



Public Safety and Court Services Committee

Meeting Minutes

Lee County, Illinois

Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 10:30 AM

Old Lee County Courthouse, Third Floor, 112 E 2nd St, Dixon, IL 61021

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety on YouTube using the web address below
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mZ7Ppen10hq&t>

- I. Call to Order
Meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m., by Chair Mike Koppien.
- II. Committee Member Roll Call: Chair Mike Koppien, Vice Chair Keane Hudson, Katie White, Michael Pearson, Chris Norberg
Mike Koppien, Keane Hudson, and Mike Pearson attended in person. Katie White and Chris Norberg were absent.

Also present: Dean Freil (Board Member), Charley Boonstra (State's Attorney), Jeremy Englund (Administrator), Nancy Petersen (County Clerk and Recorder), Staci Stewart (Director of Probation and Court Services), Clay Whelan (Sheriff), and Becky Brenner (Board Secretary) all attended in person.
- III. Public Attendees
Mike and Melanie Willstead attended the meeting to discuss possible funding for the Harmon Township Tornado Warning System item on the agenda.
- IV. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting - (February 11, 2025)
Minutes from the February 11, 2025, Public Safety and Court Services Committee Meeting were approved as presented without modification.
- V. Animal Control
 - A. Graphs for the Month of February
Teri Zinke was not able to attend the meeting but submitted graphs from Animal Control for the month of February. The graphs will be attached to the minutes and included in the March County Board agenda packet.
- VI. Circuit Clerk
 - A. Monthly Report
Amy Johnson was not able to attend the meeting, but asked Charley Boonstra to let the committee know that she was expecting a decision on AOIC Grant funding later in the week.
- VII. Judges, Coroner, and Public Defender
No representatives were present from the Judges, Coroner, or Public Defender's Offices and no reports were submitted.

VIII. Emergency Management Agency

A. *Monthly Report*

Kevin Lalley was not able to attend the meeting but submitted a detailed report from the Emergency Management Agency. The full report will be attached to the minutes and included in the March County Board agenda packet.

IX. Health Department

There were no representatives from the Health Department in attendance.

X. Probation

There was no report from the Probation Department.

XI. Sheriff

A. *Monthly Report*

Clay Whelan submitted a detailed report for the committee. The full report will be attached to the minutes and included in the March County Board agenda packet.

XII. State's Attorney

Charley Boonstra explained that the report submitted by the Sheriff covered much of what he would have discussed, particularly regarding Mr. Sosa and Mr. Anderson.

A. *Quarterly Update on the Collection of Unpaid Fines - State's Attorney*

Charley Boonstra reported that the total amount collected in unpaid fines in January 2025 was \$11,553.81 and \$13,541.66 in February 2025.

XIII. Report of Abandoned/Nuisance Property Focus Group

Jeremy Englund provided updates on the progress on abandoned properties, highlighting the redevelopment of Old Lee Center School and the Strong Communities grant program. He met with a developer and their team regarding the Old Lee County School, where tentative plans were revealed for a buildout of approximately 20 residential units within the structure. The project would be completed in two phases, with the first phase potentially starting by the end of the year with 8 - 10 units. The second phase would be a buildout of the old gym area that would provide an additional 10 units. The plans also included exterior remodeling and waterproofing.

Jeremy also explained that he, Assistant States Attorney Sasscer, and the City of Amboy attorney, met to discuss an intergovernmental agreement to facilitate the Strong Communities grant program on several properties. The City of Dixon also has several properties that they have identified. With a deadline in November to expend the grant funds, efforts are being made to expedite the process, and contingency plans are in place to address other properties in the unincorporated areas of the County if necessary. Overall, the projects are progressing positively.

XIV. Unfinished Business

There were no items under Unfinished Business.

XV. New Business

- A. *Funding for Harmon Township Tornado Warning System - Discussion Only*
Melanie Willstead provided an update on the efforts to address the Harmon Township tornado warning system. She contacted the individual that installed the City of Amboy's warning system and received a cost estimate of roughly \$1,500. This cost, however, did not include the actual siren that may need to be replaced and relocated. A meeting is planned after May 1st., with the installer, Chief Dickison from Amboy Fire, and a representative from Braniff Communications (the siren company) to assess the situation. Melanie emphasized the Township's commitment to public safety, regardless of cost, and noted the difficulty in determining financial responsibility due to the Township's small size. The committee suggested that Lee County EMA Director, Kevin Lalley, be contacted to seek out potential grant ideas.

