

COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: LAW ENFORCEMENT/ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: December 16, 2011

Meeting called to order by Paul Babcock at 8:31 a.m. Members of the committee present were: Paul Babcock, George Jaeckel, Pam Rogers, Dwayne Morris

Others present were: Chief Deputy Parker, John Molinaro, Gary Petre, Det. Sgt. Hunter

Absent: Glen Borland

Compliance with open meetings law: Gary Petre 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 November 18, 2011 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Communications: None submitted.

Discussion/recommendation on LRB2647/2 regarding 72-hr. no contact violations: A copy was not available but committee members Paul Babcock and Pam Rogers are members of other committees that had discussed this legislation. Part of the information was a copy of a resolution by Outagamie County to enforce the stricter standards on violations of the no-contact legislation. Brief discussion was had on the intent of the legislation, e.g.; to make a violation a felony instead of a misdemeanor and to raise the fine to \$10,000. Two municipalities within Jefferson County, Jefferson and Watertown, are taking a stronger stance on domestic abuse violations. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office is in support of the legislation. They have a very solid working relationship with PADA in the county and anything that can be done to strengthen the penalties for domestic abuse would be welcome. Domestic abuse cases have been rising and this legislation offers stiffer penalties during this 72-hour no contact time period.

This item will be added on January's agenda and the information will be sent to the committee members.

Review/update RFP for communications radio system equipment and upgrades: Chief Deputy Parker said they are at the threshold of putting it out for bids. The contracted consultant went through it and sent it back. Phil Ristow made a few changes and it has gone back to the consultant. After that it should be good to go. Likely it will be posted for bids right after the first of the year. Funding for the project (approx. \$534,000) will be carried over into 2012. The Finance Committee has approved it and final approval by the County Board will be in March. The project will be started in the spring when the weather is better.

The roof on the tower site in Jefferson has also been replaced and there hasn't been any leaking.

Grants – Status of ongoing or new grants: The Card Grant (Youth Alcohol Reduction and

Enforcement Grant) has been approved. The good news is that the Sheriff's Office will still get some money. The bad news is that it can only be used for alcohol enforcement and cannot be used for activities or events such as enforcement at the County Fair. A large amount of security work done at the fair in past years has been through the grant. That will no longer be the case. Funds can only be used for compliance checks (bars, convenience stores, etc.). The Sheriff's Office did not qualify this time for the Click It or Ticket grant or the Alcohol Enforcement grant (not youth). The reason for not qualifying is that the county did not have enough fatalities this last year. Fatalities have gone down significantly, from 17/20 in 2010 to 3 this past year.

The propane grant is still on hold because the Sheriff's Office can't get the systems for some reason. The systems are EPA certified which is a requirement of the grant, but we can't get them. The Office of Energy Independence has also been trying to find out where they are as well. Unfortunately this has impacted the fuel budget for 2011.

Report from the Sheriff: The Sheriff's Office is going through some position changes. Deputy Gary Curtis has been promoted to detective and will transfer to that division on January 1st. They are in the process of filling a vacant detective sergeant position. Those candidates will be interviewed by the Civil Service Commission on Monday. Detectives at the Drug Task Force may be moved and there will be a rotation of the captains. The Sheriff is changing the position in the Support Services division to a more semi-permanent appointed position. That area is unique in experience and knowledge and at this time the person is rotated out after five years. There also are a couple deputies in Support Services that will be rotated out.

Next week the Command Staff will be interviewing five deputy candidates for a couple of vacancies. The Sheriff's Office is short-staffed right now and there is quite a bit of overtime. In addition, more part-time dispatchers will be hired. There have been some part time individuals that have not been able to put in enough hours to receive sufficient training in a timely manner.

Donation funding has been used to purchase a utility vehicle. Last week a graduation was held for the recent Citizens Police Academy last week. It's a program that is worth its weight in gold. The attendees become well informed on operations and are great ambassadors in the public. Some will also be willing to join our JCEC group and continue to help law enforcement and the community. In addition, food donations to the jail kitchen have now gone over the \$50,000 mark. Approximately \$50,350 in food items have been brought in. Crystal Farms has also indicated they will have a large donation of cheese next week as well.

Review monthly bills and financial items: – The committee approved the monthly recap report for October bills in the amount of \$245,738.21. November bills totaled \$561,926.96. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members. The Sheriff's Office is at 87% of total operating cost at this time (91.66% is the target number). However, this number doesn't reflect payroll after November 9th and the comp payouts but there should be enough wiggle room in the budget to accommodate this.

Gary Petre added that the ETF has released the CPI index for 2012 and it is 2.01%. This is the top percentage for any pay raises given in 2012.

Pam Rogers asked a question regarding the Vigilant Guard exercise. Chief Deputy Parker said that was an exercise involving Emergency Management and the bills coming through will be reimbursed by a grant. The exercise was held out by Renew Energies involving a train derailment scenario.

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

Jail assessment fund items: The balance in this fund as of November 30th is \$363,984.00. In 2011, \$40,461 has been used for these items so far. General fund items for the month totaled \$2,170.00. The bill for the new cooler floors came to \$8,433.00 and the drawer slide replacements in the kitchen totaled \$586.00 (these items were discussed last month).

Next meeting date is January 27, 2012 (Emergency Management).

A motion made by George Jaeckel to adjourn at 9:10 a.m., was seconded by Pam Rogers. Motion carried.

Motions Carried: 2 Lost: 0 .

Signed _____