

Judicial & Rules Committee Meeting
Tuesday April 23, 2019
Vermilion County Administration Building, 5:00 PM

M I N U T E S

Agenda Items 1 - Call to Order and Roll Call

Adam Hart called the Judicial & Rules Committee of the Vermilion County Board to order at 5:00 PM., April 23, 2019 in the Vermilion County Administration Building.

Upon the call of roll, the following members were present: Adam Hart, Phearn Butler, Robert Boyd, Nancy O'Kane, Tom Morse, Natalie Duncan, Chuck Mockbee. Seven (7) present for a full committee at roll call.

Also present were: Larry Baughn, County Board Chairman, Jacqueline Lacy State's Attorney, and Bill Donahue, Risk Consultant.

Agenda Item 2 - Adoption/Amendment to the Agenda

Hart asked if there were any changes/additions to the agenda. Chairman Hart noted that the minutes on item 3 were not available and would not be voted on. Motion to approve the agenda by Boyd, second by O'Kane. Motion was carried by unanimous acclamation.

Agenda Item 3 - Approval of Minutes from January 22, 2019

The vote on minutes to be deferred until the next meeting due to their unavailability for review.

Agenda Item 4 - Audience Comments

None

Agenda Item 5 - Budget Amendment - States Attorney's Office

The States Attorney presented a budget amendment requesting additional funding for attorney salaries in the amount of 10,000.00 citing increased homicide, drug and other violent offenses including sexual assault cases. The Illinois Attorney General has already assisted but there is a need to hire experienced felony trial attorneys. While there has been some success in hiring experienced attorneys, more are needed given the influx of violent offenses. Utilizing some funds already in the budget, the request is this year limited to \$10,000.00. In coming budget years, it may be significantly higher so the number may change depending on the success in recruiting experienced personnel. Committee members discussed the competitiveness of salaries. Upon the call of roll, the following members voted yes, to-wit: Hart, Duncan, Boyd, Butler, Morse, O'Kane, Mockbee. 7 yes, 0 nay. Ordinance passed committee.

Agenda Item 8- Executive Session

None required

Agenda Items 9- Items of Information and Committee Concerns

Chairman Baughn updated the committee on on-going solar farm ordinance. The County will have two solar farms so far to consider, given the 'lottery' and so will try to get the ordinance in place soon but with due time to consider all needs. The need to ensure preservation of soil quality was discussed by O'Kane and that is already part of the proposed ordinance. Chairman Hart mentioned the experience of Georgetown Township with solar farm planning. The Chairman met with a group to discuss a Veteran's Assistance Commission and that will be in the future placed before the Board.

Agenda Item 10 – Adjournment

Committee Chairman Hart declared the meeting adjourned at 5:24 P.M.

Minutes by: Bill Donahue, Risk Consultant, County Board Office, 4/24/19.