XVI. Executive Session

There was no request for an Executive Session.

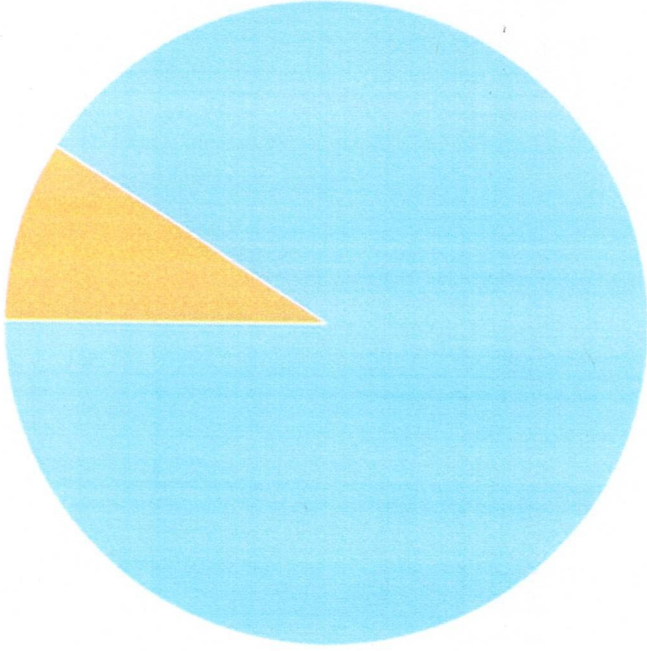
XVII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 10:46 a.m. **Moved** by Keane Hudson. **Second** by Mike Pearson. **Motion** passed unanimously by voice vote.

The next Public Safety and Court Services Committee Meeting is scheduled for
10:30 a.m., Tuesday, April 15, 2025

Respectfully submitted by:
Becky Brenner - Board Secretary

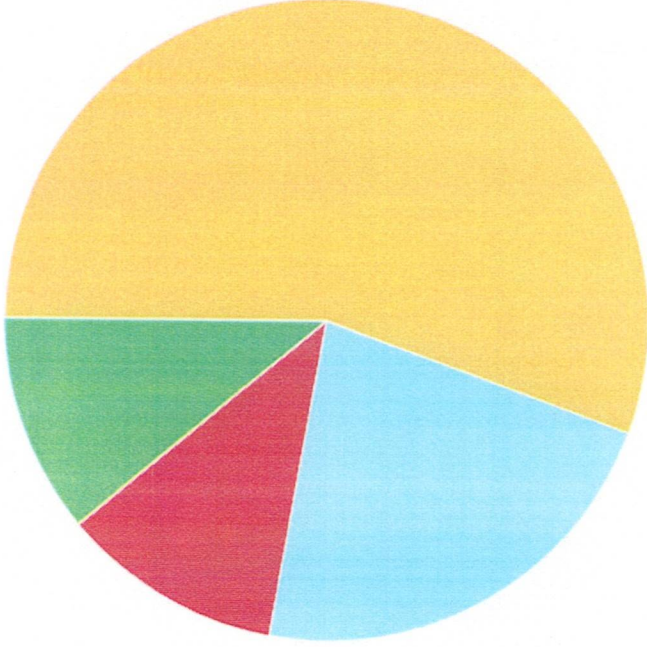
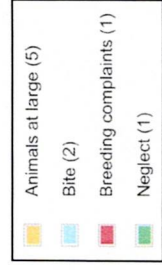
CITATIONS ISSUED BY TYPE-GRAPH



Criteria:

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INCIDENTS BY TYPE-GRAPH

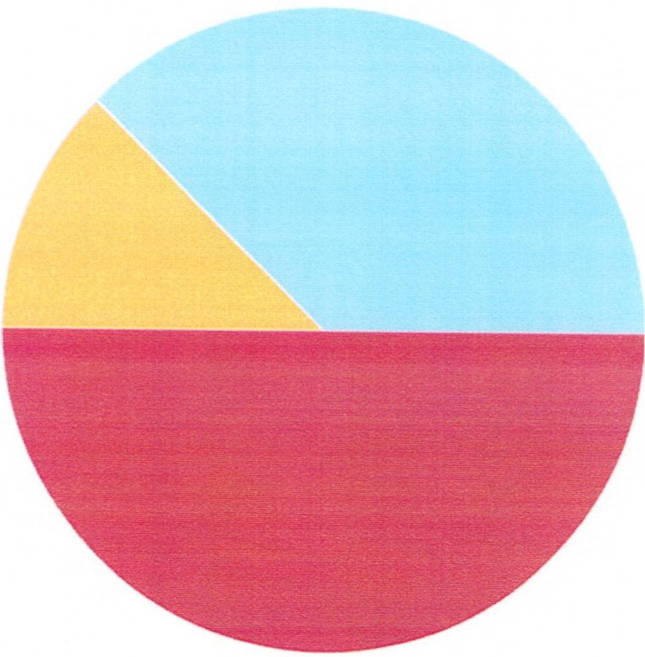
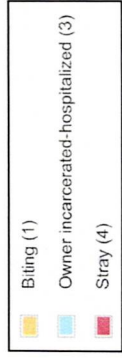


