

LAW ENFORCEMENT/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: August 28, 2020

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Dwayne Morris at 8:37 a.m. There were technical difficulties getting into the computer to connect to the Zoom portion for the meeting which caused the late start to the meeting.

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

Others present were: Chief Deputy Jeff Parker, County Administrator Ben Wehmeier

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: None

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

Approval of the August 7, 2020 meeting minutes: A motion was made by David Drayna, and seconded by Kirk Lund that the August 7, 2020 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Communications: None.

Grants - Update of ongoing or new grants:

- The Sheriff's Office is still working on the \$25,000 Traffic Safety grant that will run through the end of October 2020.
- There is a budget line item for a \$40,000 grant through the Bureau of Transportation Safety for 2021 that the Sheriff's Office will work with the City of Jefferson Police Department on.

Report from the Sheriff:

- A new squad was sent to North Carolina to have the propane system installed as Ford has made modifications to the new Ford Explorers. They will install this system for free and then will send a mechanic back with the squad to assist the Sheriff's Office mechanic in installing two systems into two more squads.
- There are two deputy openings. The most recent applicants have been interviewed through the Civil Service Commission and backgrounds are being completed. Once completed, the Sheriff will make the final decision on extending offers to two individuals to proceed through the final steps of the hiring process.

- There is still one dispatch opening to be filled.
- The Sheriff's Office and Courthouse will be looking at combining two part-time custodian positions into one full-time position with benefits to fill the vacancies.
- The Sheriff's Office has one deputy in the Police Academy who will graduate December 18.
- The Sheriff's Office had a jail suicide two weeks ago. The investigation is being handled by an outside agency.
- The Sheriff's Office has been sending eight deputies to Kenosha to assist with the situation there. They have primarily been providing security at the Courthouse in Kenosha.
- The County Board passed and gave permission for the health contract to be signed with Southern Health Partners. ACH (Advanced Correctional Health) has agreed to continue their service until October 14 with SHP taking over on October 15.
- Chief Parker gave an update on the mask mandate. He stated that there have only been a couple of phone calls and emails regarding citizen concerns about the mandate and no calls received through dispatch.
- Chief Deputy Parker reported that the 2021 budget has been turned in for the Sheriff's Office at \$12,900,000. He stated that they were able to keep the Sheriff's Office budget line items to \$202,000 under the allotted amount. The only real difference between 2020 and 2021 was the non-capital auto line items due to the interior modifications being made on the new Ford Explorer squad cars which results in needing new cages, center consoles, top light bars, rhino bars, and storage containers that are kept in the back of the squads.
- Chief Deputy Parker stated that the atmosphere in the jail between the inmates and staff has been great. There have been letters received from the inmates regarding their thanks for how they are treated.
- Two part-time deputies have recently resigned with a couple more potentially coming in the future. Chief Deputy Parker stated he has had conversation with both Administration and Finance on different options for replacing these deputies.

Update on Communications Project:

- County Administrator Ben Wehmeier stated that the final design has been finalized and accepted with True North to move forward with the project.
- Equipment has been arriving and General Communications has been starting to get it installed.
- Edge Consulting has been going over the existing tower sites to ensure their usability.
- The county is close to finalizing with the two land owners for the new tower sites.
- The county has received approval from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater to add the towers to their dorms.

Review monthly bills and financial items (June & July): – The committee approved the monthly recap reports for June 2020 bills in the amount of \$363,946.15 and July 2020 bills in the amount of \$204,075.57. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members.

Report on the budget: At the end of July, the Sheriff's Office should be at 58% of the budget. Revenues are currently at 57.72% and expenditures are 56.99%. While the jail overtime is still high at 61%, the Sheriff's Office is waiting on approximately \$55,000 for state inmate

board billing to be received.

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 \$7,471.90. Payment was made to US Foods for the dishwasher monthly lease payment for May and June in the amount of \$271.90 and to the Jefferson County Literacy Council for jail inmate instruction for May, June, July and August in the amount of \$7,200.

The Committee also received an additional report on jail assessment fund purchases for four new cameras to be placed in the pod area of the jail as well as to place one currently owned camera in the corridor leading to the pod area for a total cost not to exceed \$5,100.

The jail assessment balance at the end of July is \$252,525.55.

Discussion on potential items for the September 25, 2020 meeting agenda:

Next meeting date: September 25, 2020.

Adjourn: A motion made by Mary Roberts to adjourn at 10:00 a.m., was seconded by Brandon White. Motion carried.