

LAW ENFORCEMENT/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: November 18, 2022

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

Roll Call: Members of the committee present were: Dwayne Morris, David Drayna, Brandon White (Zoom), Mary Roberts (Zoom), Karl Zarling

Others present were: Chief Deputy Donald Hunter, Corporation Counsel J. Blair Ward, County Administrator Ben Wehmeier (Zoom)

Certification of Compliance with open meetings law: Corporation Counsel J. Blair Ward certified compliance with the open meetings law.

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

Public Comment: None

Approval of the September 23, 2022 meeting minutes: A motion was made by Supervisor Drayna, and seconded by Supervisor Zarling that the September 23, 2022 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Communications:

Chief Hunter spoke on a couple donations to the K-9 program. Mabel Schumacher donated \$1000 and the Jordan Vogel Memorial Fund donated \$2000. Ms. Schumacher also donated cookies to the Sheriff's Office for everyone to enjoy. Chief Hunter also spoke on some commendations that were received for Deputies outstanding actions. We Energies for Deputies, Bill Dandoy, Greg Jansen, and Vanessa Leonard for their help ensuring their crews were safe when a conductor went down over Highway 26. State of Kansas Office of the Attorney General for Lynn Enke the Sheriff's Office civil process clerk for her outstanding help getting defendants served with paperwork for them. A letter to Deputy Heather Novotny for her outstanding actions in helping with a juvenile who was hanging over the railing on County Highway B on 10/15/22 while she was on her way home from work from Sheriff Milbrath. Also, a letter from Sheriff Milbrath to Deputies Mike Williams, Scott Yambor, Detectives Adam Kleist, Ryan McIntyre, and Captain Margo Gray for donating their time to help the UW Wisconsin Cancer Bike Rally by helping at the rest station.

Grants – Update of ongoing or new grants:

Chief Hunter spoke on the occupant restraint grant for \$40,000. The Sheriff's Office has received the funds, but not the green light from the State yet to start using it. The Sheriff's Office is set to get \$40,000 from the state for a speed grant in 2023 that will run from June to August.

Report from the Sheriff:

Chief Hunter spoke on the Sheriff's Office struggling with recruitment and retention especially when other departments around Jefferson County are increasing lateral transfer incentives. The Sheriff's Office is currently 10 bodies short. Recently 1 deputy resigned for work in the private sector, 1 deputy went to Lake Mills Police Department, 1 deputy went to the Waukesha County Sheriff's Office, 1 deputy will be leaving to Fort Atkinson Police Department, 1 sergeant will be retiring 12/06/22. There are 5 candidates with conditional job offers pending psychological evaluations. Four are to start before the end of the year. Chief Hunter spoke on testing next week Tuesday for more deputy candidates. Sixteen protentional candidates have signed up to take the test and the Sheriff's Office is hoping for at least 50% to show up for the test. This time text reminders were sent to candidates along with the usual email reminders. Currently there are 28 deputies in the jail with 9 in training. Patrol has 1 deputy in training. Deputy Amy Heggie was promoted to jail sergeant starting on November 20. Wednesday was Civil Service Commission review for the Captain position with 4 candidates. Command Staff with those candidates will be tentatively November 30. The Sheriff's Office will have 2 more retirements in January 2023, 1 patrol sergeant and 1 detective. Posting to fill those openings will be put up by the end of the day with testing in early January. Take home squad program is continuing to push ahead as the Sheriff's Office was able to reallocate funds, but waiting on equipment.

Update on Communications Project:

Chief Hunter spoke on a note from Communications Supervisor Todd Lindert as to the update of the communications project. Old system is still operational. Welding is complete on the We Energies tower and microwave dishes are up. Next is network testing of the microwave systems. Drive testing is to start December 5. Goal is to go live with the new system by the end of the year.

Review monthly bills and financial items (September): – The committee approved the monthly recap reports for September 2022 bills in the amount of \$30,120.68. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members.

Report on the budget:

Chief Hunter spoke on how the Sheriff's Office is in overall good shape to meet the budget. Overtime is still high because of the deputy shortage especially in the jail. Overall revenues and expenditures are at 74%.

Review monthly jail and patrol activity reports: Jail phone revenue report was reviewed and there were no patrol activity reports.

Discussion and Possible action on approving jail assessment fund purchases:

Sheriff's Office requests monies from the jail assessment fund for \$3,600 for jail inmate instruction and \$200.70 for a total of \$3,800.70. Also \$9,917.00 for a service agreement for the jail body scanner.

The jail assessment balance at the end of September is \$30,120.68.

Discussion on potential items for the next meeting agenda:

None

Adjourn: A motion made by Supervisor Zarling to adjourn at 9:31 a.m., was seconded by Drayna. Motion carried.