Criteria:

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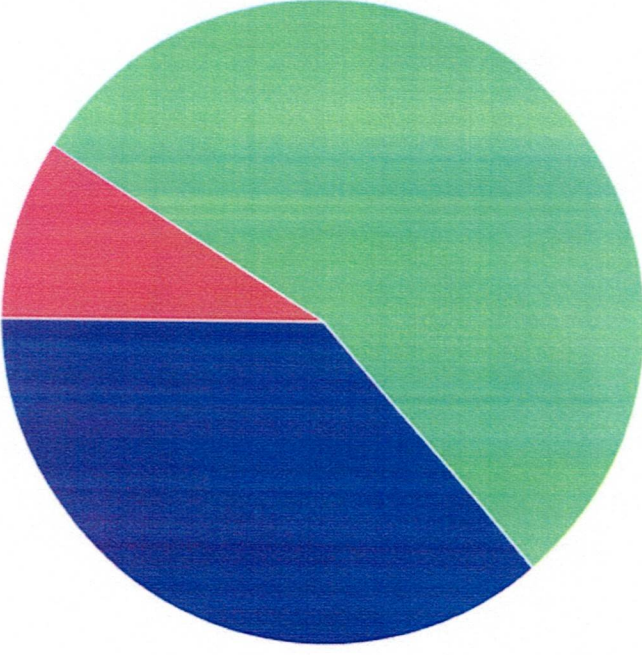
****ANIMAL ENTRY REASONS-GRAPH****



Criteria:

Enter from date: 02/01/2025
Enter to date: 02/28/2025

****ANIMAL EXIT REASONS-GRAPH****



Criteria:

Enter from date: 02/01/2025
Enter to date: 02/28/2025

Report: **Movement Charts -> **ANIMAL EXIT REASONS-GRAPH****
Generated by Animal Shelter Manager 50 [Thu 27 Feb 2025 09:10:35 AM UTC] at Lee County Animal Control on 03/03/2025 by tz2404

Lee County Emergency Management Agency

Office of Emergency Management Activity Report for February 2025

At the monthly equipment check and motorized equipment exercise the battery on the UTV was found to be dead. The battery maintainer malfunctioned causing the battery to fail. The replacement battery list cost was \$337.72. The battery was obtained for \$190.99. The battery maintainer was listed at \$84.56 and purchased at a cost of \$39.99. Both have been installed and the UTV is back in service.

Eighteen members of the LCVC GSAR team including members of the Lee County Sheriff's Office completed an 8-hour course on lost person behavior (LPB). Lost behavior is the cornerstone of search and rescue efforts. LPB is the guide to solving the puzzle of where a lost person might be found. It covers subject categories, behavioral profiles, current statistics, suggested initial tasks, and specialized investigative questions. Whether the subject is underground, underwater, under collapsed rubble, on land, this class taught what search managers and team members need. This training is for those responsible for the initial response and subsequent searches.

On February 4 from approximately 3:21 AM 226 ComEd customers lost power. Each customer can be a single-family residence, a business or industrial facility. The initial probable cause was an equipment problem. The power was restored quickly.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office inquired about borrowing two laptops for deputies who will be attending a report writing class. Two laptops from the EOC were provided to the Sheriff's Office to assist in providing equipment for the class.

Lee County EMA Director Lalley attended the quarterly NIPARC meeting held at Freeport Memorial Hospital. The topics covered during the meeting were regional updates, Collation Bylaws, and the updated Regional Incident Response Plan.

Director Lalley attended a Zoom online seminar on the development of a Friends and Relatives Center (FC) and Family Assistance Center (FAC) for Reunification of Students and Family during events as active shooter events. This program can be used during any mass casualty incident. This theory addresses the needs of friends and relatives involved in a critical event.

