

COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: LAW ENFORCEMENT/ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: June 25, 2010

Meeting called to order by Paul Babcock at 8:32 a.m. Members of the committee present were: Paul Babcock, George Jaeckel, Glen Borland, Pam Rogers, Dwayne Morris

Others present were: Chief Deputy Parker, Captain Brown, John Molinaro, Jan Rouu

Absent: Sheriff Milbrath

Compliance with open meetings law: John Molinaro assured compliance.

Approve agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of minutes: A motion was made by Pam Rogers, and seconded by George Jaeckel that the May 28, 2010 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Storage facility options: Chief Deputy Parker said that he has been in contact with Wright Management and they are somewhat reluctant to move forward with anything since Briggs and Stratton is still using the building. The legal document they drafted for the Sheriff's Office to use the building while Briggs and Stratton is still using the space came with a cost of around \$2,000.00. At this time, Briggs and Stratton is planning to occupy the building only until the end of the year. The Chief indicated that he inquired whether Wright Management would rent out the building after Briggs and Stratton is out and what the cost would be. He is still waiting for an answer from them and will follow up on that. John Molinaro commented that there are negotiations out there for Wright Management to transfer the plant site to another business in Jefferson County so there may be an opportunity in the future for the Sheriff's Office to rent the building. Glen Borland asked about the \$2,000 cost and whether it was a one-time charge. Chief Deputy Parker said it was, that Briggs and Stratton was going to let the Sheriff's Office use that space at no charge, and they also would be paying for heat and electric, not charging the Sheriff's Office anything. A legal document had already been drafted and signed. However, Wright Management had to have their own legal document which came with the charge. John Molinaro asked whether contact had been made with the park's department as far as storage in their building. Chief Deputy Parker said yes, the Sheriff had talked to Joe Nehmer and found that the parks department had no room for additional storage.

Joint determination agreement with County Board – jail housing: This agreement is something the Sheriff's Office is required to have each year according to DOC (statute) and is to be kept on file both at the state level and local level. The current document hasn't been updated since 1994, resulting in the new agreement. Also, when contacted, the state jail inspector wasn't sure any of the other counties had agreements on file either so it will be required from them as well. The agreement dictates staffing levels and such issues as double bunking. John Molinaro suggested that the document be forwarded on to the County Board for passage as soon as possible. Glen Borland made a motion to forward the agreement on to the County Board in July. Pam Rogers seconded. Motion carried.

Report from the Sheriff: Chief Deputy Parker said the Sheriff was on his way to the National Sheriff's Association Conference in California. The Sheriff is a board member for the group. The Chief added that one of the Sheriff's missions is to go from vendor to vendor looking for deals and free items or services.

The Sheriff's Office changed to their new tactical utility uniforms yesterday. He said they decided about a year ago that the deputies in the field were damaging their uniforms so they changed to a rip-stock BDU uniform which has no metal on it. The name plate and badge are patches that are sewn on. The new uniforms are much sturdier and are very comfortable. The deputies are responsible for keeping their uniforms clean and neat.

The Sheriff has everything put in place as far as working with the propane grant. The funding will convert all of the squads to a low-pressure propane system (currently the squads have high-pressure systems that require more maintenance and are no longer being manufactured). The old squads will be purchased by other county departments (i.e. Human Services) and the systems from the remaining squads will be used for replacement parts. The grant also will allow for a new card system at the pumping station in order to keep track of each department's usage as well as a shelter over the pumping system. All of the paperwork is going forward. The cost of propane is considerably cheaper than gas. At the current time the Sheriff's Office is paying 99.9¢ per gallon and with the 50¢ federal rebate, the cost goes down to 49.9¢. Propane costs fluctuate somewhat with the cost of gasoline so Chief Deputy Parker said he is waiting for the window of opportunity to lock in next year's price. The vendors put in a price bid and compete against each other. The tax rebate will go through 2011 at this point.

Paul Babcock asked if there has been any increased vandalism in the parks. Chief Deputy Parker and Captain Brown both said they weren't aware of any increase. The squads are doing park checks every day. Paul asked in regard to a building in Mason Park that was broken into. There was nothing in the building. Either the thieves had no idea the building was empty or they were looking for a place to party.

Paul also asked about flooding and whether it was a problem. The river is pretty high right now. Chief Deputy Parker said that there has been some minor localized flooding, and a few requests have come in for small numbers of sandbags but nothing major. John Molinaro said that he talked with Donna Haugom (Emergency Management) and she said all three rivers were below flood stage at this point, would be peaking today or tomorrow and then would be receding. Although some farm fields haven't fared as well and do have water standing in them. Chief Deputy Parker commented that Walworth County asked for some assistance in Eagle because of looting issues and John Molinaro said that Busseyville asked for assistance with downed trees. Some talk about volunteers and liability that the county would assume if they were the organizing agency came up as well. Additional severe weather could be detrimental to farm fields as well as other areas.

Review monthly bills and financial items: – The committee approved the monthly recap report for May bills in the amount of \$792,544.57. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members. Chief Deputy Parker gave a review of the budget numbers as of May 31. Salary and benefit amounts are down over \$600,000.00 due to a couple deputies out on military leave and a couple positions that haven't been filled yet. Overtime is either at or below projected amounts. Gas and diesel costs are under budget as well and are at about 22% of the yearly amount. In addition, sick time usage is down from last year. On the flip side, the jail inmate population is down quite a bit as well which results in lower revenues (daily fees, phone cards, Huber fees) in

that department. Inmate board from other counties is much lower this year. As a temporary measure, the staffing levels have been cut by one on first and second shifts while the inmate population is down. Once the levels come back up to 140-150, the additional deputy will be added back in. The Chief said they are continuing to be very fiscally responsible and the sergeants and captains are doing a great job keeping costs down. Dwayne Morris asked about decreasing the staffing level in the jail during the week; however, Chief Deputy Parker said there are too many variables during the week to be able to do that. Manning the courts, intake, inmates being brought in from other facilities (mental health, detox, etc.) are all additional things that are going on during the week.

Paul Babcock asked about the monthly expense amount with the Sheriff's Office being \$120,000.00 and Emergency Management at \$671,000.00. He wondered why the huge amount for EM. Chief Deputy Parker said it was flood mitigation amounts that make that number so large. He suggested that the committee ask Donna Haugom next month (that meeting is scheduled as Emergency Management).

Glen Borland asked about inmate sandals. The sandals are an item provided to the inmate as part of their jail uniform. Jail uniforms are cleaned and re-used after inmates leave the facility. Some items for the inmates are provided through commissary funds and others are budgeted.

Dwayne Morris asked about Edward Edwards and whether the financial obligation was done with him now. It is. He has been picked up by Ohio officials and is there at this time. Some discussion regarding the removal of costs for his board at DOC and the reduced medicaid payments for his hospital visits was brought up.

Review monthly jail and patrol activity reports: Jail and patrol activity reports were reviewed.

Jail assessment fund items: General fund items for the month. Current balance is about \$315,000.00 in that account. The bill that just passed the legislature will allow those funds to be used for some other expenses besides jail maintenance and capital expenditures (such as medical expenses).

Next meeting dates are July 23 (EM) and August 27 (Law Enforcement), 2010.

John Molinaro commented that he had sent an e-mail out to the county congratulating the District Attorney's Office and the Sheriff's Office for their work regarding Edwards (Hack/Drew murders). He wanted to reiterate his thanks to both departments.

A motion made by Pam Rogers to adjourn at 9:28 a.m., was seconded by George Jaeckel. Motion carried.

Motions Carried: 3 Lost: 0 .

Signed _____