

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE - Ms. Katherine Nelson, Chair

The Judiciary Committee meeting was held in the Board Room at the Law Enforcement Center on November 3, 2021 at 4:00 PM. Members present were Katherine Nelson (via teleconference), Kurt Glazier and George Kelly (via teleconference). Charles Brown was absent. Others present were Jim Duffy, Kevin Johnson, Jennifer Kelly, Sue Costello, Joel Horn and Lori Keppen.

1. Chair Katherine Nelson called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. There was no public comment.
2. A motion was made by Kurt Glazier to approve the October 2021 claims. Jim Duffy seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Glazier-yes; Duffy-yes; Nelson-yes. Motion carried.
3. Court Services
 - a. Kevin Johnson presented the monthly report (See #25). This month no one is being held in detention which holds down the costs considerably.
 - b. Mason Sitzmore has been hired as a probation office.
 - c. At the IL Probation Court Services Association conference which was held virtual in October. Debra Robinson and Christie Houzenga received distinguished awards for their outstanding work. Debra Robinson works with the Drug Court and Christie Houzenga is the Community Service Program Coordinator.
4. Public Defender
 - a. Jennifer Kelly presented her monthly report.

Category	August	September	October
Number of Defendants	654	664	657
Number of new appointments	49	40	41
Number of defendants taken by private counsel	6	7	0
Number of defendant resolved	33	40	30
Number of defendants at end of month	664	657	668
Bond reductions	1	0	0
Plea agreements	28	37	22
Felony	12	22	13
Misdemeanors	16	15	9
Open pleas	0	2	0
Felony	0	0	0
Misdemeanors	0	2	0

Jury trials	0	0	0
Bench trials	0	0	0
Felony	0	0	0
Misdemeanors	0	0	0
Sentence hearings	0	0	1
Felony	0	0	1
Misdemeanors	9	0	0
Dismissed cases	5	3	7
Juvenile appearance in court	207	199	172

- b. At this time they have not received any applications for the job opening in their office. Several suggestions were given by the Committee.

5. Circuit Clerk

- a. Sue Costello presented her monthly report (See #26-27). There was 57.3% received from some kind of “e” file for the month. Collections were \$8,243.61 for the month. There was one jury trial which lasted three days.
- b. IT is working on installing computer equipment into Courtroom B & C.
- c. Due to confidential files not being able to be laserfiched, staff is coming in Saturday mornings to scan. These files will then be destroyed.
- d. Sterling and Rock Falls Police Departments reached out to the Circuit Clerk with interest in E-citations.
- e. Nancy Dorner was hired and will be working in the Sterling Office.

Kurt Glazier made a motion to adjourn with George Kelly seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 4:23 PM.

Meeting Date: The next regular meeting – December 8, 2021 at 4:00 PM in County Board Room

MOTION: To place on file the Judiciary Committee’s meeting report, October 2021 claims report and related informational items, as presented.