

COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: LAW ENFORCEMENT/ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: March 25, 2011

Meeting called to order by Paul Babcock at 8:32 a.m. Members of the committee present were: Paul Babcock, Glen Borland, George Jaeckel, Pam Rogers
Others present were: Sheriff Milbrath, Chief Deputy Parker, Captain Scott, Gary Petre, John Molinaro

Absent: Dwayne Morris

Compliance with open meetings law: Gary Petre assured.

Approve agenda: Item #9 regarding the purchase of the Lake Mills Conservation Club was moved up after Item #6.

Approval of minutes: A motion was made by Pam Rogers, and seconded by George Jaeckel that the February 25, 2011 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Resolution regarding Jefferson County Law Enforcement Memorial Day for 2011: The countywide Law Enforcement Memorial Day program will be on Thursday, May 19th, beginning at 11:30 a.m. A lunch will follow the program over at the City Hall meeting rooms and everyone is invited. At this time there is no menu or cost for the lunch. The program will be held in the meeting rooms at City Hall as well if it is raining. Captain Scott also added that Deputy Cooper, who was killed in the line of duty in 1902 (in Waterloo), will be added to the state and national memorials this year. Some of the committee members had seen the articles regarding Deputy Cooper.

Review/recommend RFP for communications radio system equipment and upgrades: Chief Deputy Parker said that Dispatch Supervisor Lindert is working with a group of owners of a tower in the Ixonia area. We were able to work very well with them in regard to the cost. Usually cost is figured at about \$1 per foot of tower for placement of the receiver plus use of the building at the bottom of the tower to put equipment in. This tower is 500 feet so it ordinarily would cost \$500 per month to rent space on the tower. Dispatch Supervisor Lindert was able to get them down to \$250 per month for the rest of 2011 when they get the project completed. Next year the cost will go up but it will be included in the budget. The final agreement and the RFP need to be looked at by Corporation Counsel. After that, it will go to the county board for the necessary resolution to go forward and publish the RFP. The amount approved for the improvements is \$450,000.00 and is already in the budget (part of the Countryside funds to be used for capital improvements). This will include other updates/equipment throughout the county and dispatch center. The good thing about these improvements is that they are mostly being done offsite and the equipment should never have to be moved. The upgrades would enhance emergency management as well.

Update on Lake Mills Conservation Club purchase: Phil Ristow said that yesterday a representative from Laubenstein was out at the Conservation Club to measure the roof on the clubhouse. As was discussed earlier, the contract with the Conservation Club was for the purchase price of \$150,000 and was to include a new roof on the clubhouse. That would have run into some

issues if the cost of the roofing project were to exceed \$25,000 (any projects over that are subject to the bidding process). However, Phil said that the cost should come in under that amount and another benefit to using Laubenstein is that they have done work for the county and we know the quality of their work. He said there is a little over 5,050 square feet and the cost estimate is between \$16,000 and \$17,000 which puts it well under the \$25,000. Phil added that the owner of the Conservation Club is perfectly okay with the county putting on the new roof and deducting that cost from the purchase price. The other issue is with the lead out there. Phil said he had a water sample pulled from the well yesterday. Results may or may not tell them anything and city water is available not far away from the location. Because the Conservation Club is phasing their operation out, they don't have the funding throughout the course of the year to pay their bills. So, the county has structured it as a lease/purchase contract. Training will be conducted out there this year so a payment flow would be set up to them which essentially would be rent/use of the facility during the year. The total amount would be somewhere around \$20,000 and would be set up when the purchase contract is finalized. Another item is the use of part of the grounds by the City of Lake Mills for a compost/snow dumping area which they have done for many years. As part of the process, they plow the road going into the club as well. The Conservation Club owners would like that part of the contract as well. Chief Deputy Parker commented on the amount of lead out there and the fact that the companies that would come and harvest the lead would not be necessarily charging for doing it since they also would be selling the lead and right now there is a very good market for lead. The county may also make a small amount of money on it as well depending on how much lead is in the ground and the price when sold. Paul Babcock asked about the maintenance for the grounds and whether the Parks Department would be handling lawn care. Chief Deputy Parker said that they would not be utilizing the Parks Department at all and would be using Huber inmates to mow and take care of the grounds. In fact, he said they would start doing that this summer. The Conservation Club owners will be including most of the grounds equipment with the purchase. Liability would be the same as the Huber inmates working with the Parks Department or out at the Fairgrounds. There are several other possibilities, including gardening, for Huber inmates.

