

COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: LAW ENFORCEMENT/ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: September 23, 2011

Meeting called to order by Paul Babcock at 8:30 a.m. Members of the committee present were: Paul Babcock, George Jaeckel, Glen Borland, Pam Rogers, Dwayne Morris
Others present were: Sheriff Milbrath, Chief Deputy Parker, Donna Haugom, Phil Ristow, John Molinaro

Absent: None

Compliance with open meetings law: Compliance was assured.

Approve agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of minutes: A motion was made by George Jaeckel, and seconded by Glen Borland that the August 26, 2011 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Memo of support – We Volunteer, Wisconsin’s Emergency Volunteer Initiative: Donna Haugom explained that the memo is to find out where municipalities are in disaster response as far as planning, existing resources, shelters and volunteer bases. This will identify gaps that need to be addressed. She also will be working with them to create training curriculums and registries for volunteers for more effective emergency response. This will be coming before the County Board in October.

Present/approve Emergency Management ordinance changes: Donna also explained the reason for the changes to the Emergency Management ordinance. There were mostly minor changes to the ordinance and a beefing up of the declaration of an emergency. A declaration does not have to be rescinded by the County Board any more; it will automatically expire after 60 days unless it is extended. The committee recommended a minor change in the grammar. The ordinance states that if the County Board is unavailable to make a declaration, then the County Board chair can, and so on down the line. The declaration triggers access to state resources and funding.

Pam Rogers made a motion to approve the changes to the ordinance and send it to the County Board for approval. Dwayne Morris seconded. Motion carried.

Consider ammendments and final form of lease/purchase agreement for Lake Mills

Conservation Club property: Phil Ristow talked about the changes in terminology needed in the purchase contract because of the cheaper price for the roof. The resolution approving the contract allows the Law Enforcement Committee to approve the final details of the agreement (as long as the total price does not change). So these changes to the contract, as well as those discussed last month, do not need to go to the County Board for approval. The closing date was originally set for October 31 but the conservation club would like to close on October 14 which is inside the original date of the contract language. A propane tank out there was also just filled so that will be reimbursed at closing. The easement described in the original document was re-surveyed and the language on that will change. In addition, the agreement that the conservation club members wanted kept with the

City of Lake Mills for their compost area will likely be ongoing at the time of closing. They currently are talking with the city to get this finalized.

An open house is planned for right before the County Board meeting on October 11th. A tour of the Lake Mills facility is planned at this time. However, with the time restraints, there won't be time to do both the conservation club facility and the Drug Task Force annex building. It was determined that right after the next Law Enforcement Committee meeting (October 28), the committee members will take a tour of the Lake Mills Conservation Club. It will be added to the agenda in October (Emergency Management meeting).

Pam Rogers made a motion to amend the contract language regarding the final purchase price being \$150,000.00 minus the cost of the roof, the easement language, and reimbursement to the conservation club for the LP left in the tank. Glen Borland seconded. The motion carried.

Update/discussion on additional storage space options for the Sheriff's Office: Chief Deputy Parker apologized for not being at the Finance Committee meeting regarding discussion on the possible storage building on Highway N as he was sick at that time. He mentioned an article that appeared in the Daily Union after the meeting in which the space at the Lake Mills Conservation Club was discussed and a comment made by County Board Chair John Molinaro was reported as, "there's plenty of room out there." Phil Ristow added that he was at the meeting and that comment was not what Mr. Molinaro said. The article picked a number of comments and put them out of context, including the "tax to the max" comment. The storage building was on the bubble of the allowable tax money. Discussion at the meeting then followed regarding storage of occasional evidence vehicles in a secure area and there is room for a vehicle or two at the Lake Mills Conservation Club for short-term storage. But, if the Sheriff's Office would still need the storage building in a year or two anyway, the Finance Committee needed a plan to work toward that end. Chief Deputy Parker replied that the Lake Mills Conservation Club does have a garage attached to the building but it does not have clearance to pull any large vehicles in there. It's about a 3-car area and the ATV, lawn mower, Bobcat, etc. will be stored out there. Storing a car or possibly two out there short term could be done but nothing larger than that will fit. Getting a storage space built out at the annex building area has been on the radar for over a decade and there has been discussion several times in the past. They are hoping to get the civil engineering program from the Platteville National Guard to do the land excavating of the property as a "weekend warrior" project at little or no expense. This program was also contacted about 8 years ago to do excavating and did agree; however, the funding never came through for the building so it was never done. There is currently \$150,000.00 in the 2012 budget toward the actual storage building. Getting the excavation done will allow the building at least to be erected. Other things will likely need to be done in stages such as insulation, concrete, etc. Chief Deputy Parker said the Sheriff's Office appreciates the opportunity to move forward on the project. He will update the committee regarding the request for the National Guard's engineering squad.

