

LAW AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE
McHenry County Government Center – Administration Building
667 Ware Road
Woodstock IL 60098

MINUTES OF MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2010

Chairman Barnes called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Chairman, Yvonne Barnes; James Kennedy; Randy Donley; Sue Draffkorn and Kathleen Bergan Schmidt. Jim Heisler arrived at 8:35a.m. Bob Bless was absent. Also in attendance: Peter Austin, County Administrator; Ralph Sarbaugh, Associate County Administrator-Finance; Angela Wood-Zuzevich, Sheriff's Department; Chief Dan Sedlock, Corrections; Tom Carroll and Don Leist, States Attorney; Dan Wallis, Court Administration; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; and the press

Yvonne Barnes, Chairman	
Robert "Bob" Bless	Randy Donley
Sue Draffkorn	Jim Heisler
James Kennedy	Kathleen Bergan Schmidt

MINUTES

Committee members reviewed committee minutes from March 1, 2010. Ms. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to recommend approval of the above minutes as presented. The minutes were approved on a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Mr. Heisler arrived at 8:35a.m.

PRESENTATION

Mental Health Court Outcomes and Update on the Drug Court Initiative: Mr. Scott Block joined committee members to provide an update to the Mental Health Court program. This week is the two year anniversary for this program. Mr. Block presented goals of the program and what the program has achieved. There are currently 22 people in the program. There have been 48 people in the program to date. 16 individuals have graduated, seven have been discharged and three have opted out. There has been a 62% graduation rate. There have been 252 referrals into the program. State Statute declares who can be accepted into the Mental Health Court Program. Of the 16 graduates, there has been none that have recommitted an offense.

Drug Court Initiative: Mr. Dan Wallis joined committee members to provide an update to the Drug Court Initiative. He informed committee members that he recently attended a Drug Court Initiative in Nashville Tennessee. He stated this was the best single training event he has ever attended and he was very impressed with the program. With the information provided the county is almost complete with its setting up of the program. The one thing they saw during the meetings was that the sooner an offender is taken from the arrest and put into the program, the more likely a success can occur. The County has figured out a way to enter an offender into the program within 7 days. This is unheard of and he informed committee members that he doesn't know of anyone who has been able to implement this process in this timely manner. He stated if the person is a hardened criminal, then he needs to go to jail. This program is for those who are behaving in a criminal manner because of drug use. This program will not be 100% successful, but, will help with those that want to change these behaviors that are occurring because of the drug use. Mr. Wallis stated he is happy with the progress made for the program so far. This includes some long intensive training. A presentation will be provided to the County Board members during their April 20th meeting. The next Drug Court Task Force meeting has been scheduled for April 14th.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Protection District Appointments: Committee members reviewed the applications for reappointment to the Crystal Lake, Fox River Grove, Harvard and McHenry Fire Protection District appointments. Chairman Barnes informed committee members that the Fire Protection District Boards have recommended the reappointments within their districts. Advertisements for the open positions have been posted. Mr. Donley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Draffkorn to recommend the reappointments to the Crystal Lake, Fox River Grove, Harvard and McHenry Fire Protection Districts. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Donley, Draffkorn, Heisler, Kennedy, Schmidt, Barnes)

Resolution authorizing the collection of additional fees to finance a drug court program: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing the collection of additional fees to finance a drug court program. Committee members were informed that this is similar to the fees collected for the Mental Health Court. This would result in approximately \$120,000 per year being collected to finance this program. This will raise these fees to \$15.00 per criminal case, \$10 of which is used for the Mental Health Court. These costs are incurred if a cost goes to court. Mr. Sarbaugh stated that the Resolution will need to be amended to include an effective start date, which was suggested to be May 1st. It was stated that this program has been mandated by the Courts so costs are implemented per State Statute. This resolution will allow the county to build the fund up prior to implementing the program. The goal is to start the program December 1, 2011. It is hopeful that by that time there will be approximately \$180,000 in the budget for this program. The training for this program has come from the Mental Health Court fees. Mr. Heisler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Donley to recommend approval of the above Resolution, as amended. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Donley, Draffkorn, Heisler, Kennedy, Schmidt, Barnes)

Resolution authorizing entering into a contract with EO Integrated Systems, Inc. for control board upgrades in the County Jail: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing entering into a contract with EO Integrated Systems, Inc. for contract board upgrades in the County Jail. In the fall of 2009, the Sheriff's staff brought their concerns of a failing control board that controls the cell locks on the second floor of the jail to the Finance and Audit Committee for discussion. At that time it was recommended that \$180,000 of the 2009 contingency funds to be set aside to replace this failing equipment. Mr. Kennedy made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schmidt to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Donley, Draffkorn, Heisler, Kennedy, Schmidt, Barnes) Committee members questioned why there was only one response to the bid. It was stated that sometimes a vendor will not meet the specific needs of a bid and therefore will only have one responsible bid. If only one response to a bid is received, and it meets the specifications in the bid, we have to accept the bid. If it is a proposal, even if only one proposal is received, the County does not have to accept it.

OLD BUSINESS
None

REPORTS/UPDATES TO COMMITTEE

Integrated Justice Update: Committee members were provided an update on the Integrated Justice project. The various departments will be reviewing their needs over the summer and will then decide whether they should purchase a product from off the shelf or have a custom product designed to fit the needs of the department.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Kennedy made a motion, seconded by Mr. Heisler to enter into executive session at 9:11a.m. to discuss litigation. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Donley, Draffkorn, Heisler, Kennedy, Schmidt, Barnes)

Ms. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Donley to return to regular session at 9:41a.m. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Donley, Draffkorn, Heisler, Kennedy, Schmidt, Barnes)

It was noted that no action was taken by the committee during executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Ms. Draffkron made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schmidt to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:

Reappointment to the Fire Protection Districts of Crystal Lake, Fox River Grove, Harvard, McHenry
Resolution authorizing the collection of additional fees to finance a drug court program
Resolution authorizing entering into a contract with EO Integrated Systems, Inc. for control board upgrades in the County Jail