

**WILL COUNTY BOARD**  
**JUDICIAL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

**February 9, 2010**

**No Sooner than 9:00 a.m. or immediately following**  
**Legislative Committee**

302 North Chicago Street  
County Board Committee Room  
Joliet, Illinois 60432

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Dralle called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present were Members:** Kusta, Deutsche, L. Smith, Stewart and Dralle.

**Absent were Members:** Anderson and Riley.

**Also Present:**

**Present from State's Attorney's Office:** Mary Tatroe

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Ms. Burke led the committee in the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Kusta, second by Mr. Stewart, to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2010 meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Adjudication Court in Will County**

**a. Draft Proposed Timeline**

**b. State's Attorney's Opinion Re: Adjudication Court in Will County**

Mrs. Dralle stated we will be redrafting the old ordinance. The State's Attorney's office is reviewing the ordinance. We are also looking at an RFP for the software and a RFQ for the hearing officer and we should have this up and running in the fall.

### **JMS Project Update**

Mr. Piwowarski stated we will be getting ready to send out a cancellation to the current vendor and go through the process of reissuing the RFP once we have our meeting this afternoon. I do not see any new action until April.

Mrs. Dralle stated we have talked about an outside consultant and would like to see that process move forward in conjunction with the Circuit Clerk's and Sheriff's offices so that we may have the best integration system as possible.

### **Other Old Business**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Discussion Re:SCRAM**

Dave Talarico, President of Alcohol Monitors of Illinois, came before the committee to discuss a newer version of the alcohol monitoring bracelet.

Mrs. Dralle stated this is a cost savings for the jails.

Mr. Talarico stated that is correct.

Mrs. Dralle questioned as the County moves forward, Mr. Sangmeister do you anticipate that the Judges will be using these more.

Kurt Sangmeister stated I would anticipate that as the technology improves this is another tool available to the court. There would have to be an evaluation process of who would wear the device. I see this as a benefit.

Ms. Smith asked who is using this in the County.

Mr. Talarico stated DUI offenders, domestic battery, and Drug Court are using it.

Ms. Smith asked could this be used for orders of protection.

Mr. Talarico stated this is not a GPS so they are not used for that purpose. This is house arrest. This is a passive device. We get the data once a day, generally in the evening.

### **Mental Health Court**

Judge Jones, Ms. McCabe, and Randy Bultman, from the Health Department, gave an update to the committee regarding the mental health court process.

Ms. McCabe stated the Act is similar to the Drug Court Act. It is a special call. It is a team. It is designed for non-violent offenders. The population is different in each county. The idea is by doing this we would decrease the number of arrests, we would increase their medication compliance and ultimately save the County money as well as public safety. We believe that we can do that with the resources we currently have.

The applicants would come to the Drug Court unit. We would do their backgrounds, check eligibility, an evaluation would be done by the Health Department and we would set up a treatment program. This would come back to the team and the judge to determine if this person could benefit. It is harder to measure success from a mental health perspective than a drug court one, but we feel that we would be able to significantly help these people.

Mr. Bultman stated we want to use this as a resource for them to seek treatment. Most of this is reimbursable through the state with our current mental health contract. We are already working with this population.

Mrs. Dralle stated the County Board has always been very proactive and promoted looking at mental health courts and bringing them within the County.

Judge Jones stated mental health court will promote public safety and public welfare of individuals. Everyone will pay \$1,040.00 with fines and costs. We will do our best to have everyone pay their fines and costs but each case is different.

Mr. Bultman stated we will be pursuing public entitlement such as social security and public aid. That will be part of their treatment plan.

Ms. McCabe stated most of these clients will have dual diagnosis. The \$10.00 fee the County charges only applies to drug court. I may ask that a portion of this fee be transferred into mental health to cover transportation and medicine. It may make more sense to set aside a separate budget for mental health court.

Mr. Kusta, Jr., asked will you have money to sustain drug court if they split the fee.

