

*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

**Law & Justice Committee Minutes  
February 27, 2017**

The Law and Justice Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Monday, February 27, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Administration Building's Conference Room East in Sycamore, Illinois. Chairman Leifheit called the meeting to order. Those present were Ms. Askins, Mr. Frieders, Mr. Luebke, Mr. Pietrowski, Mr. Whelan and Chairman Leifheit. A quorum was established. Mr. Plote arrived at 6:35 p.m.

Others present were Sheriff Roger Scott, Chief Deputy Andrew Sullivan, Margi Gilmour and Tom McCulloch.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mr. Whelan moved to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2017 Committee Meeting. Mr. Pietrowski seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were presented to the Committee.

**PUBLIC DEFENDER'S REPORT**

DeKalb County Public Defender Tom McCulloch joined the Committee and presented and placed on file his monthly Public Defender's Report. Mr. McCulloch noted that looking at the January 2016 report and the January 2017 report they now have about a 100 more cases open than they did at this time last year. He added that they are currently playing catch up right now due to having two experienced Defenders leaving and having them replaced with new Defenders that are not yet at the same experience level.

The Committee and Mr. McCulloch took some additional time to discuss the overall experience level of the office and the turnover rate. He reiterated that he has lost several Defenders in the past few years who have left for very similar positions in other areas for better pay. Being able to offer a competitive salary is still something he struggles to do due to County budgetary constraints. It was noted though that the Defender's Office is currently fully staffed, for the time being.

**COURT SERVICES REPORT**

DeKalb County Court Services Director Margi Gilmour reported and placed on file her monthly Adult, Juvenile and Pretrial Reports. Mr. Gilmour highlighted that there had been nine minor in detention at the beginning of January and six remained at the end of the month. One minor still

remained in residential placement and if things didn't look up soon for the individual they were going to have to look into other means.

Ms. Gilmour additionally shared that her staff along with the Juvenile Justice Council is always looking into outside programs and ways to encourage the use of standardized risk assessment tools by all youth agencies and school who provide service geared towards prevention and reduction of delinquent behaviors.

In regards to the Pretrial Report, 106 bond investigations were completed in January and there were twenty-one successful terminations. The Pretrial Team continued to be very busy and are thankful that they have a third employee now helping with bond investigations. Ms. Gilmour reiterated that there would be a Pretrial Quarterly Report given at the April Law & Justice Committee Meeting.

Lastly, Ms. Gilmour reported that the Adult Court Services Report looked standard. She also added that the Department was gearing up for the HOPE program — Hawaii's Opportunity Probation with Enforcement — it is an experimental probation program that emphasizes the delivery of "swift and certain" punishment when a probationer violates conditions of probation. HOPE starts with a formal warning, delivered by a judge in open court, that any violation of probation will result in an immediate, brief jail stay.

#### **COMMUNICATION CENTER UPDATE**

Sheriff Roger Scott joined the Committee to provide some updates to the Committee. He first shared that there has been tremendous progress on the Jail Expansion Project and they are about two weeks ahead of schedule due to the mild weather we have been experiencing.

Also, ten of the Rural Fire Districts have paid their dispatching invoices that were due July 2016. Four out of the ten (Kirkland, Malta, Paw Paw, Waterman) have also signed the memorandum agreements. The ten Rural Fire Districts include: Cortland, Hinckley, Kirkland, Lee, Leland, Malta, Paw Paw, Shabbona, Somonauk, and Waterman. Sheriff Scott shared that the Districts and the County are also meeting regularly for their Mavis Meetings and they will also be looking into establishing user meetings as needed.

The Sheriff continued that for a number of years there have been many discussions regarding civilianization of the Communication Center, rather than having sworn deputies. Having Telecommunicators be sworn deputies has been a principal of the Sheriff since 1985. However, throughout the years and after further review, effective January 2017 all new hires into the Communication Center will be Full-time non-administrative civilian title Telecommunicators. The Sheriff additionally provided a certification from the Illinois Labor Relations Board State Panel certifying that the change has been made to the current contract and with the Labor Organization. The Sheriff additionally clarified that existing Telecommunicators will remain deputized and so far they have had one new civilian hire that replaced a sworn deputy that retired. It was explained that there are no physical differences between the sworn or civilian Telecommunicators, they still wear the same uniform and they receive the same pay. The major financial long-term difference will be the retirement program and instead of the Sheriff's Law Enforcement Retirement Program, the civilian staff will be in the County's IMRF Retirement Program. Right now there is about a \$6,000 difference between the two retirement programs, so

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long-term, as more Telecommunicators are hired there will be a larger cost savings to the County.

