

LAW ENFORCEMENT/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: September 22, 2023

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Supervisor Morris at 8:32 a.m.

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

Others present were: Chief Deputy Donald Hunter, County Administrator Ben Wehmeier (zoom)

Absent: Sheriff Paul Milbrath, Corporation Counsel J. Blair Ward

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 25, 2023 meeting minutes: A motion was made by Supervisor Zarling and seconded by Supervisor White that the August 25, 2023 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Communications:

- Chief Deputy Hunter stated that there are several letters of commendation to deputies and supervisors from incidents they have been involved in.
- Mary Adams sent in a letter with a donation to the K-9 unit.

Grants – Update of ongoing or new grants:

- Chief Hunter told the committee that the Sheriff's Office is still waiting to hear back about the 2024 Seatbelt grant and a Kwik Trip grant that the Sheriff applied for.

Report from the Sheriff:

- Chief Hunter informed the committee that there was a recent PREA complaint in the jail that is being investigated by another department.
- Detective Sergeant Dan Horvatin is receiving the Enrique Camarena award on October 23, 2023. It is an award from the Elk's Club for law enforcement officers who are outstanding in drug enforcement.
- Chief Hunter spoke on how the Sheriff's Office updated the personnel policy to allow tattoos uncovered, beards, and single stud earrings. Tattoos in certain places and offensive ones are still prohibited.
- The Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2023-2025 was finalized.
- Chief Hunter informed the committee that the number of people applying has increased, however there is still a lack of people showing up to take the test. There are females applying and the Sheriff's Office is trying to expedite their process. There is another deputy testing scheduled for September 27, Command Staff for September 25,

and Civil Service for September 28. September 25 a former female deputy is starting back part-time to help cover hours and another part-time deputy from Walworth is starting October 2 in Support Services.

- Brad Riesen is retiring on October 17 and Trent Davis' last day is September 27. He is leaving to Waunakee.
- Currently in the Jail there are 31 deputies with 6 in various stages of training and 2 in the law enforcement academy. There were 83 open overtime shifts for the month of September.
- Patrol Currently has 23 deputies with 1 in training and 61 overtime shifts open for September.
- The new communication center will be switched over on October 3 and the new Patrol area will be ready October 2.

Update on Communications Project:

- Chief Hunter informed the committee that drive testing was just completed on Monday and the report should be ready next week.
- The Jefferson Tower has a defect in one of the legs that moving some of the bracing around will fix otherwise a replacement will need to be done.
- There still has been no conditional acceptance on the new system.

Review monthly bills and financial items (August): – The committee approved the monthly recap reports for August 2023 bills in the amount of \$245,674.65. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members.

Report on the budget:

- Chief Deputy stated that the budget is exactly where it needs to be on all areas, however, overtime is still an issue.
- County Administrator Wehmeier explained to the committee how the new Collective Bargaining Agreement was thought of when the new budget was thought of. Also, the wage increases were already included in the current budget and whatever isn't covered will be covered by contingencies.

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

Discussion and Possible action on approving jail assessment fund purchases:

- Bills were presented for dish washer lease (08/19-9/18) for \$223.58 and tower treatment chemicals for \$2,590.56 for a grand total of \$2,814.14

The jail assessment balance at the end of August is \$259,900.87.

Discussion on potential items for the next meeting agenda:

- Supervisor White will be unable to attend the October Meeting.
- December 1st tentative date for the November/ December meeting.

Adjourn: A motion made by Supervisor Zarling to adjourn at 9:19 a.m., was seconded by Supervisor White. Motion carried.