

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

8:30 a.m.

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

**September 1, 2009**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Dralle called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present were Members:** Kusta, Jr., Anderson, Deutsche, Riley, L. Smith, and Dralle.

**Absent were Members:** Stewart.

**Also Present:**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Deutsche, to approve the minutes from the August 4, 2009 meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Kusta, Jr. arrived at this juncture.

**Update Re: Men's & Women's Recovery Home from Drug Court Fees**

Ms. McCabe stated we have a contract that is contingent on County Board approval. The County Executive's office is reviewing the contract. The offer is not accepted yet. We met with the city and we may have to go through the process of

getting the administrative occupancy permit to get this approved. The PBC has looked at the property.

Mrs. Tatroe stated I have had a conversation with the Department of Justice.

Mr. Kusta, Jr. questioned the money is in your budget to make it ADA compliant.

Ms. McCabe stated yes.

Mr. Kusta, Jr. questioned if we approve this today, you will not be coming to us in a month from now for more money.

Ms. McCabe stated no. This house has four bedrooms. We can start with 6 people and with a public hearing we can have 8. We have a grant application pending, if we get it then it will be a women's home but our need is for a men's home.

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Deutsche, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda authorizing the County Executive to execute an agreement for the purchase of a home for the purpose of a recovery home with Drug Court fees. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

#### **Update on Legal Self-Help Centers in Illinois**

Mr. Sangmeister stated we have the ability to customize the website specific to our County. The committee is determining what 6 points should be placed on the main page.

Mrs. Riley arrived at this juncture.

Mrs. Dralle questioned can you send a letter out to the libraries and then give us a demonstration in a few months.

Mr. Sangmeister stated yes.

#### **Update on Establishing an Adjudication Court in Will County**

Mr. Paddock gave the committee an update regarding the scope of work for establishing an adjudication court.

Mr. Paddock stated the vision will be a system where due process would be maintained. There would be a complaint; a letter would go out; if there is not response it would be diverted to a hearing officer. The idea is that there will be improvement in the processing time. We have on average 1,200 cases and 25 percent of those go through the court process.

Mr. Kusta, Jr. questioned when will the study be ready.

Mr. Paddock stated I am targeting the October meeting.

#### **FYI: Expenses Incurred to Date on the Electronic Citation Project**

Mrs. Dralle stated this is for informational purposes.

**Other Old Business**

Mrs. Dralle stated I have asked that Mr. Costigan give the committee an update regarding staffing levels at River Valley. There are 102 beds.

Mr. Rafac stated I have met with Mr. Costigan and Mr. Prinzi and they are currently staffed for 44 which is the current population. I do not think they are overstaffed. The biggest problem is they are subsidized by the state at 10-13 percent. The state has never funded these programs at a high level. There are complicating issues with closing the pods. One of which is the fact that Kankakee owns 25 percent of that facility. If we lower the amount of beds, Kankakee still has 25 percent of the beds and we would end up paying them for their use.

Mr. Moustis stated if you are staffed for the population I do not have a problem with that. We will have to face the fact that the state will not fund us and we cannot make up the difference. If the state cuts us by 40 percent there have to be some cuts.

Mr. Rafac stated we do have a one time opportunity to fold a special fund, the parking fund, and use that money to make up the shortfall.

Mrs. Dralle questioned in terms of the 42 percent reduction, what is that in dollars.

Mr. Costigan stated \$1.16 million.

Mrs. Dralle stated in addition to that we are also looking at an increase of population with the 17 year olds.

Mr. Costigan stated if you cut that, which is just less work that we can get done.

Mr. Rafac stated we have talked about a dedicated revenue source. It would take legislative action. The money collected here would stay here.

Mr. Costigan stated we do collect some fees now and they cover operating expenses.

Mr. Kusta, Jr. questioned if we close a pod, can't rent out that pod. Couldn't we charge double our triple to meet their need and turn it into a revenue source?

Mr. Costigan stated we do not house many out of county. If other facilities close then there will be a demand for beds and we will not have enough beds. The 17 year olds will be taking up space. We have talked about raising the per diem.

Mr. Zito stated we are housing two people out of county currently. There is a per diem rate and Kankakee gets 25 percent of that. Currently 17 year olds have the ability

to bond out. In January when the law changes they will not be able to do that at River Valley. There are 205 17 year olds that have been at the Adult Detention Facility for less than seven days. In other words, they have been booked and released.

Mr. Costigan stated our programs have helped to keep the population down.

Mr. Moustis stated I want to make sure that Kankakee is aware of what their share is.

Mr. Zito stated they are aware of it.

Mrs. Dralle stated Mr. Rafac please continue to work with Mr. Costigan.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Kusta, Jr., seconded by Ms. Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 a.m. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.