

## COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

**COMMITTEE:** LAW ENFORCEMENT/ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**DATE:** June 24, 2011

Meeting called to order by George Jaeckel at 8:00 a.m. Members of the committee present were: George Jaeckel, Glen Borland, Pam Rogers  
Others present were: Chief Deputy Parker, Captain Scott, Donna Haugom, Todd Lindert, Phil Ristow

Absent: Paul Babcock, Dwayne Morris

**Compliance with open meetings law:** Compliance with open meetings law was established.

**Approve agenda:** The agenda was approved as ammended.

**Approval of minutes:** A motion was made by Pam Rogers, and seconded by Glen Borland that the May 27, 2011 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Loren Lindl was present to voice concerns regarding accidents along a stretch of County Highway D north of the Town of Hebron. He is a resident of the area and would like deputies or someone to notify a property owner if an accident occurs. Deputies or emergency staff will clear debris off the roadway but there may be objects in the grass, field, or ditchline that he has run over, causing flat tires and other damage to equipment (farm) or fences, etc. This has also happened along areas where there are homes closer to the roadway. The property owner is usually left to clean up the mess but they are not always notified when there is an accident. Mr. Lindl also added that they would like insurance information if possible as well. Chief Deputy Parker replied that Mr. Lindl has a valid point and he would inform the deputies that they should try to contact a property owner if possible (if it is obvious who the property owner is, the property owner can be located, or if the property owner is known) regarding any accidents that occur. Sometimes that may not be immediately after the scene is cleared depending on the severity or whether deputies need to obtain statements but they should make an effort to try to locate the property owner in a reasonable time frame. The accident reports are also public record and Mr. Lindl can request those when they are completed which will contain the information he needs regarding the driver and insurance. Chief Deputy Parker also added that he is not sure who is responsible for debris in the ditchline. He also suggested that Mr. Lindl attend a Traffic Safety Committee meeting if he feels that there needs to be more signage or other precautionary measures along the roadway because the area has had several accidents.

**Flood Mitigation Acquisition Program – new application:** Donna Haugom said that during the last Flood Mitigation Grant program, the county had provided a match of over \$1 million to purchase properties. She added that she has been purchasing properties and still has about seven more to acquire. Of the matching money from the county, she has \$363,988.00 left. She has an opportunity to apply for additional grand funding and would like to use the remainder of the funding from the county as a match for the new grant application. She would like the committee to approve the allocation of these remaining funds as a match for the new application. No additional county funding is being asked for. Donna added that she has applied for the new grant but if the committee does not approve, she does not have to go further with the grant. Pam Rogers made a motion to allow E.M. Director, Donna Haugom, to use the pre-approved, remaining funding that was a match to a previous flood mitigation grant application as a match for a secondary Flood

Mitigation Acquisition Grant application. There will be no fiscal impact for the county with this new grant application. Glen Borland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Discuss/change dates on LEC meeting scehdule:** Committee members changed the dates for the November and December meetings as they always fall on staff holidays and the courthouse is closed. The November meeting was changed from Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The December meeting was changed from Friday, December 23, to Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011. No other dates were a conflict at this time.

**Discuss additional storage space options for the Sheriff's Office:** Chief Deputy Parker reiterated the lack of storage space for the Sheriff's Office specialty vehicles as well as evidence vehicles. At this time, all of these are stored out at the Drug Task Force building. The Sheriff's Office is at a point where they need to start considering an additional building for storage space. It should be a location which allows efficiency and accessibility. It should have the ability to keep temperatures above freezing, a cement floor, electricity, and big doors. The rental cost of part of the building in town that was originally pursued turned out to be very expensive (getting up around \$3,500 per month). Discussion followed about the acreage out at the Drug Task Force area, what size building (square footage), and the area out at the Lake Mills Conservation Club. Chief Deputy Parker indicated that one of the Bobcats would be stored at the conservation club (depending on the height of the Bobcat because the doors are just regular garage doors). The current building at that location is not big enough to store evidence vehicles. There is no revenue generated from storing evidence vehicles. Large quantities of food supplies may also be kept there (non-perishable). Pam Rogers said that she thought the committee members would all agree that there is a need for a storage facility; however, they will need hard facts regarding the size and cost of the building before they can proceed with any action.

