

**MADISON COUNTY
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**
157 N. Main St., Edwardsville, IL 62025 RM 203
Thursday, March 6, 2025
3:15 PM – 3:39 PM

Chairwoman Wiley called the regular meeting to order at 3:15 PM. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

PRESENT: Chrissy Wiley, Don McMaster, Brynn Kincheloe, Fred Schulte, and Chris Guy (remote)
ABSENT: Michael “Doc” Holliday and Nick Petrillo
OTHERS: Chris Threlkeld, Ryan Anderson, Kevin McKee, Jeff Seaman, Aleena Wessell, Jenny Wilkinson, Mary Copeland, Melodie Smith, Melissa Bickmore, Chris Slusser, Liz Happold, Marcos Pulido, Cynthia Ellis, Scott Cousins, Dave Tanzyus, Stephanie Seehausen, and Paulina Fuhrmann

Mr. Schulte moved, seconded by Mr. Kincheloe to allow Mr. Guy to attend and participate remotely.
MOTION CARRIED.

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PUBLIC COMMENT: - None.

The February 2025 meeting minutes were approved as written.

PURCHASE RESOLUTIONS:

The following were submitted for discussion and approval:

1. **Circuit Clerk:** Dell, Inc.; Resolution to Purchase (45) Dell Optiplex 7020 Small Form Factor Computers for the Madison County Circuit Clerk. Amount \$50,085.00.

Mr. Schulte moved, seconded by Mr. Kincheloe to approve the purchase resolutions as presented.

Mr. McRae explained the Circuit Clerk and Circuit Court have around 275 computers, and they replace approximately 45 PCs a year to comply with I.T.’s requirement that they are within warranty.

The ayes and nays called on the motion to approve resulted in a vote as follows:

AYES: Wiley, McMaster, Kincheloe, Schulte, and Guy
NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED.

CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER:

Jenny Wilkinson reported the completion of their 2024 Annual Report, which highlights the following services: 494 forensic interviews conducted, 4,056 families provided with case management services, 384 families that received therapy services, and 9,047 Madison County students that received prevention education. She noted that most of these numbers have doubled compared to last year. Additionally, Ms. Wilkinson expressed gratitude to everyone who attended their Trivia Night and shared an inspiring story

about a 31-year-old woman who returned to the Center 15 years after receiving their services. Lastly, she announced that their accreditation site visit is scheduled for September 16th and mentioned the need for repairs on the sidewalk in front of the building.

In response to Member Wiley, Ms. Wilkinson said reaccreditation happens every 5 years.

CIRCUIT CLERK:

Patrick McRae reported case filings are increasing and that digitization with Crowley continues.

CIRCUIT COURT:

Chief Judge Threlkeld reported that the Third Judicial Circuit is authorized for nine circuit judges but has been operating with two vacancies. He noted that Judge Patrick King was sworn in two weeks ago, leaving one remaining vacancy. He also spoke about the Drug Court Graduation ceremony held on Tuesday, highlighting that it was well attended and the profound impact of witnessing participants successfully complete such a challenging program.

DETENTION HOME:

Jeff Seaman reported on the facility's activity for February, noting that it began the month with 27 minors in custody, admitted 18, and released 19. The in-county average daily population was 29, with the highest daily population reaching 35. Of the 18 admissions, cases included 3 for domestic battery, 3 related to firearms, 8 for delinquent warrants, 2 court-ordered placements, 1 for burglary, and 1 for aggravated battery of a police officer. The minors came from various locations: 5 from Alton, 1 from Belleville, 2 from Collinsville, 3 from Edwardsville, 1 from Godfrey, 4 from Granite City, 1 from St. Louis, and 1 from Wood River. Additionally, the mental health professional conducted 17 suicide screenings, downgrading 5 to a lower-level risk and upgrading 1 to a higher-level risk. She also provided 55 counseling sessions throughout the month.

PROBATION:

Kevin McKee reported a total of 3,892 individuals on probation, consisting of 3,665 adults and 227 juveniles. Pre-Trial Services has completed 451 criminal histories and risk assessments to date and is currently supervising 29 individuals on pre-trial release. Additionally, 31 individuals are on electronic monitoring. Mr. McKee echoed Judge Threlkeld's remarks on the Drug Court Graduation, emphasizing that participants are part of the Redeploy Illinois Grant, a prison diversion program that saves taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars. He also announced that a Combat Veterans Treatment Court Graduation is scheduled for March 12th at 2 PM at the CJC, where each veteran will receive a quilt from Quilts of Valor. Lastly, he recognized the retirements of Jeff Zukas after 32 years of service to the county and Keith Ward after 35 years of service.

PUBLIC DEFENDER:

Mary Copeland reported that in February 2025, 145 new cases were appointed, with 75 individuals in custody and 70 out of custody, compared to 197 total appointments in February 2024. In January 2025, there were 165 new cases, aligning with the typical monthly average of 140 to 170. Ms. Copeland also briefly discussed a proposed bill to transition the Public Defender's Office to be run by the state. She noted that she will be traveling to Chicago on March 24th to gather more information and will provide an update next month.

SHERIFF/JAIL POPULATION:

Chief Pulido reported that there were 267 detainees in custody at the time of the report, including 12 who have been remanded to DHS. He also shared that he and Sheriff Connor were invited to speak at the legislative forum hosted by the Madison County Mental Health Board last week in the County Board Room. During the event, they discussed DHS-related challenges and mental health issues, even highlighting their wellness dog, Doug. Chief Pulido also spoke about the profound impact of the drug court graduations.

In response to Member Kincheloe's inquiry about whether jail deputies are continuously improving their CIT training, Chief Pulido confirmed that training is ongoing. However, he emphasized that while deputies receive training, they are not mental health professionals, and each detainee faces unique challenges.

STATE'S ATTORNEY: - No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: - None.

NEW BUSINESS: - None.

Mr. Kincheloe moved, seconded by Mr. McMaster to adjourn the meeting at 3:39 PM. *MOTION CARRIED.*

/mds