

COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: LAW ENFORCEMENT/ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: March 22, 2013

Meeting called to order by Paul Babcock at 8:30 a.m. Members of the committee present were: Paul Babcock, George Jaeckel, Pam Rogers, Ed Morse
Others present were: L. Statz, Daily Union reporter; John Molinaro, Terri Palm, Gary Petre, Pat Theder, Sheriff Milbrath, Captain Scott

Absent: Dwayne Morris

Compliance with open meetings law: Compliance was assured.

Approve agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of minutes: A motion was made by Ed Morse, and seconded by Gerorge Jaeckel that the January 25 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

A motion was also made by Pam Rogers and seconded by George Jaeckel to approve the February 22, 2013 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Communications: None

Potential changes to the coroner's position: Coroner Patrick Theder presented an option – and his recommendation – to change the coroner's position from an elected position to a Medical Examiner's position which would be appointed by the county. He indicated that an elected coroner does not necessarily have to have any kind of medical background or training. He felt this would be a detriment to the county. Coroner Theder also presented some policy ideas for development that he recommended be adopted before a change is made. In addition, a new job description would need to be put together. John Molinaro asked about possibly of partnering with another county and Coroner Theder said there might be things that could be shared so it is something that should be explored (Brown, Oconto and Door Counties share a medical examiner). The ability to hire a part-time ME was also discussed. Coroner Theder said that some ME candidates would be ABMDI certified (American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators) and like the death investigation part. He also added that he made a pretty good income last year for part time and there is still room in his budget to bring in more revenue. Costs of cremation permits could be higher as well as other avenues. He said that the county should make policy that the position be mandated to belong to professional organizations related to the position as well. Gary Petre asked if the first steps should be to put together a job description and talk with Corp Counsel about the statutory regulations. Coroner Theder said he had already talked with Corp Counsel and the statutes are silent about counties changing from a coroner's position to an ME position but there is an attorney general opinion from 1974 that states a county board can abolish the coroner position and institute an ME position before the end of the incumbent coroner's term. Corp Counsel suggested a resolution approved before June 1st (before nomination papers) of the election year with an effective date at the end of the incumbent coroner's term. The next coroner election will be in 2014 so within the next year the ME position should be explored, policy put in place, etc. Coroner Theder and Terri Palm should start the process of getting job descriptions and/or policies from counties that have

instituted an ME office already. Terri Palm also suggested that a decision be made before June 2014 so that wages can be adjusted for the next year.

Pam Rogers made a motion to authorize staff to go ahead with the process of changing the coroner's position/office to a medical examiner's position/office. She also thanked Coroner Theder for giving the committee (and board) so much time to accomplish the change. Ed Morse seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion / recommendation to approve a proposal to appraise and negotiate the acquisition of 15 properties through flood mitigation: Donna Haugom is requesting a resolution to go to the county board regarding the acceptance of the flood mitigation grant and authorization for professional services to acquire 15 properties (20 structures). Because the consultant's fee is \$36,500.00, she went out for bid. She sent out 12 different requests for proposals and 5 were returned, two did not wish to participate and the three who did are listed on the resolution. Copies of the resolution were obtained and passed around to the members. They received a grant for \$1.6 million. Of that, the county will provide about \$210,000.00 which is available from the 2008 flooding so there is no fiscal impact. The county will have to increase the capital state aid that Donna will receive from the state and federal government in her budget. It requires 20 affirmative votes for passage (a budget amendment). GJ Miesbauer was the lowest bid from the proposals that Donna received. She said they have worked with GJ Miesbauer before and believe that he does quality work and also works well with the state. In answer to a question asked by Paul Babcock, Donna explained what the consultants do for the county through the process of acquiring properties. Donna makes a list of the properties and submits it to the state. The state does a benefit cost analysis and sends back a list of properties to be purchased. The consultant hires an appraiser for payment of the properties, works with the residents, takes care of the closings and submits all of the information to Donna of the closing documents. Of the properties, one is a rental property and the rest are seasonal.

Pam Rogers made a motion to approve the resolution and send it to the county board for approval. Ed Morse seconded. Motion carried.

Resolution regarding Jefferson County Law Enforcement Memorial Day for 2013: A copy of the resolution was passed around to the members with the date chosen as Thursday, May 16th. However, it was just found that there is a conflict with our kitchen supervisor providing the lunch and a location to have the program if it rains because there will be a big SIMCOMM exercise going on out at the fairgrounds on the 16th. There likely will be an update to this information.

Pam Rogers made a motion to forward the resolution to the County Board for approval. George Jaeckel seconded. Motion carried.

Update on annex building project: Gary Petre gave an update on the project. The Infrastructure Committee received a proposal from GMA Engineers to handle the construction plans and construction administration for the project in the amount of \$23,960.00. Because of the issue that occurred at the last county board meeting regarding proposals, the Infrastructure Committee directed the Central Services maintenance manager to put together an RFP and gather proposals for the project. He will be bringing them to the next meeting. John Molinaro added that the Administration and Rules or the Finance Committee is looking at reviewing the purchasing ordinance because it gets very confusing if departments have to put out RFP's and bring in the county board for every project that is already in the budget. The purchasing ordinance was also sent

to the department heads for their input. They are looking at putting in a threshold so that projects in a department's budget that are under this amount can be done without all the extra steps. Bottom line is, this project will have to wait just a little longer. John Molinaro also talked about quality over cost. The ability to provide the service to specifications should come first and the cost second.

Grants – Status of ongoing or new grants: Sheriff Milbrath said that the only grant they are working on right now besides a couple small pipeline grants is another propane grant. He said that he and Randy Frohmader (Sheriff's Office mechanic) had gone up to the Wisconsin Propane Council's conference in Wausau and took one of the new Tahoes with a propane system. The Sheriff was a speaker at the conference. More and more people and agencies are looking at propane and other alternate fuels. Sheriff Milbrath also said that next year there will be a change in the engines (direct injection) that may not allow the vehicles to be dual fuel. They may have to be dedicated to either propane or gas. There is a new system available and the Sheriff's Office is waiting for information on cost, etc. on them and the ok on some grant funding.

Report from the Sheriff: The new squad vehicles have come in. The only problem found with the Tahoes was that they did not run well in snow due to the tires. A new aggressive tire is being put on them now. The tread design was just not suitable for the winter. Another issue that has come up is the lift in the garage. New seals were put on the lift last summer but it looks like they have gone out again. The lift is old and likely needs to be replaced. It is unsafe and is unable to be used at this time. Some vendors are coming out to look at it and some other options are being explored as well. Right now Randy is doing what he can with the lift down at the annex building but he can't work with the doors open on vehicles to run wiring using that lift. Gary Petre mentioned the highway shop project and putting in the extra bays for working on Sheriff's Office vehicles.

The jail kitchen also recently passed its inspection with flying colors (perfect score)!

Review monthly bills and financial items: – A preliminary monthly recap report for January bills in the amount of \$170,301.27 was approved. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members.

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

Jail assessment fund items: General fund items for the month. Some repairs were done to the multiplexor for the jail cameras in the amount of \$189.00. A new system will need to be installed but the fix needed to be done until the new system is put in. New filters were also put in for the heating and air conditioning in the jail.

Next meeting date is Friday, April 26, 2013 (Emergency Management).

A motion made by Pam Rogers to adjourn at 9:30 a.m. was seconded by George Jaeckel. Motion carried.

Motions Carried: 5 Lost: 0 .

Signed _____