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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Law & Justice Committee Minutes
April 23, 2018**

The Law and Justice Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Monday, April 23, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East in Sycamore, Illinois. Chairman Leifheit called the meeting to order. Those present were Ms. Askins, Mr. Luebke, Mr. Pietrowski, Mr. Plote, Mr. Whelan, and Chairman Leifheit. Mr. Jones was absent. A quorum was established with six Members present and one absent.

Others that were present included Dennis Miller, Rick Amato, Margi Gilmour, Sheriff Roger Scott, and Lt. Jim Burgh.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Luebke, seconded by Mr. Plote and it was carried unanimously by voice vote to approve the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Whelan moved to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2018 Committee Meeting. Ms. Askins seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

PUBLIC DEFENDER'S REPORT

The Committee briefly reviewed the monthly Public Defender's Report that was placed on file for the month of March 2018.

COURT SERVICES REPORT

Ms. Gilmour reported that her Juvenile Detention Report was not too bad. There were five youth detained in the month of March but as of today there are only three. She was also pleased to report that there are currently no youth in placement or that are even being considered.

The monthly Adult Report is pretty average and Ms. Gilmour shared that they are all keeping their heads above water.

She reminded the Committee that next month Mr. Venditti will be present to provide them with an annual Pretrial Report which will also include updates on how the weekend and holiday bond calls are working out.

Lastly, Ms. Gilmour provided a couple updates to the Committee regarding her office. She shared that her office is currently still in union negotiations and they are moving into mediation. She also briefly noted that she has one personnel issue that may possibly be headed to arbitration. Also, with great sadness, she informed the Committee that she has an employee who has been with her office for 30+ years who is very ill and is not expected to make it through the week. The Committee expressed their sadness and thoughts to Ms. Gilmour and her entire staff.

APPROVAL OF OPIOID LITIGATION RESOLUTION

DeKalb County State's Attorney Rick Amato recapped the events and thought processes that led to the draft resolution that was in front of the Committee. Mr. Amato explained that after hearing from Attorney Melissa K. Sims with Sanders, Phillips, Grossman, LLC out of New York at their February Committee Meeting, Committee Chair Leifheit, Sheriff Scott, Chairman Pietrowski and himself met with representatives from Meyers & Flowers, LLC who are litigating against opioid manufactures, distributors and others. The group felt that Meyers & Flowers, LLC would be a better fit for DeKalb County and that joining this litigation with put us alongside Kane, DuPage, McHenry, Cook, Will, Rock Island, Champaign, Bureau, Kankakee and Macon Counties in the hopes of assisting in this State's fight against the Opioid Epidemic.

Mr. Amato noted that this litigation may not gain us many dollars in the end but it could help gain funding for available for different educational programs and early intervention programs.

Chairman Leifheit shared that DeKalb County may never see a dime out of this litigation but she really felt that the Federal Government really feel down on the job with this and if nothing else, the States going after the opioid manufactures and distributors gets the public involved. Again, if nothing else, this is making a statement that the Opioid Epidemic is important and is effecting DeKalb County and that we want this watched and looked at, the Chair stated.

The Law & Justice Committee formally expressed their support for Rick Amato, the DeKalb County State's Attorney, to join in litigation prosecuted by Meyers & Flowers, LLC against opioid manufactures, distributors and others alongside Kane, DuPage, McHenry, Cook, Will, Rock Island, Champaign, Bureau, Kankakee and Macon Counties in the hopes of assisting in this State's fight against the Opioid Epidemic.

It was moved by Mr. Pietrowski, seconded by Ms. Askins and it was approved unanimously to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending its approval.

ESDA ANNUAL REPORT – ([Full Report](#))

Mr. Dennis Miller, Coordinator for the DeKalb County Emergency Services & Disaster Agency (ESDA) and County Coroner, joined the Committee to present both his ESDA and Coroner's Annual Reports. He shared that in 2017, the DeKalb County Emergency Operations Plan was reviewed and updated. It was then submitted to The Illinois Emergency Management Agency for approval This plan with its annexes defines how DeKalb County analysis, prepares for, and responds to an emergency event, whether natural or man-made. The ongoing madates that are required by the National Incident Management System, (NIMS) will continue to be addressed and implemented, Mr. Miller shared.

