

LAW ENFORCEMENT/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: August 7, 2020

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Dwayne Morris at 8:30 a.m.

Roll Call: Members of the committee present were: Kirk Lund (ZOOM), Dwayne Morris, David Drayna (ZOOM), Mary Roberts (ZOOM)

Others present were: Sheriff Paul Milbrath, Chief Deputy Jeff Parker, County Administrator Ben Wehmeier, Communications Supervisor Todd Lindert, Captain Don Hunter

Absent: Brandon White

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: None

Discussion and possible action of awarding Jail Medical Service RFP:

- The Sheriff's Office currently is using one nurse from the Jefferson County Health Department and two are being contracted.
- The largest reason for needing to look at contracting the medical care out to outside companies is the continuity of care for the inmates. There has also been an increased need for services such as mental health and AODA issues.
- There is risk mitigation for Jefferson County as the Health Department nurses cannot be included in the County's WIMIC policy for liability reasons.
- ACH (Advanced Correctional Health) is going to continue being the medical provider for the inmates until mid-October when the new company will take over.
- The County received quotes from Southern Health Partners, ACH and MEND.
- Southern Health Partners will include liability insurance. They also include a full assessment with each inmate at booking as well as at discharge to help with the transition of release.
- Southern Health Partners will include a pool of money for incidentals to cover extra costs outside the base bid. This will be a three year agreement.
- Chief Parker, Captain Gray and County Administrator Ben Wehmeier had a phone conference with Walworth County as they also use Southern Health Partners. They spoke about their experiences both good and bad with the company.
- Southern Health Partners will work on the cost with the Sheriff's Office for the current population as it is lower right now with the Covid situation.
- Kirk Lund moved to approve the request to send a proposal to the County Board to enter into a contract with Southern Health Partners for providing jail inmate medical services. Mary Roberts seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and possible action on a public/private partnership for tower construction:

- There will need to be new towers constructed at the Palmyra, Cambridge, Sheriff's Office Annex building.
- The County will be looking for a location in Palmyra which will be on private property and will also look at partnering with Bertram to share the cost of the tower and gaining broadband access in the area.
- In Cambridge/Oakland, there is a location that has been found that Bertram is willing to share the cost of construction as this would give them the ability to expand their broadband to this area.
- The Johnson Creek location would be moved from the current location on the water tower to a location owned by Gallitz that Bertram would also share the cost of constructing and would cost the county \$1 per year for access.
- The Sheriff's Office Annex location needs to be reconstructed. Bertram is interested in building a taller tower that would give broadband access to that area of the county.
- Communications Supervisor Todd Lindert has been in contact with UW-Whitewater to put equipment on Wells Residence Hall to help with service in the southern part of the county.
- General Communications has been onsite working with the county and Bertram and is onboard with the partnership with Bertram.
- David Drayna made a motion to forward the resolution to form a partnership with Bertram for the construction of the towers and to use the private property in Palmyra for the new tower to the County Board for approval. Mary Roberts seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and possible action on approval of contract with Edge Consulting for civil engineering services:

- Edge Consulting is used by the county to review the existing towers and their integrity of the tower/building load for the structure.
- Edge Consulting is currently used by US Cellular, State of Wisconsin, General Communications, True North, along with numerous other agencies for their engineering services.
- Edge Consulting will be the QA/QC monitor of specifications if the county chooses to work with Bertram on the constructing of the new towers. If the county decides to construct the new towers themselves, Edge Consulting will help develop the specifications needed to build the new towers.
- The cost of the initial work of Edge Consulting will be approximately \$175,000. If the county chooses to partner with Bertram, this cost will be shared.
- The proposal to use Edge Consulting for civil engineering services in the tower construction project will be forwarded to Finance for approval.

Next meeting date: August 28, 2020.

Adjourn: A motion made by Kirk Lund to adjourn at 9:15 a.m., was seconded by David Drayna. Motion carried.