



DU PAGE COUNTY

Judicial and Public Safety Committee

Final Summary

421 N. COUNTY FARM ROAD
WHEATON, IL 60187
www.dupagecounty.gov

Tuesday, September 3, 2024

8:00 AM

County Board Room

1. CALL TO ORDER

8:00 AM meeting was called to order by Chair Lucy Evans at 8:03 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

Member Patty Gustin arrived at 8:05 AM and Member Sam Tornatore arrived at 8:20 AM.

Presenters: DuPage County Coroner, Richard Jorgensen, M.D., Sheriff James Mendrick and Deputy Chief Dan Bilodeau

Staff in attendance: Nick Kottmeyer (Chief Administrative Officer), Joan Olson (Chief Communications Officer), Conor McCarthy (Assistant State's Attorney), Jason Blumenthal (Assistant Director of Operations), Evan Shields (Public Information Officer), Jeff Martynowicz (Chief Financial Officer), Jennifer Sinn (Deputy Chief Financial Officer), Valerie Calvente (Chief Procurement Officer), Paul Bruckner (Deputy Chief Assistant State's Attorney), Edmond Moore (Undersheriff) and many employees of the Sheriff's Office.

Other Board members in attendance: Member Cindy Cahill, Member Kari Galassi, Member Paula Garcia and Member Sheila Rutledge

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|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PRESENT | Chaplin, Childress, DeSart, Eckhoff, Evans, Krajewski, Ozog, Schwarze, and Zay |
| ABSENT | Yoo |
| LATE | Gustin, and Tornatore |

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered.

4. CHAIR REMARKS - CHAIR EVANS

Chair Evans welcomed all to the meeting and hoped that everyone enjoyed their Labor Day weekend.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.A. [24-2358](#)

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The motion was approved on a voice vote, all "ayes".

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| RESULT: | APPROVED |
| MOVER: | Greg Schwarze |
| SECONDER: | Michael Childress |

6. RESOLUTIONS

6.A. [FI-R-0150-24](#)

Acceptance and appropriation of the Illinois Court Commission on Access to Justice Grant PY25, Company 5000 - Accounting Unit 5925, \$3,000. (18th Judicial Circuit Court)

The motion was approved on a voice vote, all "ayes".

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| RESULT: | APPROVED AND SENT TO FINANCE |
| MOVER: | Jim Zay |
| SECONDER: | Mary Ozog |

6.B. [FI-O-0004-24](#)

Determining the Compensation of the DuPage County Public Defender.

The motion was approved on a voice vote, all "ayes".

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| RESULT: | APPROVED AND SENT TO FINANCE |
| MOVER: | Mary Ozog |
| SECONDER: | Liz Chaplin |

7. BUDGET TRANSFERS

7.A. [24-2359](#)

Transfer of funds from account no. 1000-1180-53828 (Contingencies) to account no. 1000-4401-53090 (Other Professional Services) in the amount of \$791,604. It is necessary to transfer funds from General Fund Special Accounts to Radio Dispatch to cover the one-time DuComm administrative fee of \$732,602 and the DuComm first year facility fee of \$59,002, for a total of \$791,604 for both expenses. (Sheriff's Office)

The motion was approved on a voice vote, all "ayes".

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| RESULT: | APPROVED |
| MOVER: | Jim Zay |
| SECONDER: | Liz Chaplin |

8. BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

8.A. DuPage County Coroner's Office - Richard Jorgensen, M.D.

Dr. Richard Jorgensen, the DuPage County Coroner, presented his office's FY2025 budget to the Committee. He began by stating that they have had successful renegotiation of their union contract that allowed for staff salary increases. His budget reflects very few changes from the previous year's requests. Questions and comments were brought forward by Members Zay,

DeSart, Ozog, Krajewski and Chaplin. Topics raised included the condition of their building, equipment and fleet of vehicles, staffing, need for overtime, salaries and increases in professional services. Dr. Jorgensen responded that both the infrastructure and his agency's vehicles are in good condition. He went on to state that his office is adequately staffed at the present time. Earlier this year, however, he did experience a few staff absences due to medical reasons and retirement which necessitated a temporary increase in overtime. Dr. Jorgensen then informed the Committee that he was among one of the first coroners in the State of Illinois to add a chaplain/psychologist to his team. This individual has been providing grief counseling both in-house and to grieving family members of the deceased for several years. Dr. Jorgensen considers the chaplain a valuable staff member and has increased his salary due to the ongoing demand for his services. In conclusion, Dr. Jorgensen explained the reason for the increase in professional services. Chair Evans and members of the Committee thanked Dr. Jorgensen for presenting his budget requests today.

8.B. DuPage County Sheriff's Office - Sheriff James Mendrick

Presenting the Sheriff's Office FY2025 budget were Sheriff James Mendrick and Deputy Chief Dan Bilodeau. Sheriff Mendrick began by providing a brief overview of the reasons for some of the requested increases for next year. Despite an increase in the workload, his office is continuing to operate with staff shortages which results in challenges as well as the need for overtime. He acknowledged the efforts of his staff for ensuring that his office runs efficiently even with a reduced workforce. He also mentioned that multiple collective bargaining agreements will be negotiated over the coming months that may initiate increases in salaries and other benefits. In addition, the Supervisor of the Corrections Bureau and Court Security have created their own Collective Bargaining Unit which Sheriff Mendrick will be involved with. At this time, Deputy Chief Bilodeau continued on with the presentation. This included slides which reflected their requested needs and related costs which he explained as he went along.

Questions and comments were brought forward by several Committee members to which Sheriff Mendrick and Deputy Chief Bilodeau responded. Topics discussed consisted of headcount, salaries, relationship with IT Department, IT-related costs, food and medical services for inmates, costs related to transition from ACDC to DuComm, addition of K9s, contingencies, MERIT Commission and the recruitment process, take-home squad cars and anticipated future needs. Member Gustin extended her thanks to them for bringing their new wrapped vehicle which honors all branches of the military to a recent parade in Naperville. She said that many children in attendance at the parade were excited to see it. Member DeSart inquired how the DuPage County Sheriff's Office salaries compare with those of the collar counties. She then requested that the Sheriff's Office provide the Committee with a spreadsheet that reflects the salaries of their staff in comparison to those employed in the collar counties.

In conclusion, Chair Evans thanked Sheriff Mendrick and Deputy Chief Bilodeau for presenting today. Sheriff Mendrick closed by thanking the Committee for their ongoing support of his office and of law enforcement and is looking forward to working with them in 2025.

9. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was offered.

10. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was offered.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Member Schwarze moved, seconded by Member Zay to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 8:00 AM.