He also shared the Local Emergency Planning Committee (L.E.P.C.) continues to meet quarterly. The purpose of the committee is to register and record all the facilities within the county that manufacture, use or store hazardous materials. As in previous years, much of the severe storm spotting responsibly was aided by a dedicated group of volunteers (Sherriff's Auxiliary, and the Amateur Radio Operators) in the DeKalb County area. In all severe weather watches, the communication assets of the ham radio operators enable the ESDA Coordinator and the central warning point dispatches to keep current of the weather conditions in our area. This capability was demonstrated this year in many of the 40 severe weather watches and warnings, which

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affected this county. With the aid of support staff, the office was able to arrange and conduct two different weather spotter training programs throughout the County. Over 100 people were trained in storm spotting.

Mr. Miller last noted that the agency was notified and responded to 16 separate incidents this past year. Most were fuel leaks, while the other involved train verse car mishaps, power outages, high winds, and the closing of the Kishwaukee River.

I was reiterated that Mr. Miller was the only paid ESDA staff member. Every other person is volunteer.

CORONER'S ANNUAL REPORT – [\(Full Report\)](#)

Mr. Miller additionally provided his 2017 Annual Coroner's Report to the Committee. He shared that last year he had 618 total death investigations. In addition, there were 490 cremation permits issued, which continues to grow each year and 44 autopsies were performed. Mr. Miller reviewed the breakdown of the different types of deaths that occurred throughout the County in 2017. He also added that the County saw 19 overdoses in 2017 and there were 25 the previous year. He accredited the drop to all of the first responders carrying Narcan which have saved a lot of individuals from overdosing. He believes that if the responders were not carrying and administering Narcan that number would be much higher.

Mr. Miller shared that he was on the State Committee when they originally increase the cremation permits to \$50 a permit and he would really like to see that increased again to \$100 a permit. He noted that he sees more and more cremations over full burials now. Any type of increase would have to be done through legislation and would be done state-wide. Mr. Miller was also asked and he noted that he stands very firm that for liability purposes he would never cremate an unclaimed body. All unclaimed bodies are buried at the DeKalb County Cemetery.

Mr. Pietrowski spoke briefly with Mr. Miller on future space needed for the Coroner's Office. Mr. Miller shared that there are no ways to expand the footprint of where he is currently located in the Public Safety Building but he makes due with the space he has. Mr. Pietrowski shared that he would still like to get a sense sometime of what the future needs may look like in order to have a future plan in existence. The Committee thanked Mr. Miller and praised him for the amount of work he puts in to both his positions that usually goes unnoticed.

UPDATE ON POSSIBLE SHERIFF'S FIREARM TRAINING RANGE

The Committee welcomed Sheriff Roger Scott and Lt. Jim Burgh to the table. The gentlemen were present to provide an update on an FY 2018 budget item that was approved for the Sheriff to construct an outdoor shooting range on County-owned property at the NE corner of Somonauk and Gurler Roads, adjacent to the Landfill. This outdoor training area is needed to be in compliance with new State of Illinois requirements for various types of firearm training. The project is in the very early stages and at the appropriate time will involve a Public Hearing and County Board approval. The Sheriff noted that they are not seeking any action from this item, it is merely just an update and to be available to address at questions or concerns on the proposed project.

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The location of the proposed firearm training range seemed to be ideal because no one else wanted to build on the land along the Landfill. The range would take up about four out of the fifteen acres of the County-owned property. The Sheriff added that law enforcement is under great scrutiny all of the time and they are held to a tremendously high standard but in order to be able to meet those standards, the key element behind law enforcement is training. If they don't have training then obviously things fall apart. This range will have very limited usage and will be utilized primarily by the County's Special Operations Team as well as some specialized training for the Sheriff's Street Officers that they cannot currently do in their range in the basement of the Public Safety Building.