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Lee County Emergency Management Agency

On the evening of February 5th freezing drizzle/rain affected the area. Many roads became slick and there were several reports of accidents. Social media was used to make followers aware to use extreme caution as it may not be apparent that a roadway were icy. Untreated sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots where ice covered and very slippery. A large accident occurred on the I-88 at mile marker 81, with multiple wrecks and injuries. I-88 eastbound was closed between Dixon and Rochelle. I-88 westbound was closed between I-39 in Rochelle and DeKalb, with traffic being diverted off of I-88 at Annie Glidden Road. A major accident just east of I-39 halted traffic on both westbound lanes. A ten-car pile-up on I 88 west of Dixon was reported on I 88 closing the roadway for a time. The NWS posted to their social media for motorists to strongly consider postponing non-essential travel plans overnight due to the icy roads in many areas at midnight. Ice accumulation was measured at 0.07” at Chicago/Rockford Airport. For comparison, a dime is ~0.053” thickness and a nickel is 0.077” thick.

The Office of Emergency Management hosted an ICS 400 class for local first responders. This course is for those emergency response personnel who would function as part of an Area Command, Emergency Operations Center, or Multiagency Coordination System during a large, complex incident or event, or those personnel who are or would likely be part of a local or regional Incident Management Team during a major incident, whether single agency, multiagency or Unified Command.

The 2019 GMC truck was due for oil change. After being taken to the shop and further investigation it was determined that the tires needed replacement. While replacing the tires it was found the front brakes required replacement. The cost of four tires, lube oil filter and front brake replacement totaled \$1505.26.

The NWS is predicting 4 to 7 inches of snow for Northern Illinois. The EOC was opened at 0930hrs 10 Feb. to level 3, to monitor changing weather conditions, providing updates to local officials and the public, and standing by to provide resources.

The EMA Director attended the Paradigm First Responders Pipeline Safety training in LaSalle County. First Responders were briefed on responses to local pipeline events and new laws pertaining to underground pipelines.

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Due to extremely cold weather the heat in the Critical Incident Response Unit continues to run. The LP tanks need to be refilled. Running the LP heater prevents equipment in the Command Post from freezing.

After driving the EMA truck for a brief time, a shimmy developed in the front end. The truck was returned to the shop, and it was determined a rubber bushing failed. The steering bushing was replaced with the truck returned to service.

Director Lalley responded to a verbal FOI request from Energy Renewal Partners for any spill on a property in Lee County. The requestor was directed to the IEMA website site for Haz Mat spills.

Lee County EMA has control over assets which are Federal Property. The equipment transferred to Lee County requires an annual audit to meet the use agreement. A review of the equipment was conducted on Wednesday February 18. Updated Federal property stickers were placed on the equipment and photos taken of each item. No issues were reported. Once the equipment is no longer required by Lee County it must be returned to DoD.

The Office of Emergency Management assisted the Lee County Sheriff's Office in deploying EMA technology to assist in their mission.

The National Weather Service will again be conducting Outdoor Event Weather Planning and Monitoring Seminars for public safety and other government officials. The seminar provides information to event planners on an overview of the key elements of an outdoor event hazardous weather plan as well as tools and support services available from the National Weather Service (NWS). The information has been shared with the agencies and groups in Lee County that conduct outdoor events.

I will be on vacation beginning March 6th returning on March 20th. I will have access to my cell phone and emails. I will be taking the county laptop with me on vacation so that I have the capability to submit claims in a timely manner to avoid late fees.

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Lee County Sheriff's Office

Public Safety and Court Services Committee

March 11, 2025

In the month of February, the Lee County Sheriff's Office logged 751 calls for service.

As far as notable calls for the month, the following incidents occurred...

During the evening of February 5th, the Sauk Valley area received a blowing snowfall, and the roadways became very slick. Between 8:50 p.m. and 1:05 a.m. on February 6th, law enforcement responded to over 15 traffic accidents in that span of time. Several of the accidents were personal injury in nature with the bulk of the injury accidents being on I-39.

