

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**DATE:** February 28, 2020

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Dwayne Morris at 8:35 a.m.

**Roll Call:** Members of the committee present were: Kirk Lund, Dwayne Morris, Greg David, Brandon White, James Braughler

Others present were: Sheriff Paul Milbrath, Chief Deputy Jeff Parker, County Administrator Ben Wehmeier, Communications Supervisor Todd Lindert, Jail Captain Margareta Gray, Anita Martin (Lake Mills resident)

Absent: none.

**Certification of Compliance with open meetings law:** County Administrator Ben Wehmeier certified compliance with the open meetings law.

**Approval of the agenda:** The agenda was approved as presented.

**Public Comment:** Lake Mills resident Anita Martin was present to inquire about the progress being made on the project regarding the chemical presence at various facilities throughout the county being directed by Emergency Management Director Donna Haugom. Donna Haugom and Nycol Haberman are working on putting together a new list of farm and facility contents that will be distributed once compiled.

**Approval of the January 24, 2020 meeting minutes:** A motion was made by Kirk Lund, and seconded by Greg David that the January 24, 2020 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

### **Discussion and possible action on sending a proposal to the County Board for allotting two additional part time deputy positions for the Sheriff's Office:**

- By County Board rule, the Law Enforcement Committee is required to set the number of deputies the Sheriff's Office is allowed to hire.
- Sheriff Milbrath explained that these two positions would be used to hire deputies and send through the Police Academy and have them ready to be put into the full time slot when there are retirements. This would cut down on overtime, financial output, and swinging in the jail trying to fill open shifts.
- The budget is set on hours utilized for part time employees versus dollars spent for full time employees. The request would go through Human Resources for approval and then would go to the County Board for approval in either March or April.
- James Braughler moved to approve the request to send a proposal to the County Board for allotting two additional part time deputy positions for the Sheriff's Office. Kirk Lund seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Communications:**

- Sheriff Milbrath passed around commendations a few deputies recently received.
- Deputy Jansen and his K-9 partner were able to locate a gentleman with Alzheimer's

who had been missing for twelve hours. Deputy Jansen and his K-9 partner are also up for a state award for this recovery.

- Deputies Heine and Stapleton handled a jail incident.
- Dispatch dealt with an incident with domestic issues and through persistence was able to get help to the victim from Waukesha County.
- A recent incident where I-94 was shut down at County F, Deputy Dandoy and a few other deputies handled a suicidal subject and were able to talk him down and successfully took him into custody and got him the help he needed.

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

- Sheriff Milbrath applied for a \$1,000 grant for the propane systems.
- Another grant was applied for to receive \$800 per propane system.
- Small traffic grants are becoming available that the Sheriff's Office will be working on. One is a grant for preventing people from abusing the installed alcohol sensors that are placed in their vehicles after an OWI conviction.

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

- A local organization, LETSOW, which supports K9s in the county has partnered with a family in Watertown to purchase the newest K9 for Jefferson County.
- Sheriff Milbrath spoke briefly about traffic safety. When he first became Sheriff in 2002, there were 22 fatalities. In 2018 there were 11 fatalities and in 2019 there were 6 fatalities. The Sheriff's Office has been very visible in recent years, bringing the crashes down 15% and 50% less fatalities. MADD recently recognized four Jefferson County Sheriff's Office deputies due to their diligence in traffic safety.
- The Sheriff's Office is currently at 100% staffing. There are three deputies in the jail academy and five deputies in the FTO program.
- There are a projected four retirements occurring between April and August this year.
- A dispatch recruitment test has recently been administered to establish an eligibility list.
- Federal Government re-enacted the federal fuel tax excise credit retroactive from 2018 through 2020 and the Sheriff's Office received \$12,000 dollars credit for the propane used over the past two years.
- Chief Deputy Parker stated that once the river breaks up, the Sheriff's Office will resume the search of the person who drowned in January.
- The policy review project continues to be worked on by Ramsee(?) with the patrol and jail policies being reviewed to ensure there are no liability issues.
- Jail Captain Margo Gray spoke about a new direction the Sheriff's Office will be taking in regards to the inmate health program. Currently the Sheriff's Office has 2 LPNs and 1 RN from the Health Department that are utilized for the daily medical needs of the inmates. Advanced Correctional Healthcare is the medical provider currently being used by the Sheriff's Office for providing doctor care.
- The contract with Advanced Correctional Healthcare is up on June 30 and the county will then be looking at a new medical provider to supply all medical needs in the jail. In the interim, the Sheriff's Office will be working with DOC to obtain temporary nurses to meet the inmates' needs until a new medical provider can be put in place.
- The most recent jail inspection noted that the Sheriff's Office is below the county standards with regard to mental health. Human Services is currently being utilized to provide any needed mental health services 15-19 hours weekly. The new medical

provider will have a mental health provider and prescription program included.

**Update on Communications Project:**

- General Communications has applied for an FCC license and has been approved. They will be able to start by July 2021 at the latest.
- The Palmyra tower will need to be replaced.

**Update on Project Lifesaver:** None available.

**Review monthly bills and financial items (November, December, & January):** – The committee approved the monthly recap reports for November 2019 bills in the amount of \$303,182.65 and December 2019 bills in the amount of \$137,350.33. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members.

**Report on the budget:** The books for 2019 have not been closed but preliminary numbers are showing the Sheriff's Office will be \$280,000 under budget. Jail overtime is approximately \$26,000 over budget. State inmate revenue for 2019 is projected to be around \$737,000.

**Review monthly jail and patrol activity reports:** Jail and patrol activity reports were not available.

**Discussion and Possible action on approving jail assessment fund purchases:** The Committee received a report on jail assessment fund expenditures totaling \$82,128.97. Payment was made to US Foods for the dishwasher monthly lease payment in the amount of \$271.90 for November and December, the Jefferson County Literacy Council in the amount of \$3,600 for jail inmate instruction for November and December, to Advanced Correctional Healthcare in the amount of \$65,300 for part of the 2019 jail medical contract expenses, to Dirty Ducts Cleaning in the amount of \$11,500 for half the cost of central services duct cleaning project in the pod and Huber areas, and to Jefferson Current Electric for half of the cost of central services LED lighting project in the pod main room in the amount of \$1,545. A credit was received from Menards for a rebate used for purchases for the jail remodeling project in the amount of \$87.93.

The jail assessment balance at the end of December is \$212,919.77.

**Discussion on potential items for the March 27, 2020 meeting agenda:** None.

**Next meeting date:** March 27, 2020.

**Adjourn:** A motion made by Brandon White to adjourn at 10:10 a.m., was seconded by James Braughler. Motion carried.