Lt. Burgh is heading the project along with County Engineer Nathan Schwartz. Lt. Burgh. Lt. Burgh shared that he has been speaking with the surrounding neighbors of the property. Many of the individuals who he has a list of to speak with own land there but they do not live there or within the County. He noted that IDOT has begun their project on Interstate 88 and they are donating all of the dirt they are removing from the area as well as donating all of the hauling fees. Lt. Burgh shared that Mr. Schwartz and he have gone and spoke with all of the surrounding neighbors and believe they have already remedied any concerns and some redesigning has already taken place in order to address anything that had been brought up by the individuals.

This range is being asked to be used twelve times a year (realistically 4-6 because of overtime and cost of ammunition) and absolutely no other individuals other than the Sheriff's staff would be authorized at any times to use the range. In the instance that another law enforcement agency would request to use the range, a Sheriff's Deputy would be present and it would be included in the twelve times a year usage. The Sheriff's trainings are planned well in advance, at least 30 days, so if a neighboring individual requested to be notified when the range would be used, they would be happy to do so.

Lt. Burgh ensured that the berm (20ft high, 95ft at the base) and range will be constructed way beyond what Federal recommendations call for. He again reiterated that the Special Use for this project will all go through the Community Development Department and the County Board. The Committee thanked Sheriff Scott and Lt. Burgh for providing them with information on this potential upcoming project.

It was reminded that the next Law & Justice Committee will be Tuesday, May 29th due to the County being closed for Memorial Day on Monday, May 28th.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Plote, seconded by Ms. Askins, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,


Chairman Dianne Leifheit


Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary

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DEKALB COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE JAIL POPULATION REPORT

MARCH 2018

AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION

134

Average Number Housed Out

63

<u>SEX</u>		<u>TYPE OF CRIME</u>		<u>COURT STATUS</u>		<u>PERIODIC IMPRISONMENT</u>	
<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Felony</i>	<i>Misdemeanor</i>	<i>Sentenced</i>	<i>Pre-Sentenced</i>	<i>Week-ends</i>	<i>Work Release</i>
313	84	229	168	60	337	0	7

MONTHLY TRANSPORTS

	Number of Transports	Total Man Hours
<i>General</i>	23	70
<i>Medical – Mental</i>	21 / 1	62 / 12
<i>Jail Overcrowding</i>	71	121
<i>Juvenile</i>	9	23
<i>Totals</i>	125	288

DOC

	Male	Female
<i>Sentenced</i>	5	2
<i>Parole</i>	0	0
<i>Totals</i>	5	2

MONTHLY INMATE POPULATION STATISTICS

	NON-SENTENCED		REGULAR SENTENCED		WEEK-ENDERS		WORK RELEASE		EHM (ADULTS)	
	Number of Bookings	Total Days Held	Number of Bookings	Total Days Held	Number of Bookings	Total Days Held	Number of Bookings	Total Days Held	Average For Month	Total Days Held
<i>Male</i>	164	3446	24	86	0	0	6	87	-	-
<i>Female</i>	59	451	9	87	0	0	1	3	-	-
<i>Totals</i>	223	3897	33	173	0	0	7	90	80	2572

Average Daily Population: The average number of inmates in the jail for the month. Counts each day a person was in the Jail and includes all people booked into the jail.

Monthly Transports: “Jail Overcrowding” represents transports related to jail overcrowding which would include the transport to and from the other facility, transports for court if they are a pre-sentenced inmate, and any other transport which may be necessary.

DOC: 1) Sentenced: Represents the number of inmates transported to the Department of Corrections because they were sentenced to prison for a period of time.

2) Parole: Represents the number of inmates transported to the Department of Corrections because they were arrested on a new charge, on parole and returned to DOC to face their parole violation.

EHM: The numbers reflect only adults on Electronic Home Monitoring for the month. Juveniles would not be housed in the County Jail.