Review/update communications radio system equipment and upgrade information: Chief Deputy Parker said the contract for Mr. Evans to look over the RFP has been signed and returned. Mr. Evans can now review it and make any recommendations for changes or anything else. Phil Ristow said the cost of procuring Mr. Evans was lower because his estimate did not incorporate reviewing the bids received to make sure everything was included. After that service was also added on, the cost came close to the other company's quote but was still between \$1,000.00 and \$2,000.00 less.

Grants – Status of ongoing or new grants: The Sheriff said they just received \$1,000.00 from an Enbridge grant toward the purchase of an emergency response/rescue vehicle. The vehicle will allow the responders to get to remote and inaccessible areas. There have been several instances where it has been difficult to remove bodies from areas that are not accessible by conventional vehicles. The Sheriff said they are getting very close to purchasing the vehicle. A donation made several years ago that was originally earmarked for an airboat will also be applied (airboats are very expensive and not always practical in this area) toward this response vehicle. Keystone Foods (formerly LD Foods) has donated \$500.00 to the Sheriff's Office with half of that going toward the response vehicle and the other half to the K-9 unit. The Sheriff is still waiting for information from Trans Canadian Pipeline regarding a grant application for between \$1,000.00 and \$2,000.00 which will also be applied toward the response vehicle.

The propane grant is still out there. EPA approval finally came through for the 2011 Crown Vic propane systems so we hopefully should be getting systems sometime for those vehicles. Next year the Sheriff's Office will be purchasing Tahoes as their squad vehicles and are now looking into getting propane systems for those as well. It seems that Ford has not released information very readily on their changes to vehicles which has slowed the process; however, GM is very open with their specs and that should hopefully speed the process with propane systems.

Chief Deputy Parker talked about the Disparate Jurisdiction Grant that Watertown Police Department applies for in conjunction with the Sheriff's Office. Watertown PD has been applying for the last few years and the Sheriff's Office will get about \$5,200.00 this year toward the purchase of equipment.

Report from the Sheriff: Sheriff Milbrath thanked Chief Deputy Parker for all of his hard work on the budget. He also thanked Phil Ristow and wanted the committee to appreciate all of the work Phil has done toward the Lake Mills Conservation Club purchase.

There have been a large number of scrap metal, metal, wire thefts all over the county this year, from small amounts to many thousands of dollars. Several cases have been solved but there are still more being investigated. Pawn shops are being overwhelmed with items and can't get them out on the system for law enforcement to check for stolen items fast enough. One shop must be far enough behind that it is selling items that they didn't report on the system and have been stolen. Heroin addiction is also contributing to the problem.

The Sheriff said that he and Donna were planning to go out to Maryland for some Emergency Management training; however, he ultimately could not make it and the session ended up supposedly being full. Since the Sheriff was unable to attend, Captain Scott applied to go and was accepted pretty quickly. The item had originally been on the agenda but was taken off because no one was expected to be going. Normally this would go through the committee but the training is 100% reimbursible. The training is entirely free for the county, including travel costs. The training is excellent.

The kitchen just had a visit from the dietician. She was very pleased. The meals might be slightly over the caloric recommendation but she was very happy with the fresh vegetables and fruit. The Sheriff's Office has had almost \$40,000.00 of fruits, vegetables and cheese donated this year from Oakdale Farms, Crystal Farms and others. It has been really great for the kitchen and inmates.

Pam Rogers asked about the talk earlier of a freezer and wondered where it would be put if one was

bought. The Sheriff said it would be put in the storage building after the concrete floor and insulation is put in. Right now the Sheriff's Office is fortunate that Keystone Foods has allowed us to store items in their cold-storage areas. There also have been some other items that the Sheriff's Office hasn't had the opportunity to take due to storage. The Sheriff said they are very fortunate to have many business partners in the community that have stepped up and helped when needed so far.

Review monthly bills and financial items: – The committee approved the monthly recap report for August bills in the amount of \$146,269.94. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members.

The Sheriff's Office is running at about 64.8% of the budget in the first 2/3 of the year. There are a few revenue items coming in yet that will also help. Revenue accounts for 2012 have been brought down to where they should be. They were too high in the past. The jail inspector also recently was in the jail and mentioned that the state is pulling all of its inmates out of county jails. Counties relying on state revenues for housing inmates will be hurting.

Review monthly jail and patrol activity reports: Jail and patrol activity reports were reviewed. Chief Deputy Parker added that they have been doing a lot of enforcement up on the bypass and catching quite a few speeders. Truck enforcement has also been patrolling on the bypass.

Jail assessment fund items: General maintenance and supply items for the month in the amount of \$3,464.84.

Next meeting date is October 28, 2011 (Emergency Management).

A motion made by Glen Borland to adjourn at 9:29 a.m., was seconded by George Jaeckel. Motion carried.

Motions Carried: 4 Lost: 0 .

Signed _____