

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Legislative Committee
CHAIRPERSON: John Lang
DATE/TIME April 8, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.
PRESENT:

☒ John Lang ☒ Hendrica Regez ☒ Scott Toot ☒ LaDon Trost
☒ Darcy Wild ☒ John Schultz ☒ Diane Gallagher ☒ Don Zillig

A quorum was established.

Other Board Members:

Others: Dan Reimer

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Lang called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.
2. **Minutes Approval:**
 - a) Minutes of the February 11, 2021 Legislative Committee meeting
 - b) Minutes of the March 11 2021 Legislative Committee meeting – **John Schultz made a motion to approve the February 11, 2021 and March 11, 2021 Legislative Committee meeting minutes as corrected. Seconded by Don Zillig. Motion passed following a roll call vote that resulted in all ayes.** Diane Gallagher pointed out that there needs to be a correction on Robin Kelly's name. It was noted and will be corrected on the final minutes.
3. **Citizens' Comments:** None.
4. **Unfinished Business:**
5. **New Business:**
 - a) Discussion on concern with the lack of mutual aid from surrounding out of state agencies due to concerns with legislation associated with HB3653 – John Lang commented that he has been informed that according to HB3653 the County cannot engage in intergovernmental agreements with out of state public safety agencies. Right now Jo Daviess County has had agreements with Grant County and Lafayette County in Wisconsin, and Dubuque County in Iowa. Sheriff Turner reported that this came from ILEAS who asked if our mutual aid agreements were still valid because they have had other states like Indiana, Missouri and other bordering counties with Wisconsin saying that they would not come in to the state for backup. In talking with other counties, they are leery about sending officers into Illinois. The Sheriff's Association is aware of this and they are going to try to talk to some of the bill sponsors but they do not feel they are going to budge on this. They are hoping it will go off nationwide. Sheriff has not received anything official yet, but other counties have. Dubuque County will not come over because of the risk of being sued or charged. We will try to get more information on this item and see if the Sheriff's Association has a resolution that we could support. Sheriff will check with the Sheriff's Association to see what the status is with the bill sponsors.
 - b) Update on legislative session –
 - i. Calendar – There are only going to be eight more days before the bills have to be through a third reading.

- ii. The volume of legislation – The Illinois General Assembly has been primarily meeting by Zoom. Meetings are not moving along real fast. There are approximately 7,000 bills in the Illinois General Assembly now: 5,000 House, 2,000 Senate.
- iii. Bills that have passed – HB1871 Ballot Box, HB2415 – Cannabis Tax – HB1871 will affect the County Clerk. The Illinois General Assembly has now codified everything they did in the COVID relief. It has a drop in ballot boxes and mail in ballots. This bill has already been signed by the Governor. HB2415 has been already passed and the Governor signed it on April 2nd. This will bring in revenue from tax dollars to our county. Reimer commented that revenue for FY2020 was about \$7,500. The committee reviewed the County's Retailer's Occupation Tax ordinance.
- c) Status of bills the committee took a position on in March – Lang commented that a list of the bills that we took a position on at the last meeting were included in the packet. Just about every one of those bills have received a committee assignment. When Lang reviewed last week he didn't see that any of them have been posted for a hearing yet. The only time you can take a position on a bill is when it gets a committee assignment and it is posted for a hearing. We may be able to put in support/opposition slips next week even though they may not have a hearing scheduled. Lang will start putting in slips when they go back next week and see what happens. Lang encouraged other committee members to do the same. The committee reviewed some of the bills they are following. Diane Gallagher commented that the easiest way to look at the bills is on the UCCI website. Most of the bills that they show are re-referred to the Rules Committee.
- d) Additional legislation committee members or officials want to bring to the committee to take a position on – There was no additional legislation to discuss at this time.

6. **Citizens' Comments:** None.

- 7. **Board Member Concerns:** Diane Gallagher thanked Lang for educating the committee on the bills and the process. As we become acquainted with how the legislation works it is important that we build a packet that is separate for each new board member that comes on so that the learning curve is sped up. As we start talking about becoming active in the county and maybe participating in the county more we want to make sure that the public is aware that this is one of the goals of the county. Gallagher has a draft that she will send to Lang. Gallagher is looking towards creating an orientation handbook and one of the sections would be legislative action.
- 8. Next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.
- 9. Meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m. following a motion made by John Schultz. Seconded by Don Zillig and motion passed following a roll call vote that resulted in all ayes.