Ms. McCabe stated it would be tight. There is a line item in the drug court budget that would send money back to the general fund. If that is allowed, we could use that pool of money. I would like to point out that many of these people would end up in drug court. I think they are better served in a separate court call.

Mrs. Dralle stated this is something that is needed in this County. Drug court works partly because of the law that allowed us to gain some revenue to support it. This is something that we can include in our federal agenda for next year for additional funding. Please come back in a few months so that we can further discuss the funding for mental health court. I would like to have this committee go and see the mental health court process. I would also like you to come in two months to the Executive Committee for an update.

Ms. McCabe stated we will be starting small.

**Request to Appropriate Donated Funds in Juvenile Drug Court Budget**

A motion was made by Mr. Kusta, Jr., second by Mr. Stewart, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda appropriating donated funds in the Juvenile Drug Court Budget in the amount of \$1,000. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

**Request for Extension of Food Service Contract at River Valley**

Ms. Weiss stated this is a request for authorization for an agreement and operating agreement renewal with Aramark. The current vendor has asked us to sign the agreement and an amendment to the operating agreement which we did not do the first year, we were running off the bid documents only. We are waiting approval from the State's Attorney's office. The ISBE has indicated there is some new verbiage that they are changing. We are asking for authorization to renew the contract with Aramark and authorization to sign the operating agreement as amended upon approval by the State's Attorney and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

ASA Tatroe stated it is accurate to say approve that agreement but it would be more accurate to say to approve an agreement that the State's Attorney's Office works out with Aramark because there are certain issues we have with the agreement. She advised that ASA Mike Woods mentioned there were concerns that some of the provisions of the contract conflicted with the bid documents which is why we usually work off the bid documents as our contract. We include all the legal requirements so one of the items we will be looking at is why we cannot simply renew the bid document contract with the change in the terms as far as costs.

Mrs. Dralle stated that the costs have gone up as the cost of living, like 8 cents a meal.

Ms. Weiss advised that was accounted for in the original bid document so they are not raising it above what we stipulated in the bid.

Mrs. Dralle clarified that there is just some logistics to it, it is not that anyone is unhappy with the service and there are no concerns.

ASA Tatroe replied it is just approving the new term and the costs that had been approved in the past.

A motion was made by Mr. Stewart, second by Ms. Smith, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda to extend the food service contract with Aramark for River Valley, based on the State's Attorney's review . All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

**Request to Authorize State's Attorney to Review Executive Session**

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Kusta, Jr., second by Mr. Stewart, to authorize the State's Attorney's Office to review Judicial Committee Executive Session Minutes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

**Request to Award Bid for Body Armor**

Mrs. Dralle stated I believe there was some issue with the body armor.

Ms. Weiss stated there is an issue regarding the body armor bid. There was a memo submitted by Sergeant McKay. We had issue with releasing the bid during the shot show. Many of the vendors were unable to submit a sample on time. There is a certain certification that is required that these vests will stop our own ammunition and most of the bids were unable to get that certification in on time. It has been requested that we throw the bid out and allow us to rebid.

A motion was made by Mr. Kusta, Jr., second by Ms. Smith, to rebid the body armor. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

**Grant Update**

Mr. Palmer gave the committee an update regarding federal grant monies. We had great success with federal earmarking for judicial projects. We have previously received over \$1 million and we have received a second award for \$300,000.00 which we are in the process of spending for integration between the Circuit Clerk's Office and various other stakeholders in the justice system. We have not received the ability to spend the money but did receive an award for \$100,000.00. There was a meeting of various members of the justice sector. We are hoping to spend that \$100,000.00 to potentially hire a consultant to help guide this process forward in laying out a blueprint for integrated justice.

Mrs. Dralle inquired if Mr. Palmer needed County Board approval to hire this individual consultant.

Mr. Palmer replied no, but would like to keep the committee informed so he will continue to report back.

Mr. Palmer stated mental health is at the top of our radar.

**Other New Business**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Kusta, Jr., second by Ms. Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.