

## COUNTY INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 8, 2018

PRESENT: E. Harriss, B. Malone, J. Minner, D. Moore, N. Petrillo, L. Dalton  
ABSENT: K. Novacich-Koberna, J. Futrell, C. Dutton,  
OTHERS: J. Parkin, B. Lavite, C. Ellis, C. Cohan, J. Roth, B. Daiber, L. Ciampoli

Mr. Malone moved, seconded by Mr. Moore to approve the July meeting minutes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

### **VETERANS' ASSISTANCE:**

B. Lavite passed out his monthly report and stated that there were no big changes. He told the committee that they are exploring potential vendors for food and personal hygiene products for Veterans since their primary vendor, Shop n Save, is closing. He said it has been hard to find vendors due to the involvement of policing inventory that is being acquired. Committee members and Mr. Lavite bounced ideas off of each other for possible options. Aside from that, Mr. Lavite passed around an article covering the Veteran's art projects. Mr. Lavite said that the majority of the Veterans that are a part of the art program have taken interest of other resources offered by the VA. He says that he is almost completed with a project of his own and will bring it in for the committee to see in the future. Mr. Lavite briefly talks about how the VA Accreditation/Continuing Education Conference is coming up. He says nobody in the office has attended this conference but plans to do so soon. He concludes his report by touching base with a topic on how the VA can provide seed money to help restore a monument, park or anything that is veteran related.

### **CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER:**

C. Cohan reported to the committee that the Kid's Fair is August 11th which will provide dental/vision exams and school supplies for the kids. She also said that the Bethalto Fire Department designed a t-shirt for the Center which is currently for sale. Ms. Cohan said they will be participating in the pre k-5<sup>th</sup> grade institute day on October 5<sup>th</sup> which will cover Aaron's Law. Aaron's Law is the child sexual abuse prevention education that explains how to support children that are experiencing trauma and how to handle disclosure. She also hopes to have a presentation on how to activate the fight/flight/freeze responses. Changing direction, Ms. Cohan was excited to report that the County will actually benefit from the fees and fines bill. She will provide the numbers to the committee once she knows what the impact will be. Ms. Cohan revisits a story that she told last month with an update for the committee. Please refer to the audio to hear Ms. Cohan's update. She finishes up by saying that a couple of grants will be getting processed that will put \$50,000 worth of salary back into the Admin Budget.

## **MENTAL HEALTH:**

J. Roth reports they have been very busy with the budget cycle with 17 agencies applying for funding. She also said that 16 of those agencies are current contractors. Ms. Roth said they were allowed an extension on turning in their budget which was very helpful. She says that the Medical League Partnership has closed this past year due to not being able to fund the program. Ms. Roth says that Land of Lincoln that was previously partnered with the Medical League program has partnered up with Mental Health to put on a 1 day event to target mental health consumers. Aside from that, she reports that the State is announcing that the surge of meth use has become a bigger issue and the numbers continue to grow. The committee members received a flier for the Mental Health Hits Home conference on August 24<sup>th</sup>. She says the event will cover topics such as mental health and suicide prevention. She ended her report by telling the committee that Illinois has passed the Firearms Restraining Order Act that allows authority to temporarily remove firearms from individuals that may be a threat to themselves or society.

## **MUSEUM:**

J. Parkin provided a document showing numbers on the amount of people that have visited the Madison County Museum. Aside from that, he wanted to highlight that Dr. Daiber and himself have put resources together for local teachers on the different museums in Madison County. Mr. Parkin passed out a list of these museums with their contact information. Mr. Parkin hopes that in the future they can work with various groups of people and make these museums possible field trip destinations. He concluded his report by saying that they have been busy with a flurry of fundraising meetings and details will be available soon.

## **EDUCATION:**

Dr. Daiber provided the committee with his monthly report. He was pleased to highlight that 110 new bus driver trainings were completed while 595 licensed bus drivers already existed with a total of 705 drivers altogether. He also highlighted that there are 72 certified public school buildings and 21 nonpublic schools in Madison County. Dr. Daiber talked about how numerous schools have closed due to economics and uses Granite City as an example. Mr. Minner makes a point that there have been several cases of out of state bus drivers that have been seized due to drugs and alcohol. Mr. Minner praises Dr. Daiber for the fact that Madison County takes background checks very seriously for school district drivers. Dr. Daiber says that all drivers go through a finger print background check and the RoE does 99% of those checks. Chairman Harriss asked how the training works. Dr. Daiber's response is that the drivers get licensed through the Secretary of State's Office and the RoE does the "classroom" part which includes things like loading/unloading and the transfer of students. Changing directions, Dr. Daiber briefly speaks about the Freeman School tuck point and roof repair and how that will give a 3 year extension to the life of the building. He goes on to say that they have conducted 2 successful summer camps which are the STEM and Ag Camps. Dr. Daiber then reports that new state legislature allows out of state teachers to come to Illinois and swap their out of state teaching license for an Illinois license. He also says that if an individual has a bachelor's degree they are eligible to be a substitute teacher. Dr. Daiber says all of this came to be because Illinois is seriously hurting for educators. Another thing Dr. Daiber wanted to point out was that on the RoE website, they have every school calendar posted. He gives the date of October 5<sup>th</sup> for the County Wide Institute which will be held at the Gateway Center, Collinsville Middle School and Roxana Middle School at 8am.

Mr. Minner moved, seconded by Mr. Malone, 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: B. Malone, J. Minner, D. Moore, N. Petrillo, L. Dalton

NAYS: None.

Mr. Malone moved, seconded by Ms. Dalton, to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**