On February 9th (Superbowl Sunday) at approximately 7:46 p.m., Dixon Police Officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a vehicle with a suspected impaired driver. The vehicle would not come to a complete stop and was driving very erratically. The vehicle pulled into several private parking lots and conducted numerous U-turns on Galena Avenue with fully marked squads having lights and sirens activated behind it. Lee County Sheriff's Deputies responded to assist Dixon Police Officers with the situation. During the unpredictable and outlandish tour, the driver had the audacity to call 911 with squads behind them to report that they were being followed by police. Telecommunicators told the driver several times to pull over and cooperate. The driver refused and terminated the call. A Lee County Deputy was able to set up ahead of the vehicle and to deploy Stop Sticks near the intersection of Galena Avenue and Fellows Street. Stop Sticks are a tire deflation system that law enforcement agencies utilize to stop a fleeing vehicle. The Deputy was able to hit all four tires of the vehicle as it proceeded north on Galena Avenue. The vehicle continued traveling northbound as the tires from it began disintegrating into pieces. Ultimately, the vehicle was driving on its rims as it continued north out of Dixon on Illinois Route 26. The speed of the vehicle and trailing deputies was in the 25 to 30 mile per hour range. The vehicle continued north past Woosung when a deputy used their push bumper to guide the vehicle off the roadway. The driver was taken into custody and identified as 34-year-old Aiden Ellingson of Minnesota. He was subsequently transported to OSF Saint Katharine where he was admitted for his inebriated state. He was cited and charged with Aggravated Fleeing or Attempting to

CORRECTIONS/WARRANTS

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Elude a Police Officer and Reckless Driving. Further charges are pending once toxicology results are received. Pursuant to pretrial release conditions, he was issued a court date of March 19th.

On February 24th, David Sosa took a negotiated plea of 40-years in the Department of Corrections on charges of First-Degree Murder for the death of 16-year-old Jaedyn Hill. The investigation started on October 15th at approximately 7:04 a.m., when the Sheriff's Office received a call from the Rochelle Police Department regarding a subject that walked into their lobby. The subject identified as 17-year-old David Sosa advised he was involved in the murder of his girlfriend. Rochelle Police obtained the address in Ashton, and Lee County Deputies conducted a welfare check. The body of Jaedyn Hill was located inside the apartment. Through the investigation, it was learned that Sosa and Hill resided at the apartment, and they were in a dating relationship. An autopsy was conducted, and the preliminary cause of death was ruled as strangulation. After consultation with the Lee County State's Attorney's Office, charges were filed alleging four counts of First-Degree Murder against 17-year-old David Sosa. The charges against Sosa were filed as an adult and they carried a sentencing range of 20 to 60 years in the Department of Corrections. A detention hearing was held, and Sosa was remanded to the Kane County Juvenile Detention Center since he was 17-years of age at the time of his arrest. Once David Sosa attained the age of 18, he was transferred to the custody of the Lee County Jail. He has since been transferred to the Illinois Department of Corrections.

On the evening of February 25th, Lee County Sheriff's Deputies assisted Dixon Police Officers in the apprehension of a subject that had previously been released from the scene of a traffic stop. Dixon Police Officers had conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in the parking lot of the Comfort Inn. Seth Anderson, age 33, of Rock Falls was cited and released for No Valid Driver's License and Operation of an Uninsured Motor Vehicle. As officers were conducting an inventory of the vehicle prior to it being towed, they discovered a loaded handgun along with a large amount of cannabis and a suspected controlled substance. Additional officers and deputied arrived to the area in an effort to locate Anderson. A Lee County Deputy discovered a locked public restroom in the search for Mr. Anderson. The deputy and officers knocked on the door and called out to Anderson to surrender. Their efforts went unanswered. The deputy had a portable endoscope in his squad that he was able to utilize to peer under the door of the restroom. Seth Anderson was observed crouched down and hiding in the restroom. The deputy then utilized another tool to gain access to the bathroom. Anderson was taken into custody and charged with Armed Violence, Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by a Felon, Unlawful Possession of Cannabis (500 to 2000 grams), and Possession of a Controlled Substance (Fentanyl). A petition to deny pretrial release was filed by the Lee County State's Attorneys Office. A detention hearing was held and Seth Anderson was ordered to be detained at the Lee County Jail pending further action in Lee County Case Number 25 CF 48.

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Staffing Update

From the Corrections Division, we are up to full staffing!

From the Patrol Division, we are at our authorized staffing level but are two deputies short on the schedule. One deputy is currently going through the Law Enforcement Academy at Sauk Valley Community College, and another deputy is still off for a few more months on active-duty service with the military.

From the Telecommunications Division, we are at our authorized staffing level but are three telecommunicators short on the schedule. The replacement telecommunicators have been hired, but they are going through training at this time before they can work on their own. Another telecommunicator has been off on maternity leave with the birth of a child.

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