

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Law and Justice Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.

DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Special Law & Justice Committee Minutes
November 5, 2014**

The Law and Justice Committee of the DeKalb County Board met for a Special Meeting on Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East.

Chairman Frieders called the meeting to order. Those present were Mr. Cvek, Ms. Leifheit, Mr. Oncken, Ms. Polanco, Mrs. Tobias and Mrs. Turner. All seven members were present.

Others present were Gary Hanson, Paul Miller, Sheriff Scott, Lt. Klein, Dan Cribben, Karen Cribben, Steve Reid, Maureen Josh, Greg Millburg, Tracy Jones, Tom McCulloch, Margi Gilmour, and Pete Stefan.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Oncken, seconded by Mr. Cvek and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from October 20, 2014.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mrs. Tobias, seconded by Mrs. Turner and it was carried unanimously by voice vote to approve the agenda.

BUDGET APPEALS APPLICABLE TO THE LAW & JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Mr. Hanson reminded that the Committee last left off with not knowing if Ms. Gilmour's applications for additional funding from the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts (AOIC) had been accepted or not. Mr. Hanson shared that unfortunately there was still no answer from the AOIC. Ms. Gilmour had been pressing as much as she could to get an answer but the State would not release any information and all they would tell Ms. Gilmour is that "it was favorable" but did not know exactly what that meant. Ms. Gilmour shared she was hopeful that she would have some information soon but did not know exactly when and she apologized to the Committee.

Mr. Hanson shared that even though the Committee did not know any more than they did previously, they would still have to forward something to the Finance Committee. Mr. Hanson continued to explain that he handed out a couple sheets to the Committee that could potentially help the process. Section A displays the pending appeals that are needed to be decided on and if any of those appeals are approved, Section B would help prioritize each of the approved appeals to forward to Finance Committee, if they so choose. Mr. Hanson noted that Section B is purely optional but the Committee will have to address the appeals in Section A.

The second page Mr. Hanson shared is a summary of Ms. Gilmour's request for additional State Funding for Court Services.

Mr. Oncken indicated that he called Ms. Gilmour that afternoon to discuss the matter and his thoughts are that they came together to meet to evaluate these appeal pending a revenue source. Without knowing that revenue source exists, his inkling is to deny the new Probation Positions with the understanding if the revenue comes through, Ms. Gilmour could always approach the County Board in any point of the year and ask for those positions with her grant. Chairman Frieders expressed that he agreed.

Mr. Cvek asked if that same idea would follow the rest of the appeals because they talked about funding those appeals through the potential savings that the AOIC grant could help generate.

Mr. Oncken said that he would like to take one thing at a time. He reiterated that his previous comments reflect how he feels about the Probation Position Appeals. The other appeals should be dealt with separately. He shared that the County has the money, it is sitting in an account that can be utilized, but the questions is do they want to spend more of that Fund Balance to do it. If the Committee thinks that any of the appeals presented are an urgent need and outweighs their fear of spending down the Fund Balance, then they should fund it.

Chairman Frieders shared that he feels it would be a very logical assumption if any of these appeals were one-time expenditures, but unfortunately they are annual and ever increasing expenses to the County.

The Committee discussed the 2015 Fiscal Year Budget momentarily as well as the amount of Fund Balance that is being utilized.

Chairman Frieders shared that he believes that their top priority would be to approve at least one Correction Officer if a funding source would come through.

Mr. Oncken shared, they could always deny the appeals at this point and if an additional funding source were to be found in a week or a month, there would be nothing that keeps any of these Departments from making a new request. Mr. Cvek added that there is also nothing that keeps a floor amendment from being made the night of the County Board Meeting during the passing of the Budget as well.

Mr. Cvek noted that the lack of information that the Committee has to work with, the only logically financial decision would be to move to deny all the proposed appeals.

Mrs. Turner suggested that they approve all of the appeals and if the Board still does not have an answer regarding the AOIC grant, then they could deny them at that point and let the whole Board vote on it.

Mr. Cvek moved to deny the appeals for a New Adult Probation Officer Position, a New Probation Supervisor Position, a New Level 2 Assistant Public Defender Position, and Two New Corrections Officers. Chairman Frieders seconded the motion. Those voting yea were Mr. Cvek, Ms. Leifheit, Mr. Oncken, Mrs. Tobias, and Chairman Frieders. Ms. Polanco and Mrs. Turner opposed. Motion carried.

