

LAW & LEGAL
October 5, 2020

The Law & Legal Committee held its monthly meeting on Monday, October 5, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the McDonough County Courthouse, Courtroom 201. Committee Members present included Committee Chair Rod McGrew, Vice Chair Joe Erlandson, Travis Hiel, Michael Kirby, Bob Mahr, Julie Melvin, and Paul Trimmer. Member Lee Calvert was absent. Other persons in attendance were County Chair Scott Schwerer, Committee Secretary Stacey Alexander, Patrick Stout, Ric Smart, Chief Deputy Adam Cremer, and Rod Flora and Oliver Ellen with RWE Renewable Americas LLC.

Chair McGrew called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Review & Approve September 14, 2020 Minutes

Member Hiel moved with a second by Member Melvin to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Waste Management Update

No report.

Tri-County Recycling

No report.

Veteran's Assistance and Van Report

Ric Smart gave the report. Four Veterans were given assistance in September totaling \$785.77. The transportation van resumed operation in September traveling 514 miles, four trips were scheduled with two being cancelled. They already have six appointments scheduled for October, one of the drivers has volunteered to use his personal car for transportation if needed. Member Melvin asked Smart if the drivers are taking the riders temperatures, and if they are required to wear a mask, Smart confirmed that they were.

Sheriff's Report

Chief Deputy Adam Cremer presented the monthly report. They currently have 24 inmates, deputies handled 793 assorted incidents in September. The Public Aid savings on inmate medical for June/July/August was \$1,322.72. This morning they took 3 inmates to the Department of Corrections. A washer and dryer were purchased for the jail, they estimated that they will pay for themselves within 12-14 months. Member Erlandson asked what the washes are going to be used for, Cremer said they wash uniforms for inmates, bedding, and the clothes from incoming inmates. Chair McGrew asked Cremer if there was anything the department could do to make the Sheriff's Department look better, Cremer said that they do have some activities now and they are interested in doing more.

Assessor's Office Update

No report.

Claims Review and Approval

Member Erlandson moved with a second by Member Kirby to approve the claims as submitted. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Other

Oliver Ellen and Rod Flora with RWE Renewables Americas LLC who are involved with the proposed wind farm were present. Member Erlandson inquired with the Committee as to when they will look into the wind farm ordinance, and when they will be taking a tour of the operating wind farm. Member McGrew said that due to it being harvest season it wasn't a good time for him to go. Member Kirby asked how far you can have a set back and still be able to do a project, Oliver and Rod went into a lengthy discussion explaining how many things can come in to play. Member Kirby suggested they wait to work on a new ordinance until more studies have been done. Member Erlandson inquired as to whether or not other County's that have wind farms have created zoning for them, Oliver and Rod said that most do.

Executive Session

None

Public Comment

None.

County Board Chair Comments

Chair Schwerer handed out the County Audits and announced that the budget should be sent to the Finance Committee this week, and then to the rest of the Board Members.

Adjourn

Member Mahr moved with a second by Member Trimmer to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m. Motion carried on a voice vote.