

## COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

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

**DATE:** February 26, 2016

Meeting called to order by Dwayne Morris at 8:31 a.m. Members of the committee present were: Dwayne Morris, Amy Rinard, Kirk Lund, Mike Wineke

Others present were: Sheriff Milbrath, Chief Deputy Parker, County Admin. Ben Wehmeier, Corp Counsel Blair Ward, Asst. Corp. Counsel Yelena Zarwell, Captain Scott

Absent: Al Counsell

**Compliance with open meetings law:** County Administrator Wehmeier assured compliance.

**Review agenda:** The agenda was approved as presented.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approval of minutes:** A motion was made by Mike Wineke, and seconded by Amy Rinard that the December 18, 2015 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried. Ayes (All).

### **Communications:**

Have received many positive letters and e-mails from the public lately, just for the things deputies have done and also after the passing of K-9 Mink.

### **Discuss use of the county range facility by other law enforcement:**

- ❖ Sheriff Milbrath explained that other agencies in the county have been using the facility at no charge. These agencies provide instructors for both their own officers but also for our deputies. They also send people when there is a cleanup day at the range.
- ❖ Immigrations and Custom Enforcement (ICE) officers also use the facility four times a year but they are charged \$3,500 per year per the contract. They will usually send someone when a cleanup day is scheduled as well.
- ❖ The local state patrol troopers have contacted us about using the facility. It would mostly be the ones that are based in the county but there could also be others from surrounding counties as well. These other counties do help out in Jefferson County occasionally.
- ❖ Answering a question posed by Mike Wineke, Chief Deputy Parker said that the policy for the range facility covers rules and procedures, safety, etc. but does not stipulate charges for renting out the facility.
- ❖ County Admin. Wehmeier said they are possibly looking at establishing a certain number of troopers that would be regularly training at no charge and if they exceed that number, they will be charged a fee for each officer above that.
- ❖ Mike Wineke suggested some kind of procedural document should be put together governing how the facility should be run as far as use and rental.
- ❖ Chair Morris had some concerns and asked what Dane County did with their range. Dane County has a fee schedule, but they also open their range up to the public. Imposing a nominal fee would be a good idea so the range does not get to be a convenience if an officer misses range training.

- ❖ The Sheriff and County Admin. Wehmeier will continue to work toward an agreeable number but the Sheriff wanted the committee to be aware of the request.

### **Grants - Update of ongoing or new grants:**

- ❖ Not much going on with grants right now. We are continuing to apply for smaller grants but there isn't much available. Are still waiting on a couple grants that have already been applied for.
- ❖ There are no propane grants this year so the Sheriff is doing some research in other areas for some help with that.
- ❖ Haven't heard anything from Enbridge so it may be advantageous to reapply for it.
- ❖ Chief Deputy Parker added that the federal alternative fuel excise tax rebate was extended through 2016. We will continue to receive 50¢ per gallon of propane back as a rebate. In 2015, the rebate amount will be \$33,250.00.
- ❖ The Sheriff's Office will be running a pretty strong OWI enforcement deployment through St. Patrick's Day as part of one of the OWI grants.
- ❖ A traffic enforcement unit was created for those officers that are really interested in this aspect. An unmarked squad vehicle is also in the works.
- ❖ Sheriff Milbrath added that the state (BOTS) seems to like Jefferson County as the deputies really work the grants that we receive. They are looking at trying to get us more of them.
- ❖ Captain Scott remarked that the Sheriff's Office doubled its number of warnings last year from the previous year and issued a citation about every 36 minutes.

### **Report from the Sheriff:**

- ❖ The Sheriff's Office recently hired six new deputies that started on the same day. They are doing quite well so far and are currently in a mini academy (put on by our staff) and then will go to their respective FTO's.
- ❖ Still need to hire one more deputy.
- ❖ This spring the area around the tower in Palmyra will be tidied up and they are looking at putting in a backup generator there. The Sheriff would like to put in a reconditioned one like the generator at the Sullivan site. This requires going through Generac, which has always worked with us, and not following the normal bidding process.
- ❖ The reconditioned generators are rebuilt by the engineers so they can assess why it did not work.
- ❖ The Sullivan generator is worth \$6,000 but because it was reconditioned through Generac, we purchased it for around \$1,800.
- ❖ Supervisor Lindert has an app on his phone that will receive maintenance reports from the generator in Sullivan when they are able to get out there this spring to install the equipment. This will be a test site for the equipment/app.
- ❖ The Sheriff's Office is looking into purchasing newer generators for the other sites as well and will likely be able to sell the old ones for about what is paid for the new. Hopefully upgrading will also allow the app messaging system to be used on all the sites.
- ❖ The generators are run on propane and we are able to get the propane at the same contract price we have for our squads.
- ❖ The Sheriff has been approached by some supervisors and he and County Admin. Wehmeier have also discussed some options for the jail kitchen. Although we run a very efficient and cost effective kitchen, we continue to monitor how this service compares to the vendors.