Pam Rogers made a motion for the Sheriff's Office to move forward and obtain hard numbers on a storage facility (with sketches), bringing the information back to the committee when it is obtained. Glen Borland seconded. Motion carried.

**Review/recommend RFP for communications radio system equipment and upgrades:**

Dispatch Supervisor Todd Lindert said that he is just waiting for Phil Ristow to get back to him on the final wording of the RFP. The consultant that Todd contacted will glance at the document and quote a price to look it over and recommend any changes or additions, then will also review the bids once they come in and determine which have met all the specifications that were included in the RFP. Once Phil Ristow is satisfied on his end with the RFP, it will be sent to the firm in Minneapolis. The consultant will contact Todd regarding a price at that time. Discussion came up regarding the unknown charge that the consultant would be asking and Chief Deputy Parker said that he felt there would be enough in the amount approved for the upgrades to cover the price of the consultant. The reality is that Todd has done 99% of the legwork to put the RFP together so the consultant would be able to determine if there is anything missing or needs tweaking. Phil Ristow lended his legal expertise to the document. At this point, Phil Ristow joined the meeting and said that with the few little revisions made he had just given to Todd, the document was ready to go. Pam Rogers said she felt a consultant was critical for the RFP so funding would need to be found to pay for it if there wasn't enough left in the approved county budget to cover it.

Pam Rogers made a motion to approve the RFP once it has been finalized and send it on to the consultant. Glen Borland seconded. Motion carried.

**Status of Office of Energy Independence grant:** Chief Deputy Parker said that there was some

good news regarding the grant. The Sheriff's Office received a check for the six propane systems installed in the 2010 vehicles. The systems for the 2011 squads have not arrived yet. Chief Deputy Parker added that it looked like the Sheriff's Office will be going with the Chevrolet Tahoe police package vehicle. The Tahoe will enable us to transition almost all of the current equipment into them. Sheriff Milbrath is out at the National Sheriff's Association conference and he is talking with vendors regarding propane and other items. Crown Vics will no longer be produced so finding a replacement vehicle has been a challenge for using current equipment and it took a long time to make the decision. The Tahoes are only slightly higher in cost than the Crown Vics and are two-wheel drive (the sergeant vehicle will be a four-wheel drive version). The current propane tanks will fit in them as well.

**Report from the Sheriff:** The Sheriff is in St. Louis at the National Sheriff's Association Conference. He will likely come back with a lot of information and items. Chief Deputy Parker also said that the Sheriff's Office will be receiving a portion of the Disparate Jurisdiction grant that is a partnership with Watertown Police Department. The \$6,000.00 that will be awarded will go to the Sheriff's Office Detective Division for a piece of equipment that they would not normally be able to budget for.

**Review monthly bills and financial items:** – The committee approved the monthly recap report for May bills in the amount of \$127,713.11. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members.

Chief Deputy Parker briefly reviewed the current budget figures. With only a few exceptions, the amounts coming in at the end of May were below the percentage mark for that period of time (41.66% of budget). The jail revenue is just about at the level it needs to be; only the inmate board is short of the percentage at this time. Wages and salaries are down around 33%. One expenditure coming in higher than budgeted is the account for fuel. That is due to the price of gas which drives the price of propane up as well. Traffic enforcement revenues were discussed. This could be partly due to the number of complaints coming in with less time available for deputies to do traffic enforcement. The D.A.'s office also pleas down every citation when people show up for court to keep the court load from expanding.

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

**Jail assessment fund items:** General fund items for the month. Another assessment fund item was presented for replacing four faucets in the jail kitchen in the amount of \$3,800.00. The faucets have been fixed many times and are just worn out.

Next meeting date is July 22, 2011 (Emergency Management).

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

Motions Carried:   5   Lost:   0  .

Signed \_\_\_\_\_