

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

MINUTES OF MONDAY, JULY 6, 2010

Chairman Barnes called the meeting to order at 8:18 a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Chairman, Yvonne Barnes; James Kennedy; Sue Draffkorn; and Kathleen Bergan Schmidt. Randy Donley, Bob Bless and Jim Heisler were absent. Also in attendance: Peter Austin, County Administrator; Kathy Keefe, Circuit Clerk; Dan Wallis, Court Administration; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Phil Ulmer, Court Services; Bob Ivetic, Human Resources; interested public 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 June 7, 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

PRESENTATION

None

NEW BUSINESS

*Discussion – Court Services: Phil Ulmer, request for credit card:* Mr. Ulmer joined committee members to request permission to use credit card account to accept payments for required drug tests. This service could be extended to other areas as well. A State's Attorney's opinion was received that stated they could set up this type of service. A public hearing on the proposed ordinance must be held to determine if it is in the best interest of its citizens and governmental entity to determine these rules. This process was already completed by the Treasurer's office. This may fulfill the requirements of the Act. Fees that are charged by the credit card company can be tacked onto the fees for the service. Committee members stated that credit card service should be available for each of the County Departments. The consensus of the committee members was to allow this service. Committee members requested Mr. Ulmer bring back information to the committee and let them know if the public hearing would be required.

*Discussion – Bond Increase: Kathy Keefe:* Ms. Keefe joined committee members to inform them that there will be increases on bail amounts. Currently this fee is \$75. This will be increased to \$120, effective September 15<sup>th</sup>. Other fees could be increased as well. A State Police operation fee has been added to tickets as well. There are other fee increases currently on the Governor's desk waiting for his signature. Ms. Keefe stated she is doing research to find out the total court fee increases. She will provide an update on these increases during the August meeting.

*Resolution authorizing a contract agreement between the Service Employees International Union, Local 73 County Coroner and the County of McHenry:* Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing a contract agreement between the Service Employees International Union, Local 73 County Coroner and the County of McHenry. Committee members were reminded that this is the reason for the special meeting. The initial contract negotiations have been going on for almost two (2) years. There has been three (3) mediation sessions with the Federal Mediator. The County extended their last, best and final offer and asked that the SEIU negotiators bring the contract proposal to members for a vote. The SEIU stated they would not take the contract to their membership. This leaves a stalemate and two options at this time. We can do nothing and keep maintaining the "status quo" indefinitely or "impose" the contract. This means that the County would unilaterally implement the contract. The contract is fair and equitable. They would maintain the status quo on all benefit time, group health insurance, hours of work, etc. Wage adjustments would be the same as all other county employees, 3% on December 1, 2008, 2% on December 1, 2009 and a percentage increase the same as granted by the County Board for 12/1/10. Wage adjustments will be retroactive. Mr. Ivetic stated this is the first time the County has had to impose a contract. The SEIU could request the County renegotiate the contract. He stated that he does not know what their issue is and why it has taken so long to get this contract approved. The employees could "strike" if they don't accept this contract. He stated he would have liked to see both groups agree to the terms. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Kennedy made a motion, seconded by Ms. Draffkorn, to recommend approval of the Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Draffkorn, Kennedy, Schmidt, Barnes)

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OLD BUSINESS

None

REPORTS/UPDATES TO COMMITTEE

Mr. Austin informed committee members that a meeting has been set up between officials from Lake County, the McHenry County Sheriff's Department and the Fox Waterway Agency regarding the need to create a fee, through the general assembly, to set a fee for use of the fox waterway. At least 50% of the boaters using the Fox River are from out of the County. They would like to create a mechanism to collect fees from the non-county residents. It is costly for the local agencies to handle the public safety issues on the Fox River. They will explore the options with the fees being collected through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Ms. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Draffkorn to adjourn the meeting at 8:51a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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**RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:**

Resolution authorizing a contract agreement between the service employees international union, local 73 County Coroner and the County of McHenry