The Sheriff also reported that although the County requested a waiver to not have to consolidate the number of PSAPs in the County from four to two, the State of Illinois did not approve the waiver so the two PSAPs that will be left in the County will be the City of DeKalb and The Sheriff's Office. NIU is merging with the City of DeKalb and the City of Sandwich is merging with the Sheriff's Office. This will all be happening over the next two years but he wanted everything to be aware of what was going to be happening.

The last update that Sheriff Scott brought to the Committee was in regards to shared that they are in the early stages of a study that is looking in the infrastructure of the Sheriff's Communications and radio transmission for police and fire. The radio transmissions have been severely degraded of the last couple of years so they thought it be best to begin a study to look into the matter. The Sheriff continued to share that they have had several issues with reception when officers are on the streets or in different areas of the County as well as some of the Fire Districts.

Chief Deputy Sullivan continued that since 2012 Nationwide did a thing called "narrow banding" which significantly hurt the reception and transmission capabilities with the Sheriff's conventional radio system. So this study will help them explore different communication opportunities for the future in order to find a system that will be adequate for their services. Chief Sullivan also explained different things they have tried in the past to try and help alleviate some of the static issues and dead spots they have on the radios but nothing seems to help long-term. The Committee agreed that these issues need to be addressed because they could be serious safety concerns.

Chairman Leifheit inquired about the status of implementing the Vehicle Impound Ordinance. Which was an Ordinance that allowed any motor vehicle, regardless of whether the registered owner or lessee is operating said vehicle, within the County of DeKalb, State of Illinois, shall be subject to seizure and impoundment if the said vehicle was used in connection with an of the offenses listed in the Ordinance. Sheriff Scott noted that the Ordinance was working very well.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**It was moved by Mr. Pietrowski, 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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## FIRE DISTRICT DISPATCH

	Invoice paid	Agreement signed
Cortland	Yes	no
Hinckley	Yes	No
Kirkland	Yes	Yes
Lee	Yes	No
Leland	Yes	No
Malta	Yes	Yes
Paw Paw	Yes	Yes
Shabbona	Yes	No
Somonauk	Yes	No
Waterman	Yes	Yes



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
ILLINOIS LABOR RELATIONS BOARD  
STATE PANEL

County of DeKalb and Sheriff of DeKalb  
County,

Employers

and

Metropolitan Alliance of Police, DeKalb  
County Sheriff's Police Chapter 318,

Labor Organization

Case No. S-UC-(S)-17-051

DATE OF  
MAILING: January 25, 2017

**AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE**

I, Lori Novak, on oath, state that I have served the attached **CERTIFICATION OF UNIT CLARIFICATION** issued in the above-captioned case on each of the parties listed herein below by depositing, before 3:00 p.m., on the date listed above, copies thereof in the United States mail pickup at the Mail Room located at 801 South 7th Street, Springfield, Illinois, addressed as indicated and with postage prepaid for first class mail.

Joseph R. Mazzone  
Attorney at Law  
3033 W. Jefferson Street, Ste. 208  
Joliet, IL 60435

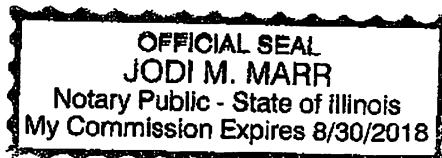
Jill P. O'Brien  
Laner Muchin  
515 N. State St., Ste. 2800  
Chicago, IL 60654-4688

*Lori Novak*

Lori Novak

**SUBSCRIBED and SWORN to**  
before me, January 25, 2017

*Jodi M. Marr*  
NOTARY PUBLIC



**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
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County of DeKalb and Sheriff of DeKalb  
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Metropolitan Alliance of Police, DeKalb  
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**CERTIFICATION OF UNIT CLARIFICATION**

The Employer having posted Notice to all employees in the existing bargaining unit and in positions affected by the proposed clarification, advising said employees of the parties' intention to INCLUDE in the existing S-RC-02-031 bargaining unit, the following:

**Full-time non-administrative civilian title Telecommunicator**

That no interested parties have filed objections with the Illinois Labor Relations Board pursuant to the applicable Rules and Regulations promulgated by the Illinois Labor Relations Board; and the parties and the Illinois Labor Relations Board being satisfied that the clarification is consistent with the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act, the Illinois Labor Relations Board HEREBY CERTIFIES that the revisions referenced above are included in the bargaining unit defined below.

Included: All full-time non-administrative personnel below the rank of Lieutenant; all full-time non-administrative civilian title Telecommunicator.

Excluded: All probationary employees and all other employees excluded by the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act.

Issued at Springfield, Illinois, this 25th day of January, 2017.

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
ILLINOIS LABOR RELATIONS BOARD  
STATE PANEL**



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**Kimberly Stevens, Executive Director**