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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Law & Justice Committee Minutes
January 26, 2015**

The Law and Justice Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Monday, January 26, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East. Chairman Frieders called the meeting to order. Those present were Ms. Marjorie Askins, Mr. Dan Cribben, Ms. Dianne Leifheit, Ms. Maureen Little, Mr. Paul Stoddard, and Mrs. Ruth Anne Tobias. All seven Members were present.

Others present were Thomas McCulloch, Margi Gilmour, Richard Schmack, Tracy Jones, and Greg Millburg.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mrs. Tobias, seconded by Ms. Askins and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from November 17, 2014.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Stoddard requested to ask a few questions as New Business items after the State's Attorney's Report.

It was moved by Mr. Stoddard, seconded by Ms. Askins and it was carried unanimously by voice vote to approve the agenda as amended.

PUBLIC DEFENDER'S REPORT – MR. THOMAS McCULLOCH

Public Defender, Tom McCulloch introduced himself to the new Members of the Law & Justice Committee and provided them with the Illinois State Statute that provides information on the duties of the Public Defender and the Office of the Public Defender. He also briefed the Committee on his professional background and shared his resume with the Committee. Mr. McCulloch also pointed out as it states in the State Statutes, that the Public Defender is required to prepare and file a monthly report to the County Board transmitting the services rendered by himself and his office.

Mr. McCulloch also reviewed his monthly report with the Committee and described the types of cases that his office provides representation for. Most importantly, he provided that there were more cases closed in 2014 than opened. He also shared with the Committee that he would like to provide as much information regarding his job and his office as possible to them, so when budget time comes the Board Members know just as much about the Public Defender's position as he does.

Chairman Frieders noted that he was glad that Mr. McCulloch brought up the budget because that is something that they are going to wish to attack early on this year in order to not be backed into any walls later on in the year. Mr. McCulloch agreed and added that his goal is to effectively represent his clients and he wants to be able to show the Board that any additional requests that he asks for in his budget are very warranted.

Mr. McCulloch described the wide variety of cases that are open and the reasoning behind them progressing through the system at different rates. He also shared they office is still experimenting with the different case assignments especially with the additional of the seventh courtroom. Lastly, he mentioned that at some point he would like to continue the discussion that took place last budget for the addition of an additional Public Defender to cover the additional courtroom.

COURT SERVICES REPORTS – MS. MARGI GILMOUR

Ms. Margi Gilmour, director of the County's Court Service Department introduced herself to the Committee and shared that the DeKalb County Court Services is responsible for providing a variety of services to adult and juvenile offenders under the jurisdiction of the Court. The Department is comprised of the Juvenile and Adult Probation Units and the Community Restitution Services Program. Also, Court Services staff responds to the needs of the Court, the offenders, and the community by implementing evidence based practices in the course of their daily work. The Probation Officer's role is to function as an agent of change – a case manager who orchestrates a variety of processes and interventions to ensure the offender is given what is needed at the right time to accomplish a positive behavior change. The Probation Officers assess and identify the offender's criminogenic needs to reduce the risk of re-offending and to become more pro-socially orientated. Using social learning techniques, the Probation Officers use skills to help motivate the offenders, refer to the right programs, reinforce the learning that takes place, and provide accountability to the process.

Ms. Gilmour also reviewed her monthly statistical reports with the Committee and described what the different numbers in the report represent. She also shared that in February she would like to return with a longer report outlining the Department newest division, the Pre-Trial Program. This will give the Committee a more in-depth look at the program since its inception last June, followed by hopefully another report in July that will show a full year's worth of data. In the meantime, Ms. Gilmour shared that she will continue to provide data on a monthly basis the Committee with Pre-Trial statistics along with the adult and juvenile reports.

Ms. Gilmour shared that from June 2014 until the end of December there has been 296 bond investigations, 64 individuals were released with Pre-Trial Supervision (58 were felonies), 7 individuals have completed their Pre-Trial Supervision, 5 of which had their bonds revoked, 235 individuals were released with no Pre-Trial Supervision, and since the end of December 52 individuals are currently on Pre-Trial Supervision and are actively checking in with the Pre-Trial Officers on a regular basis.

Chairman Frieders commented that he and the Committee look forward to Ms. Gilmour's report on the Pre-Trial Program in February.

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STATE'S ATTORNEY REPORT – MR. RICAHRD SCHMACK

Richard Schmack, DeKalb County State's Attorney introduced himself to the Committee along with providing the obligations of the State's Attorney's Office. He indicated that he would be prepared to provide the Committee with his annual report in March but just wanted to give the Committee a brief overview of his Office and what types of cases that they try.

