

LAW ENFORCEMENT/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: September 24, 2021

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Dwayne Morris at 8:33 a.m.

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

Others present were: Chief Deputy Jeff Parker, Corporation Counsel J. Blair Ward, County Administrator Ben Wehmeier, Supervisor Anita Martin, Communications Supervisor Todd Lindert, Emergency Management Director Donna Haugom

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 August 27, 2021 meeting minutes: A motion was made by Brandon White, and seconded by David Drayna that the August 27, 2021 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Discussion and possible action on the transfer of ownership of the Rock River water level gauge on the Main Street bridge in Jefferson from United States Geological Survey (USGS) to Jefferson County:

- Emergency Management Director Donna Haugom reported on the river gauge located at South Main Street and Riverview Drive in Jefferson that is currently owned by the USGS. The USGS is no longer using the gauge and would like to transfer ownership to Jefferson County and the National Weather Service. If this gauge were to be discontinued, the National Weather Service would longer be able to provide forecasts or river level data.
- USGS has not used this gauge since 1994. Any repairs that would need to be completed in the future would be taken care of by the USGS.
- The gauge assists the Emergency Management Department with water levels in the event of an emergency and the National Weather Service with forecasts.
- Brandon White made a motion to forward to the County Board a recommendation to transfer ownership of the Rock River water level gauge from the USGS to Jefferson County and was seconded by Mary Roberts. Motion passed.

Communications: None.

Grants - Update of ongoing or new grants:

- Chief Deputy Parker spoke about the traffic safety grant that is ending shortly.
- The Sheriff's Office is working to secure another traffic safety grant for 2022.

Report from the Sheriff:

- There are two deputy positions open currently with an additional opening due to a retirement on October 15. There is an open application process and are planning on scheduling a testing date in the near future.
- The Sheriff's Office Recruitment and Retention Team has been active lately making visits to Milwaukee Area Technical College and Fox Valley Technical College and upcoming visits scheduled to Northcentral and Western Technical College, Blackhawk Technical College and the University of Platteville and Madison College Associate Degree Programs.
- There is an estimated 11-15 retirements over the next 18 months within the Sheriff's Office.
- Chief Deputy Parker shared an update of the County Building Project to include the Emergency Management and Patrol/Dispatch area.
- The Sheriff's Office is at the end of the Budget process for 2022 which was a difficult project this year due to the removal of state inmates by the State of Wisconsin and the loss of revenue that will cause for the end of 2021 and into 2022.

Update on Communications Project:

- Todd Lindert reported on the the shelters have all been delivered to Palmyra Cambridge, Concord, Johnson Creek and next week to Jefferson.
- The project is still on track to go live in the first quarter of 2022.
- The 911 system was upgraded this week. Through the CARES grant the county purchased new portable consoles to use with the new system.

Review monthly bills and financial items (July & August): – The committee approved the monthly recap reports for July 2021 bills in the amount of \$357,799.06 and August 2021 bills in the amount of \$193,247.01. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members.

Report on the budget:

- At the end of August, the Sheriff's Office should be operating at 66.66%. For revenue, the Sheriff's Office is operating at 64.57% and for expenditures, is operating at 64.65%.
- The Sheriff's Office is approximately \$298,000 under budget at this time with the remainder of board billing for the state inmates still coming and the end of year comp and holiday payouts for deputies.

Review monthly jail and patrol activity reports: Jail and patrol activity reports were made available.

Discussion and Possible action on approving jail assessment fund purchases:

The Committee received a report on general jail assessment fund purchases totaling \$3,600. Payment was made to Jefferson County Literacy Council for July and August jail inmate instruction in the amount of \$3,600.

The jail assessment balance at the end of August is \$270,370.15.

Discussion on potential items for the next meeting agenda: None.

Adjourn: A motion made by Brandon White to adjourn at 9:55 a.m., was seconded by Kirk Lund. Motion carried.