

COUNTY INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

PRESENT: M. Holliday, R. Wesley, M. Madison, C. Dutton, L. Dalton, J. Minner
ABSENT: K. Novacich-Koberna, N. Petrillo
OTHERS: B. Koter, R. Clouse, B. Lavite, J. Parkin, R. Daiber, C. Cohan

Mr. Wesley moved, seconded by Mr. Madison to approve the January meeting minutes. **MOTION CARRIED.** ****The spelling of Erin's Law was changed in the CAC report to reflect the correct spelling.**

VETERANS' ASSISTANCE:

B. Lavite provided the committee with his monthly numbers report. He announced his plan of changing his report to start reflecting what the VAC is, what they do on a monthly basis and their relationship with the County rather than just providing numbers. He said that Madison County has the best VAC in the State and would put our VAC up against any other. Mr. Lavite stated that the VAC is apolitical and is a standalone entity. He went into brief detail on why the VAC is housed in the County building and gave his viewpoint on why certain operations were delegated to other departments long ago. Mr. Lavite said they are currently in litigation to get some of those responsibilities back in the VAC. There was discussion on what exactly the County's responsibilities to the VAC are which is budget approvals and appropriations. Mr. Lavite goes on to speak about the tax levy and how it has never been raised. He concludes his report by discussing the VAC board, meeting times and members.

CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER:

C. Cohan reported that the CAC will be starting the reaccreditation process and that the application is due March 22nd with the site visit being in September. She said the process is through the National Children's Alliance and is every 5 years. She goes on to speak about the Erin's Law presentation taking place March 5th through May 2nd for the Bethalto School District. Other things she spoke about was the check provided by 1st Mid America Credit Union for a little over \$27,000 and Trivia night on March 2nd. Ms. Cohan reported that on February 1st, a training was held for MDT members (42 people). Ms. Cohan shared a story with the committee about a CAC case. Please refer to the audio for Ms. Cohan's story.

Chairman Holliday asked Ms. Cohan how the CAC will be affected if the Wood River facility closes. Ms. Cohan said that the Wood River facility is extremely important and needs to stay in that general location since over 75% of the cases come from the Alton, Godfrey, Wood River, Granite City areas. M. Madison gave a brief description on what the areas of discussion have been thus far in the Facilities Committee and said a subcommittee is forming to come up with a comprehensive plan.

Ms. Cohan concludes her report by saying that the Center has been experiencing connectivity issues.

MUSEUM:

J. Parkin reported the 2nd meeting for the Madison County Historical Society is February 14th. He also said that as he was on his way to today's meeting, he received 2 bids for paint removal and tuck pointing. He said this will more than likely be the first visual update with bricks being replaced, painted and tuck pointed. Mr. Parkin said that Mary was unable to attend today's meeting but was hoping to give a Library Report; she will send that report digitally to the committee. Mr. Parkin mentioned that once the County's

website has been migrated, they will add a lot of new information in addition to their existing site. He also goes on to say that due to bad weather, he has had to reschedule 2 speaking engagements.

L. Dalton questioned Mr. Parkin about the continued roof and door frame leaks. Mr. Parkin said that he has been in communication with Tindall Construction and they have been on site and are positive they have located the problem source. Mr. Parkin said they are waiting for appropriate weather to fix the issues. Mr. Parkin said to be on the safe side, a 3rd party may be needed to start pulling plaster down. He invited the committee to come see the museum at any time and gave his cellphone number.

Dr. R. Clouse, a new board member, spoke to the committee on the budget cuts and supplemental funding received to help with operating costs (approximately \$13,000). Dr. Clouse said revenue comes from memberships, grants and donations.

EDUCATION:

Dr. Daiber presented his monthly report and wanted to highlight that there have been 8 new students enrolled in the alternative school in Troy; he extended an invitation to the committee to visit the campus. Dr. Daiber shared information about Senate Bill 28 which will redefine the length of next year's school day. Dr. Daiber said the Bill would reinstate the school day to 5 hours. Dr. Daiber changed directions by bringing attention to an article published in the Illinois Business Journal on STEM Education; he said the STEM Camp will begin the week of June 17th, 2019.

C. Dutton asked for information on the ETC Special Education Center. Dr. Daiber informed the committee that these students have been placed in this program due to severe emotional and behavioral disorders. There was discussion on the age range of these students being middle school through high school. Dr. Daiber said there has been discussion on placing students as young as 4th grade into this program and goes into the cost effectiveness/staff requirements it would take. The program is tuition based at \$180 a day.

Dr. Daiber noted that educational services for the Detention Home have been picked up but does not show on his monthly report. He said these services are funded 100% through the Orphanage Grant. There are currently 28 students and 2 teachers.

MENTAL HEALTH:

J. Roth passed her monthly report out to the committee members and said that the 2018 annual report will be completed in February. Ms. Roth said the In House Report is published in the newspaper and consists of broken down expenses and residents served. She said she was hopeful to have the website fully updated but due to constant interruptions, unfortunately that didn't happen. Last month, Ms. Roth spoke on getting letters out to former residents of Shelter Care but has had a hard time finding the time to do them. She said there are several individuals in the area that are still receiving crisis assistance and burial costs from time to time. The Mental Health Board was tasked with the components of that agreement when Shelter Care closed with a stipulation of having to have been a Shelter Care resident at the time of closing; there were approximately 40 residents at that time. Ms. Roth said this will be a topic of discussion at the next Mental Health Board meeting in March.

Ms. Roth shared her frustration in saying the Mental Health Department is there to help, refer, advocate and educate anybody who comes to them for assistance. She said the Mental Health Department has received back lash for unjust causes. Ms. Roth said some of the negative feedback may be because the department doesn't use social media.

C. Dutton noted that the Mental Health Department is known for helping multiple facets around the County and has a lot of responsibility. She said there should be some way to delegate some of these responsibilities that are currently being handled by only 2 people. C. Dutton started a discussion on how many employees other Mental Health Boards have. Aside from the shortage in resources and staff, Ms. Roth expressed frustration with the State of Illinois. Please refer to the audio for the full discussion.

Mr. Wesley moved, seconded by Ms. Dutton, to approve the bills for the month. The ayes and nays are being called on the motion to approve resulted in a vote as follows: AYES: R. Wesley, M. Madison, C. Dutton, L. Dalton, J. Minner NAYS: None.

Mr. Madison moved, seconded by Mr. Wesley, to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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