Committee Chair Kathy Arbogast called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. in the Committee Room within the Livingston County Historic Courthouse.

Present: Arbogast, Weller, Ambrose, Kestner, Mays, Runyon, Ritter

Absent:

Also Present: Chairman Young, County Board Member Gerald Earing, Steve Lovell, Alina Hartley (Executive Director), Ginger Harris (Human Resources Director), Sheriff Childress, Chief Dutko, Superintendent Cox, Coroner Danny Watson, Probation Director Ron Baker

Arbogast requested that the agenda be amended to add item g. Discussion on Replacement of Deputy. Arbogast then called for any additional corrections to the agenda with none requested. 

Motion by Ambrose, second by Ritter to approve the agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

The Committee reviewed the revised minutes of the December 11, 2018 meeting. Motion by Ritter, second by Ambrose to approve the revised minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

Probation Quarterly Report – Probation Director Ron Baker was present to provide a quarterly report to the Committee. Baker indicated that the department came in just under budget, utilizing approximately 99% of their allocation. Baker reported that the state reimbursement for probation is down this year (equivalent to the 2014 rate). Baker stated that there is a lobbyist working to get the amount increased on behalf of probation departments across the state. Baker reported that drug court is going well. Baker reported that for veterans court, he anticipates we will remain part of a circuit wide program as it seems to be working out well.

Monthly Department Report – A copy of the monthly department report was distributed.

Cook County / Federal Report – Cox reported that the billing for the month of December is not yet complete. Cox reported that there are currently 44 from the federal northern district, 33 from the federal central district and 6 from Cook County being housed for a total of 83 out of county detainees. Cox stated that the Livingston County population is up slightly at 68, for a grand total of 151. Cox reported that the total housing income for 2018 at $2,273,562.09.

Animal Control Report – A copy of the monthly animal control report was distributed. It was noted that recent changes to the spay and neuter program have resulted in an increased usage of the program.
Pro-Active Report – Lt. Hamilton was present to provide the Committee an update on the status of the pro-active unit.

Raffle License Applications – N/A

Discussion on the Replacement of a Deputy – Sheriff Childress stated that the department is in the process of hiring the two officers to fill the vacancies left by the school resource officer program. Childress stated that recently one of his officers was deployed on military leave, and another accepted a position with State Farm, leaving him currently short four officers. Childress stated he will be attending the Finance Committee meeting to request authorization to fill three of the four positions. Childress stated that in order to the department’s minimum safety standards, he has had to move staff from investigations, hopefully on a temporary basis. Childress noted that since the officer who resigned was a seasoned veteran, the county would still experience a cost savings of between $8,000-$11,000, depending on who was hired. Discussion took place. Consensus of the Committee was to agree with the replacement of the officer with no objection.

Review & Approval of Bills – The Committee reviewed the bills submitted. Motion by Ritter, second by Weller to approve the bills as submitted. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

Arbogast noted that she would like to schedule either the March or April Committee meeting at the Public Safety Complex in order to allow time for a tour of the facility.

Motion by Weller, second by Mays to adjourn. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES. The meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m..

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Alina Hartley
Executive Director