Mr. Schmack shared that The State's Attorney has the exclusive responsibility for prosecuting violations of the criminal laws of the State of Illinois, as well as traffic violations. He also provides legal advice to all County Officials and represents the County in all actions where the County's officials or employees are a party. The professional staff includes twelve Assistant State's Attorneys and nine support staff. The State's Attorney's staff is present in courtrooms on a daily basis and routinely appears in branch court in Sandwich and rarely but occasionally in DeKalb. Professional assistance to law enforcement agencies is available on a 24-hour basis every day of the year. The cases handled by the State's Attorney's office include felony and misdemeanor criminal matters, traffic, juvenile detention and prosecution, juvenile abuse and neglect, public aid cases, mental health, advice to government officials and tax collection, and enforcement of Open Meetings Act. Mr. Schmack also explained the breakdown of his Assistant State's Attorneys assignments with the realigning they had to do with the addition of the seventh courtroom.

Mr. Jones asked how the Board Members would become aware of the outcome of civil lawsuits against the County. Mr. Schmack indicated that it is public information and he, Chief Civil Attorney, Stephanie Klein, and County Administrator, Gary Hanson meet on a monthly basis to convey information about progress of any litigation that the County may be involved in. Mr. Schmack indicated Mr. Hanson or himself could be the point of contact if a Board Member were interested in finding out the outcome of any lawsuits.

Chairman Frieders and the Committee thanked their three guests for coming and spending some time explained what their individual departments do.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Stoddard asked if they were able to get some type of report that would give some extra statistics on who is in the County Jail and why and also on in the Electronic Home Monitoring Program. In order to possibly see if there are any individuals incarnated they may have other alternatives. Mr. Stoddard added that with the jail overcrowding being such a large issue, he would like to explore ways to get certain, possible low-risk individuals who are currently in jail back into society where they can be working and paying taxes as opposed to being a drain on the County. Mr. Schmack indicated that there is such a report that is distributed and he provided a little bit of information of the individuals who are currently incarcerated and added most of who are serving are ones who are serving their mandatory minimum sentences and others who have very large bonds for the crimes they are facing trial for.

Mr. Stoddard also asked why there is the talk of creating a Jail Solution Committee and Law & Justice Committee is not doing the jail assessment work.

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Mr. Jones indicated that the thought was to get a Committee formed to get the ball rolling on finding a solution to the Jail Expansion Project and it isn't thought to be just a jail building committee because that has already been done but this additional Committee would make sure that everything has been done to reduce the jail population as much as possible.

Mr. Stoddard added that one of the reasons that he wanted to be on the Law & Justice Committee was to deal with those questions and he assumed that this Committee would be the appropriate place to deal with those questions and he doesn't see the need for a new Committee to be formed to deal with the same items that are in the purview of the Law & Justice Committee.

Mr. Jones indicated that he doesn't think that the Jail Solution Committee is going to step on anyone's toes and anything that the Law & Justice Committee can do to help reduce the jail population will be more than welcomed. He also added that he thinks the Jail Solution Committee may get into some elements and other issues that may be time constraining to the Law & Justice Committee. Mr. Jones lastly added that he welcome all Board Members to come to the Committee and state their opinions and comments.

Mr. Stoddard lastly reiterated that he still did not see the advantage of having an additional Committee do the same work as the Law & Justice Committee.

Chairman Frieders shared an article with the Committee that he had found that stated Kane County was seeking relief to a new bill that was passed that increases the Jury Duty pay. He indicated that he was interested in bringing the issue forward to Christine Johnson and Gary Hanson to possibly add it as a State Legislative Agenda issue to help lobby to reduce the increase. Mrs. Tobias echoed that it was a big topic of discussion at the most recent Metro Counties meeting that she attended. The Committee unanimously agreed to have Mr. Frieders forward this issue to Ms. Johnson to have it considered as a Legislative Agenda item for DeKalb County as well.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Tobias, seconded by Ms. Little, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,


Chairman John Frieders


Tasha Stogsdill, Recording Secretary

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TO: LAW AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE
 DEKALB COUNTY BOARD
 DEKALB COUNTY, ILLINOIS

**REPORT OF PUBLIC DEFENDER
 MONTH OF DEC 2014**

The Undersigned Public Defender for DeKalb County, Illinois, pursuant to statute in such cases made and provided, hereby files the report of services performed by him and his assistants for the above stated month listing the number of cases at the start of the month as indicated by category listing, and the number of cases closed at the end of the month, which are as follows:

