

COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: LAW ENFORCEMENT/ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: February 27, 2015

Meeting called to order by Dwayne Morris at 8:32 a.m. Members of the committee present were: Dwayne Morris, Amy Rinard, Al Counsell, Mike Wineke, Kirk Lund
Others present were: Sheriff Milbrath, Chief Deputy Parker, County Admin. Ben Wehmeier

Absent: None.

Compliance with open meetings law: County Administrator Wehmeier assured.

Approve agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of minutes: A motion was made by Kirk Lund and seconded by Al Counsell that the January 23, 2015 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried. (Ayes-All)

Public Comment: No public comment.

Communications: Sheriff Milbrath mentioned a letter sent by a citizen to Deputy Jay Leonard for his handling of a verbal abuse case.

Review and approve resolution declaring March 13 as K-9 Veteran's Day:

- This is also going through the state legislators for passage. Would like the county to also recognize the importance of the K-9's in law enforcement.
- Chief Deputy Parker talked about the three canines that are part of the Sheriff's Office.
- They are trained for drug detection and protection (bark and hold).
- Some information was in the Daily Union yesterday about the push for K-9 Veteran's Day on March 13 in the state.
- Would like approval from the committee to accept and advance the resolution to the County Board meeting in March.
- Sheriff Milbrath added that the Fort Atkinson Kennel Club was very active in getting this legislation through the state.
- Terrence Beck, a K-9 handler during the Vietnam War who died in the war, was the impetus for the kennel club in getting this movement going.
- A K-9 Memorial will be going up this spring on the courthouse grounds.
- Al Counsell made a motion to adopt the resolution and forward it to the next county board meeting. Amy Rinard seconded. Motion carried. (Ayes-All))

Grants - Update of ongoing or new grants:

- Sheriff Milbrath just completed a grant request to Tyson which will be used (if rewarded) to obtain a suitcase lighting system. The Sheriff's Office does not qualify for Tyson's larger grant opportunities but hope to be awarded this smaller amount.
- This system will be used for night-time investigations in areas that don't allow for a larger lighting system to be set up.
- Cost of the system is about \$1,500 plus shipping.
- The Sheriff is researching several other smaller grant opportunities as well.

- Chief Deputy Parker talked about the traffic grants that the Sheriff's Office has received for 2015.
- One is another Highway 26 Corridor grant and the other is an OWI enforcement grant.
- Some of the transportation grants are task force grants, meaning that they are shared and coordinated with neighboring counties and/or other agencies in the county.
- These grants also usually included some shifts that the county will be responsible for but the majority will be funded by the grant.

Report from the Sheriff:

- The Narcan program is not up and running yet as there were some issues with the hospital contract. The contract has been revised and the training should be starting in a few weeks.
- Heroin is still a very big issue in the county. The Heroin out there is very strong and there have been a lot of overdoses.
- Fentanyl is a very potent painkiller and that drug has been found in Heroin. Narcan may not be able to bring the individual back from a high dose of Fentanyl.
- Another project just getting off the ground is a school program to reward chosen students that have shown exceptional citizenship and is a good role model.
- The student will be picked up by a squad and chauffeured to the school with lights and siren as they get close.
- Deputies will also be conducting some other personal visits to various schools, wishing them a good day (before school) or hoping they had a good day (after school) in order to increase visibility and interaction with students.
- Chief Deputy Parker noted that Smith and Wesson gave the Sheriff's Office the opportunity to exchange out all of the older weapons for new ones. They tested an M&P 9 and a M&P 40 and settled on the M&P 9's for the replacement because the handling was much better with them and the cost of ammunition was also lower.
- The older weapons needed to have the night sights changed out at a cost of \$90 per weapon.
- With the exchange, the officers will receive brand new weapons at a cost of \$75 per gun, including night sights and 3 magazines, thus saving about \$15 per weapon.
- The new weapons came in yesterday and will be transitioned in April.
- Practice ammo is reloaded, and the last range training done in the year is where deputies will shoot their remaining yearly allocation of ammo, receiving new ammunition for the next year after that training.
- The bids have been received for the paging update in dispatch. The Gen Comm bid was the winner, both in price and experience with the Sheriff's Office.
- Corp Counsel and the project manager are reviewing the contract that will be signed.
- The (paging) contract will come before the County Board in March and the Finance Committee has approved the additional funding (\$110,000) for the project.
- The project has two parts, one is the upgrade of the paging system for fire and EMS and the second project (separate contract) is the upgrade of the 911 system. Technology currently in place for the 911 system will be unsupported as of July and needs to be replaced. Hopefully the 911 project will come in under the \$380,000 that was budgeted.
- Unforeseen technologies that needed to be added to the project added to the cost and Watertown is upgrading their dispatch center right now which provided an opportunity to create a backup system where both agencies are compatible and can back up the other in case of outages and/or emergencies/disasters. It also increases signal strength in

- northern areas of the county.
- Lastly, the 30,000 gallon propane tank will be moved to the new Highway Dept. on about April 1st.

Review monthly bills and financial items: – The committee approved the monthly recap reports for December bills in the amount of \$172,243.34. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members.

- More discussion was had regarding signing the recap of bills. Ms. Rinard feels uncomfortable in signing this document. No actual decision regarding the review of bills was made at the last meeting.
- County Administrator Wehmeier noted that the committee does not have the authority to approve or deny bills; the Finance Committee has that authority. The recap is only a chance for the committee to review them and ask questions or provide comments.
- At the end of the meeting Chair Morris suggested some alternate wording to the cover letter to help alleviate the accountability factor in signing the recap.

Report on budget:

- The 2014 budget ended up about \$238,000 over. It was a tough year.
- At the end of the year the operational numbers looked pretty good but did not take into account the carryovers into 2015.
- Overtime and sick time were high which added to the overage as well as the use of natural gas in the jail.
- Jail revenues were down which may be attributed to, in large part, the fact that inmate numbers have been down quite a bit (revenue short \$122,000).
- The numbers were crunched again last year for 2015 and hopefully that will help.
- Jail assessment funds rolled into the general ledger for medical costs was less due to the cost for the upcoming camera system replacement in the jail.

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 \$69,588.70. Of that, \$3,406.70 is for Literacy Council (GED) costs (Nov through Feb) and general maintenance and repair costs. The remaining \$59,500 was the amount transferred for inmate medical costs in 2014. Another assessment item was \$1,359.28 for replacement of an electric can opener in the jail kitchen.

Agenda Items:

Update on counseling needs for inmates.

Adjourn

Next meeting date is March 27, 2015

A motion made by Al Counsell to adjourn at 9:42 a.m., was seconded by Amy Rinard. Motion carried. (Ayes–All)

Motions Carried: 3 Lost: 0 .