Status of Office of Energy Independence grant: Sheriff Milbrath said he has been communicating with the grant facilitators and they should be reimbursing the county for the fueling station and the propane systems for the 2010 squad cars as soon as the systems are installed in the vehicles. As of this time, there are a couple systems installed and they are running very well. The new 2011 squad car systems are also on order and should be arriving in May. Glen Borland talked a little about the Highway Shop and putting in a bay for the Sheriff's Office mechanic to work on squad vehicles as part of a building project which may include parts of the Sheriff's Office. There was some additional discussion by the Sheriff and Chief Deputy, along with Gary Petre and John Molinaro, regarding the possibility of an addition to the Highway Shop project for some of the Sheriff's Office personnel. The ability for some crosstraining in that scenario also was discussed. Chief Deputy Parker added that the alternative fuel incentive (reimbursement at 50¢ per gallon for propane) program was continued for 2010 and 2011. The last load of propane cost \$1.47 per gallon. With the Crown Vics not being in production any longer, the Sheriff's Office will also have to modify propane systems for a new vehicle. The old squads can be sold to county departments with the propane systems on them which will help save money on fuel consumption. This would precipitate some crosstraining as well because the mechanic would not be able to keep up with maintenance on these propane vehicles along with the squad cars. Gary Petre said that the consultant for the Highway Shop project is working on some revisions to the building plan and it would be going before the county board in May. They will be looking for approval for an RFP to get everything going.

Report from the Sheriff: Sheriff Milbrath reported that Sergeant Eric Brooks turned in his plans to retire on June 3rd. He has been with the Sheriff's Office for over 35 years. The Sheriff's Office is working with the owners of the tower down by Palmyra. They are looking to increase the rent amount (was about \$400 per year). There will be a Clean Sweep program coming up on April 19th out at the fairgrounds. The drop box in the jail lobby has been bringing in a lot of prescription medications. The Sheriff's Office hopes to take a lot of the non-prescription items to the Clean Sweep as well since the evidence area (where the prescription drugs are stored until they are taken for incineration) is very full. Veolia would come and pick up some of the medications; however, they will charge \$175 per barrel to do it.

Chief Deputy Parker talked a bit about the governor's Budget Repair Bill. The non-represented supervisory officers will be subject to the bill provisions and will then be essentially making less than the deputies. It will affect the willingness to go for promotions. Emotions are very high regarding this bill. Many items regarding the bill are not clear yet. John Molinaro added that tensions are very high throughout the entire county with all employees at this point and that they are very aware of the problem.

Review monthly bills and financial items: – The committee approved the monthly recap report for December bills in the amount of \$1,118,725.22. Preliminary January bills totaled: \$552,012.55. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members. While committee members were reviewing bills, Chief Deputy Parker said that the three new deputies are in training and are doing well. Another deputy will be hired part-time soon and he/she will be moved to full time in May. Additional hiring of new deputies will take place around July 1st and September 1st. The cook position that has been open will probably not be filled yet since the jail population has not increased and they are working with part-time cooks at minimal overtime to keep things running. He also talked a bit about the preliminary budget numbers for 2011. Expenditures are pretty much on target so far. The Chief touched on the budget deficit from 2010 and commented that it wasn't so much the expenditures last year that caused the shortfall, it was the expected revenues that became an issue. The jail had about 63% of the revenue from the previous year. Inmate numbers have been down. Sheriff Milbrath added that the Sheriff's Office kitchen has had donations of cheese from Crystal Farms as well (over 500 pounds last time). Chief Deputy Parker added that he likely will be making the attempt (within the next budget) to replace a couple of the deputy positions that were eliminated a couple years ago. Revenues are also affected by the shortage of staff numbers.

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

Jail assessment fund items: General fund items for the month totaling \$2,889.90.

Next meeting date is April 18, 2011 (Emergency Management). An item will be added to the May committee agenda to review/revise the scheduled meeting dates for the next year.

A motion made by Pam Rogers to adjourn at 9:32 a.m., was seconded by George Jaeckel. Motion carried.

Motions Carried: 2 Lost: 0 .

Signed _____