

## COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE:** Law Enforcement & Courts  
**CHAIRPERSON:** RJ Winkelhake, Chair  
**DATE/TIME:** June 15, 2015 @ 5:01 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brandon Behlke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gerald Bennett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Zillig
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terry Stoffregen	
<input type="checkbox"/> RJ Winkelhake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Bingham	

A quorum was established.

Other Board Members:

Others: Craig Ketelsen, Dan Reimer, Sharon Wand

**1. Minutes Approval**

- a) **Brandon Behlke made a motion to approve the May 18, 2015 Law Enforcement and Courts committee meeting minutes, seconded by Terry Stoffregen and motion passed.**

**2. Citizens' Comments**

**3. Unfinished Business**

- a) FY2014/FY2015 Strategic Goals & Plans – No updates at this time.  
b) Law & Courts Committee assignments from 2013 County Board Retreat – No updates at this time.  
c) Update on five year capital improvement plan – Nothing new at this time.  
d) Recommendations to fund the Public Safety Radio Communications System Project – This was discussed at a previous County Board meeting. Bill Bingham will prepare paperwork for next County Board meeting which will be a re-summarization of what this committee already put together for the County Board.  
e) Update on proposed 911 dispatch center consolidation feasibility study – No updates at this time.  
f) Update on judicial system payment process – No updates at this time.

**4. New Business**

- a) Discussion and possible action on Jury Fee Resolution – Sharon Wand, Circuit Clerk, informed the committee of a change in the law for per diem payment to jurors. The Counties Codes Act has been amended (Public Act 98-1132), effective June 1, 2015, the new per diem rate for jurors is \$25/day for the first day and thereafter \$50/day for each day of necessary attendance. Mileage reimbursement is no longer required by state statute. Wand discussed that effective June 1, 2015; civil juries will now be 6-man juries rather than 12-man juries. Alternates will be allowed at an extra charge. Wand presented the committee with a resolution for approval which includes - 1) legislative change in payment to jurors of \$25/day and \$50/day after the first day, 2) addresses how much to bill an attorney if the attorney chooses to have alternate jurors in civil trials, and 3) for civil jury trial demands the Circuit Clerk is to charge and collect a fee of \$212.50. **Brandon Behlke made a motion to approve a resolution fixing juror compensation and**

**the jury trial demand fee. The motion was seconded by Don Zillig. Motion passed and the resolution will be sent to the County Board.**

- b) Discussion and possible action on a Debt Collection Agency – Sharon Wand, Circuit Clerk, informed the committee that her office and the States Attorney have been considering a change in debt collection agencies to collect outstanding fines and fees. The current agency is Pioneer Credit Collection Agency. Following consultation with State’s Attorney John Hay, the contract with Pioneer Credit will be terminated as of July 6, 2015. A new agency has been identified, Credit Collection Partners in Taylorville, IL. John Hay and Sharon Wand will be meeting with the agency to learn more. The Committee asked several questions that Sharon Wand will research and bring back to the Committee before this Committee recommends approval.

**5. Staff Reports**

- a) Sheriff's Report - Nothing to report
- b) Circuit Clerk’s Office – Resolution introduced under New Business
- c) Probation – Nothing to report
- d) Public Defender – Nothing to report
- e) Other

**6. Citizens’ Comments**

**7. Board Member Concerns** Update on 911 Dispatch Center Ron Smith

The next Law & Courts committee meeting will be Monday, July 20, 2015, at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m. following a motion by Don Zillig and a second by Brandon Behlke.