JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: Mr. McMillin, Chair

The Judiciary Committee met on November 5, 2008 at 1:30 PM in Room 108 at the Courthouse. Members Present: McMillin, Hofmeister, Milby. Absent: Frederick. Others Present: Tony Arduini, Judge John Hauptman, Kevin Johnson, Bill McNeal, Joel Horn, Lori Keppen.

1. The claims and budget status reports for October were reviewed.

2. Court Administration.

   Judge Hauptman requested to amend his CFY09 budget proposal. The purchase of office equipment for Judge Steines office will not be completed this year. Judge Hauptman requested the $7,000 which was budgeted for 2008 be increased to $10,000 and added to the 2009 budget. Bill Milby made a motion to recommend this amendment to the Finance Committee. Myron Hofmeister seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

3. Court Services.

   a. The Committee reviewed the monthly statistical report (See #21).

   b. For the second straight year, the costs of detention and placement (institutional foster care) will remain well below original projections. Historically, these expenses have fluctuated considerably and are difficult to predict. However, I believe this is a credit to our local juvenile justice system in which placement and detention is examined carefully as it relates both to the best interests of the minor and the community as a whole.

   c. Advertizing to replace an probation officer who took employment at Thompson Correctional facility.

3. Circuit Clerk.

   a. Sheila Schipper was absent from the meeting. The Committee reviewed her monthly report:

	AUGUST	SEPT	OCT
Total Fines:	$82,276.65	$73,080.08	$66,697.41
Total Fines Paid to County:	$47,880.79	$47,735.37	$43,102.47
Clerk's Fees:	$25,045.01	$28,295.24	$28,329.81
County % Fee:	$15,155.62	$18,212.49	$18,028.28
Sheriff's Fees:	$2,547.98	$2,055.24	$1,581.30
State's Attorney Fees:	$4,433.50	$3,592.79	$3,985.63
Bailiff's Fees:	$13,778.85	$14,809.52	$14,779.65
Public Defender Fees:	$6,686.98	$4,663.75	$3,390.74
Juror Fees Paid:	$5,249.82	$2,044.60	$1,578.15
Number of Trials:	3	1	1
Number of Trial Days:	5	2	2
Collected from SC Services (YTD)	$12,630.00	$12,725.00	$12,855.00

   b. Joel Horn requested a re-appropriation of $4,600 in the Court Records Storage Fund 37 to cover salaries of two employees being paid for microfilming. Myron Hofmeister made a motion to recommend a re-appropriation of Fund 37 for $4,600 to the Finance Committee. Bill Milby seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. Public Defender:

   a. Bill McNeal presented his monthly report.

Category	August	September	October
Number of defendants	275	285	285
Number of new appointments	84	75	73
Number of defendants taken by private counsel	6	11	8

Number of defendants resolved	68	64	58
Number of defendants at end of month	285	285	292
Bond reductions	1	3	1
Plea agreements			
Felonies	27	29	27
Misdemeanors	23	25	24
Open pleas			
Felonies	4	0	0
Misdemeanors	1	0	0
Jury trials	2	1	0
Bench trials	0	0	1
Sentencing hearings			
Felonies	8	5	4
Misdemeanors	1	0	1
Dismissed Cases	1	4	2
Juvenile appearances in court	173	147	189

A motion by Myron Hofmeister, seconded by Bill Milby to adjourn carried unanimously at 1:55 PM.

Meeting Dates: The next regular meeting - December 3, 2008 at 1:30 PM in Room 108, Courthouse

MOTION: To place on file the Judiciary Committee's meeting report, October claims reports and related informational items, as presented.