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BUDGET REVIEW FOR DEPARTMENTS REPORTING TO THE LAW & JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Committee briefly discussed the DeKalb County Jail expenditures and how the Budget is going to look by the end of the year and what plans are being put into place to lower those costs in the future.

Mrs. Tobias noted that if the possibility exists that the funding does come through and the night of the County Board Meeting they could be faced with the ability to add any positions, if they would like to use Mr. Hanson's worksheet and rank which positions they feel are the most important to them.

The Committee went through the ranking of the Law & Justice Appeals. If the funding does come through for the Probation positions, they would be mandatory so they took those off the list. They also removed the Public Defender Salary Upgrades because they already approved that appeal at a previous meeting. With what was left the Law & Justice Committee decided to rank their #1 priority Sheriff's Correction Officer A, #2 Assistant Public Defender Level II Position, and #3 Sheriff's Correction Officer B.

Sheriff Scott wanted to state for the record and to the Committee that he did recommend and continues to recommend that the County Board utilize its Fund Balance in order to hire two new Corrections Officer because they are strongly needed. He also reiterated that he noted previously that he should have actually asked for four Correction Officers but he only asked for two, and they are much needed. He also noted to the Committee that what he is going to start doing is direct Lt. Klein to start housing more prisoners outside of the County because the conditions that they are deal with right now are unacceptable.

Mr. McCulloch also shared that like the Sheriff, he wanted to reiterate that they only ask for things that they really need and he further shared his reasoning for needed an additional Assistant Public Defender.

Mrs. Turner shared that she hopes the County Board doesn't eventually sitting here a year from now wishing they would have done more because at some point there is going to be something bad that happens at the Jail. She expressed that is what bothers her the most and she doesn't want to be on record saying they she would utilize the Fund Balance to help solve safety issues and it is very short-sided of them to not go ahead and think more about safety and use what they have.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Cvek, seconded by Mr. Oncken, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman John Frieders

Tasha Stogsdill, Recording Secretary

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DEKALB COUNTY GOVERNMENT
LAW & JUSTICE COMMITTEE
BUDGET APPEALS
November 5, 2014

A. Pending Appeals Where a Decision is Needed

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Appealed Items</u>
1.	_____	_____	Probation Supervisor, if Salary State Funded (\$31,000)
2.	_____	_____	Probation High Risk Officer, if Salary State Funded (\$29,000)
3.	_____	_____	Assistant Public Defender Level II (\$93,000)
4.	_____	_____	Sheriff's Correction Officer A (\$92,000)
5.	_____	_____	Sheriff's Correction Officer B (\$92,000)

B. If so desired, a recommendation can be given to the Finance Committee as to the priority of each of the Budget Appeals approved by Law & Justice.

Note: First delete any items not approved in Step A above. The appeal approved October 20th has been added to the rankings. Rank #1 as highest priority and #6 as the lowest priority.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Successful Appeals at Committee Level</u>
_____	Benefits Probation Supervisor (\$31,000)
_____	Probation High Risk Officer (\$29,000)
_____	Public Defender Salary Upgrades (\$45,000)
_____	Assistant Public Defender Level II (\$93,000)
_____	Sheriff's Correction Officer A (\$92,000)
_____	Sheriff's Correction Officer B (\$92,000)

DEKALB COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Request for Additional State Funding for Court Services
November 5, 2014

<u>Position Funding Requested</u>	<u>State Share</u>	<u>New Benefits Local Share</u>	<u>Total</u>
A. New - General Fund			
1. Supervisor	\$ 49,106	\$ 31,000	\$ 80,106
2. Adult High Risk Officer	\$ 37,421	\$ 29,000	\$ 66,421
B. Existing - General Fund			
3. Pretrial Officer A	\$ 37,421		
4. Pretrial Officer B	\$ 40,619		
5. Juvenile Enhanced Officer A	\$ 40,619		
6. Juvenile Enhanced Officer B	\$ 37,421		
C. Existing - Non-General Fund			
7. Drug Court Officer	\$ 40,141		
D. Totals			
8. Total General Fund	\$ 242,607	\$ 60,000	\$ 302,000
9. Grand Total	\$ 282,748	\$ 60,000	\$ 342,000