

Judicial & Rules Committee Meeting
Tuesday November 24, 2020
Vermilion County Administration Building, 5:00 PM

M I N U T E S

Agenda Items 1 - Call to Order and Roll Call

Larry Baughn, Chairman, called the Judicial & Rules Committee of the Vermilion County Board to order at 5:00 PM., November 24, 2020 in the Vermilion County Administration Building.

Upon the call of roll, the following members were present: Chuck Mockbee, Phearn Butler, Nancy O'Kane, and Larry Baughn. Adam Hart, Tom Morse, Natalie Duncan and Robert Boyd were absent/excused.

4 Present & 4 absent at roll call. Tom Morse joined the meeting at 5:03 P.M.

Also attending via ZOOM were: Judge O'Shaughnessy, Jacqueline Lacy- State's Attorney, Michael Mara- Public Defender, Missy Quick- Circuit Clerk and Bill Donahue, Risk Consultant, Jennifer Jenkins, County Board Office Manager was present at the meeting as secretary.

Agenda Item 2 - Adoption/Amendment to the Agenda

Baughn asked if there were any changes/additions to the agenda. Motion to approve the agenda by Butler, second by O'Kane. Upon the call of roll, the following members voted yes, to-wit: Mockbee, Butler, Morse, and O'Kane. 4-Yes & 3-Absent.

Agenda Item 3 - Approval of Minutes from July 28, 2020

Motion by Mockbee and second by Butler to approve the minutes as presented. Motion was carried by unanimous acclamation. Upon the call of roll, the following members voted yes, to-wit: Mockbee, Butler, Morse, and O'Kane. 4-Yes & 3-Absent.

Agenda Item 4 - Audience Comments

None

Agenda Item 5 – Ordinance – Amendment to the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the State's Attorney

State's Attorney Lacy explained that this amendment is to pay for the expenses of the Child Advocacy Center and will be reimbursed from a VOCA grant and DCFS. Motion by O'Kane followed by a second from Morse to approve the Ordinance. Upon the call of roll, the following members voted yes, to-wit: Mockbee, Butler, Morse, and O'Kane. 4-Yes & 3-Absent.

Agenda Item 6 – Resolution- State's Attorney Appellate Prosecutor

Jacqueline Lacy, State's Attorney, explained to the committee that this is the annual allowance according to the State of Illinois budget. Motion by O'Kane, second by Butler to approve the Resolution. Upon the call of roll, the following members voted yes, to-wit: Mockbee, Butler, Morse, and O'Kane. 4-Yes & 3-Absent.

Agenda Item 7 – Discussion Item- Judge O'Shaughnessy regarding addition of the Associate Judge, With Michael Mara- Public Defender and Melissa Quick- Circuit Clerk

Honorable Tom O'Shaughnessy explained that there will be an addition of an Associate Judge in the Courthouse. With this addition they will be able to address the felony backlog as well as other existing overages. This will inevitably call for additional staff within other departments as well. Such as the Public Defender, Circuit Clerk, and Court Reporter's, etc.

Hopefully with this addition the Judicial system can eventually then focus on backlogs within the family division. At this time the Officials/Department Heads will determine the exact needs for their department to accommodate this addition. Once prepared to go to the Finance/Personnel committee then the Judicial and Rules Committee members would be interested in also attending the meeting.

Agenda Item 8- Executive Session

None required

Agenda Items 9- Items of Information and Committee Concerns

Baughn mentioned that the meeting dates for the Tax and Elections Committee meeting date has changed to Wednesday December 2. This has been changed due to Township caucus' holding their meeting(s) creating a conflict in attendance for some committee members.

Baughn also informed the committee of the estimators that have been present in Chambers regarding sound equipment, etc. Hopefully we will begin on improvements very soon. This will be a work in progress.

Agenda Item 16 – Adjournment

Chairman Baughn declared the meeting adjourned at 5:58 P.M.