this additional income may be needed to pay for a request he has received for an increase in wages for the part-time Sheriff's personnel who monitor the waterways. These are part-time personnel who are not part of a union contract. Lake County personnel receive approximately \$13 hour where McHenry County personnel receive approximately \$10 hr. He noted the need to bring these individuals more in line with the going rate, especially since they train and work together. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Draffkorn, Heisler, Hill, Larson, Provenzano, Shea, Brewer)

Resolution authorizing acceptance of State of Illinois Emergency Management Assistance (EMA) Grant Agreement: Mr. Valentine stated this is the annual grant that is received from the State. Mr. Shea made a motion, seconded by Mr. Heisler to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Draffkorn, Heisler, Hill, Larson, Provenzano, Shea, Brewer)

Discussion of Mental Health Court Fees: Chairman Brewer reminded committee members that the monthly Mental Health Court Task Force meetings are being held monthly the 1st Wednesday at 4:00p.m. for those interested in attending. Committee members were informed that Ms. Salgado is the Chairman of that committee. Mr. Austin provided an update to committee members on the Mental Health Task Force. He stated that the group has worked together to form the structure for a Mental Health Court. He stated that the group has done a good job of putting together the initiative of what the Mental Health Court would look like. They have applied for a grant from the Mental Ill Offender and Reduction Act. He stated that they really don't expect to get this grant but other grants will be applied for. He noted that the State has provided an opportunity where counties can collect a fee from court supervision cases to be used for the Mental Health Court. He stated that how these fees are implemented will determine the amount that will be received. He questioned committee members as to when they should start imposing these fees. It was noted that a portion of these fees would be needed by the Circuit Clerks office because of the increase of duties within their office, but, hopefully the collection of these fees would save some taxpayer monies. If the fee collection could be started soon, these funds would be used as "seed" money to form the Mental Health Court. If the Mental Court is not formed, these funds would have to be returned. Mr. Austin stated he just wanted to give an update to committee members regarding this issue.

OLD BUSINESS

None

FUTURE MEETING ISSUES

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Ms. Hill noted concern that in the minutes that were approved today, an issue was brought up in "Future Meeting Issues" that concern regarding land acquisition. She stated that this issue had been discussed during executive session at another committee meeting. She reminded committee members that they have to be careful of what is said outside of executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Provenzano made a motion, seconded by Mr. Heisler, to adjourn the meeting at 9:21a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:

- Approve a Resolution authorizing entering into a memorandum of understanding with law enforcement and first responders as part of the Prairie Shield Regional Alliance MOU
- Approve Resolution authorizing acceptance of FY06 Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant
- Approve Resolution authorizing approval of the 2006 Fox Waterway Agreement
- Approve Resolution authorizing acceptance of State of Illinois Emergency Management Assistance (EMA) Program Grant Agreement