	MCCULLOCH	MCGUIRE	CRISWELL	CARLSON	STAUFFENBERG	OLSON	AL-HENAY	GRADY	TOTAL
CRIMINAL FELONY	24	91	140	83	97	142			577
CRIMINAL MISDEME	13	27	43	18	28	114	135	173	551
TRAFFIC OFFENSES	0	33	53	30	52	189	79	192	628
JUVENILE				2	75		263		340
OTHER	1		1	3					5
TOTAL OPEN	38	151	237	136	252	445	477	365	2101
Total Open Dec 14	5	33	48	35	33	65	57	54	330
Total Close Dec 14	4	37	36	14	48	48	53	66	306
TTL YTD Opened									3996
TTL YTD Closed									4319

DEKALB COUNTY ADULT COURT SERVICES
MONTHLY REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2014

PROBATION

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	Total
PSI's Ordered	2	9	6	6	6	3	6	4	4	3	3	2	54
PSI's Completed	5	5	7	5	6	4	5	6	3	3	5	1	55
New Active Cases	17	20	17	9	28	41	36	52	33	29	18	26	326
Felony	337	327	326	325	323	326	330	336	337	337	331	328	330
Misdemeanor	138	139	138	134	138	140	145	133	129	132	133	130	136
DUI	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5
Traffic	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Active Caseload	478	469	466	461	462	467	476	470	467	470	465	459	468
Pending Intakes	171	193	207	234	231	214	193	153	158	160	149	153	185
Total Active Caseload	649	662	673	695	693	681	669	623	625	630	614	612	652
Administrative Cases	877	885	891	897	883	878	917	917	904	932	932	922	903
Transfer In Cases	7	8	13	11	6	15	7	8	6	11	6	11	109
Transfer Out Cases	8	8	9	7	14	11	12	24	8	9	6	9	125
Tech Viol. Reported	35	23	28	19	23	20	19	41	30	21	13	21	293
Crim. Viol. Reported	10	21	22	9	17	12	20	23	18	18	12	10	192
Tech. - No Violation	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Tech. - Finding Viol.	1	7	8	3	7	6	3	2	15	8	9	4	73
Crim. - No Violation	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	4
Crim. - Finding Viol.	1	8	2	1	4	1	5	2	6	6	4	5	45
Successful Terminations	6	19	23	7	14	11	6	16	17	9	12	18	158
													mo. averages

COMMUNITY RESTITUTION SERVICE

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL
# Adults Referred	69	81	80	88	79	80	102	122	77	106	77	77	1038
# Hours Ordered	7,160	9,637	9,842	10,808	8,655	9,675	10,980	14,035	8,435	13,358	8,574	6,490	117,649
# Hours Completed	5,918	6,000	5,774	6,229	7,165	5,977	6,443	6,448	5,129	5,024	4,500	6,196	70,803

# Juveniles Referred	5	12	11	13	14	8	8	15	6	10	6	7	115
# Hours Ordered	255	540	380	460	500	370	490	593	194	327	248	270	4627
# Hours Completed	243	255	253	532	252	371	302	345	199	143	105	173	3173

JUVENILE PLACEMENT/DETENTION REPORT

PLACEMENT

	Jan. 14	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Apr. 14	May 14	June 14	July 14	Aug. 14	Sept. 14	Oct. 14	Nov. 14	Dec. 14
Residential placements at beginning of mo.	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
Minors placed during the month	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Minors released during the month	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Minors in residential placement at end of mo.	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1

DETENTION

	Jan. 14	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Apr. 14	May 14	June 14	July 14	Aug. 14	Sept. 14	Oct. 14	Nov. 14	Dec. 14
Minors in detention at beginning of month	2	2	2	3	2	5	4	2	3	4	6	4
Minors detained during the month	5	5	7	8	11	8	6	7	18	9	4	3
Minors released during the month	5	5	6	9	8	9	8	6	17	7	6	3
Minors in detention at end of month	2	2	3	2	5	4	2	3	4	6	4	4
Average daily population for mo. admissions	1	<1	1	1	3.5	1.5	1	2	4	2	<1	0.5
Average length of stay for mo. admissions	6 days	4 days	4 days	3.5 days	10 days	5 days	6.5 days	7.5 days	6.5 days	7 days	2.5 days	4.5 days
												20
												67