- ❖ The goal is to provide the best service available at the lowest cost. Again this year we are looking at outside vendors to see if they can provide a quality product at a lower cost. The Sheriff will share the results of the research.
- ❖ The Sheriff's Office has an animal abuse case in the Palmyra area. There has been concern from individuals in Palmyra about dead animals and carcasses that are not being removed. The case is still being investigated and some pathology work will be done in Madison. There also is a drug element with this case (human use).
- ❖ Our animal control officers do a very good job of getting prosecutions for these cases.
- ❖ Terry is retiring April 4<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Chair Morris asked how Sgt. Novotny was doing as a patrol sergeant. The Sheriff replied that she chose to stay with patrol but gave up her sergeant stripes. She is in FTO training and wants to get some needed patrol experience.
- ❖ Deputy Ole Olson has been promoted to sergeant in her place.
- ❖ Chief Deputy Parker also added that Deputy Chad Roberts was promoted to jail sergeant as well. He is in training and will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> shift (his current shift).
- ❖ The investigation regarding the pursuit accident close to Watertown last fall involving Deputy Wolff has been concluded. The Department of Criminal Investigation (Department of Justice) conducted the investigation and forwarded all of the results to District Attorney Sue Happ, who reviewed it and put together the final determination.
- ❖ D.A. Happ determined that Deputy Wolff acted with due regard and did not violate any laws, policies or procedures. He made a text book stop and followed his training. Deputy Wolff rode with another deputy for about a week and is now out on his own.
- ❖ The Sheriff's Office learned a lot during this case and made the right call to let DCI handle the investigation.
- ❖ The car will be in evidence for three years due to any civil litigation that may come up.
- ❖ The K-9 team drove out to Pennsylvania last Sunday and met with the Shallow Creek people to pick out the new dog for Deputy Gukich. His name is Balko(s).
- ❖ K-9's are in service for about 7 to 9 years and handlers are allowed three dogs (at the discretion of the Sheriff). Deputy Gukich will be going out to Pennsylvania in April for two weeks of training with Balko(s) and the total cost is \$12,250.00. He will be bringing the dog back with him after that.
- ❖ Handlers and dogs are National Association of Police Working Dogs of America (NAPWDA) certified.
- ❖ Communications at the Highway Dept. have improved since Todd reprogrammed their hand held radios.
- ❖ A tentative bid was given to them for a complete upgrade of their system and to connect them with the towers (\$74,000 - \$80,000).
- ❖ The new 911 phone system should be done today.
- ❖ Chief Deputy Parker said the mechanic will likely be retiring within the next year. His knowledge of installing propane systems needs to be passed on when that time comes.
- ❖ They were at the Highway Shop yesterday and are discussing options of possibly moving him out there. There are pros and cons to this and more discussion will need to follow.
- ❖ Chair Morris asked about any possibility of outsourcing the mechanic's duties. However, installing the propane systems has become more involved and he also installs the light bars, radio systems, computers, squad video camera systems, and cell phone systems.
- ❖ Sheriff Milbrath said they also are looking at some other options for handling scheduled maintenance items.
- ❖ The Tahoes are a police package vehicle with heavy duty alternators, dual batteries, etc.

- ❖ Some of the squads that are replaced will go to other departments in the county and the rest are sold on the surplus website to recoup some of the money back.

**Review monthly bills and financial items (August):** – The committee approved the monthly recap reports for December bills in the amount of \$325,968.92.

**Report on budget:**

- ❖ The Sheriff's Office came in \$103,000.00 under budget.
- ❖ Being understaffed for most of the year did contribute some to the budget, but there also was a large amount of overtime in the jail to compensate.
- ❖ Everyone will be working hard again this year to keep budgets in line and hopefully no unforeseen large inmate medical, Worker's Comp., or other issues will crop up.
- ❖ The jail camera project is just about completed. Some funds were withheld from the last payment (\$14,000) due to an issue with data storage. The vendor promised 60 days of data storage and the jail is only at about 45 days right now.
- ❖ Some discussion was had about possible cloud storage but the county is not quite ready for that yet.

**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 \$34,569.70 which included \$37,000 for Advanced Correctional Healthcare, \$2,069.70 for maintenance and supplies, \$3,500 to the Jefferson County Literacy Council for inmate education and a reimbursement in the amount of \$8,000 from the commissary account for some of the 2015 inmate educational expense. Other assessment fund items include \$1,320.89 for a new floor machine, \$2,742.00 for an additional dish dryer in the kitchen and \$143,700 for the camera system in the jail, \$16,441.50 for Juniper switches and charges from Current Electric for some electrical work.

The jail assessment balance is \$144,062.28.

**Agenda Items:** None noted at this time.

**Adjourn**

Next meeting date is March 25, 2016

A motion made by Amy Rinard to adjourn at 10:13 a.m., was seconded by Kirk Lund. Motion carried. Ayes (All)

Motions Carried:   2   Lost:   0  .