

LAW ENFORCEMENT/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: February 23, 2024

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Supervisor Morris at 8:37 a.m.

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

Others present were: Chief Deputy Donald Hunter, Sheriff Paul Milbrath

Absent: none.

Certification of Compliance with open meetings law: Sheriff Milbrath certified compliance with the open meetings law.

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

Public Comment: None

Approval of the January 26, 2024 meeting minutes: A motion was made by Supervisor Zarling, and seconded by Supervisor Drayna that the January 26, 2024 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Communications:

- Chief Deputy Hunter showed the committee some letters Sheriff Milbrath sent to Deputies Betanski, Jansen, Olszewski, Captain Maze, and dispatcher Huppert thanking them for going above and beyond on complaints there were involved in.
- Sheriff Milbrath told the committee that MADD is recognizing Deputies Klemke, Stapleton, and Dahnert for the road enforcement efforts.
- Sheriff also informed the committee of a \$500 donation from Michael Fornecker that will be used for some type of equipment one of the Special Team's needs.
- Sheriff Milbrath also spoke on about a \$1400 discount Rob's Performance Sports gave the snowmobile team making the purchase of two new helmets only cost about \$200 each. Also, that J&L tire is donating money for the purchase of new shirts and a badge for the department's chaplain program.

Grants - Update of ongoing or new grants:

- Sheriff Milbrath stated that he has started looking into the Enbridge grant with will be around \$1000-\$2000.
- Chief Hunter informed the committee that the department did get an \$80,000 speed grant for 2024 which will run May through September and include Jefferson, Fort Atkinson, and Watertown this year.

Report from the Sheriff:

- Sheriff Milbrath informed the committee of the change in the Civil Service Ordinance which will require the reposting of the vacant Administrative Captain, Jail Sergeant, and Patrol Sergeant positions.
- It is still difficult to find and hire qualified candidates due to a lot of competition. Sheriff spoke on how we are very lucky with applicants we have been getting and that two females will be going to Civil Service on Tuesday. Also, there was a conditional job offer accepted from a Village of Palmyra Officer.
- Chief Hunter spoke on the current situation of the department with being totally short 13 deputies. The Jail division currently has 30 deputies with 7 in training. There were 116 overtime shifts in December, 110 in January, and 153 in February. The Patrol Division currently has 20 deputies with 3 in training. There were 97 overtime shifts in December, 76 in January, and 70 in February.
- The department had 4 retirements from January to February with another Patrol Sergeant retiring in April.
- Chief Hunter informed the committee that in April the new fees from the contract with the US Marshal will take effect which will help with bringing in some more revenue.
- Sheriff mentioned that the Department of Homeland security added more days that they want to use the range so that increased the payment from them to \$3000 a year.

Update on Communications Project:

- Sheriff Milbrath spoke on how the Sullivan tower lease was up for renewal and that the department can renew it for 5 years without any negotiations which is what was done.
- The project is nearly at the end and just waiting on the final drive test that will happen from June to August then the county can accept the approval of the charges.
- Sheriff Milbrath spoke on some minor issues however those issues would be there no matter what system the department used.

Review monthly bills and financial items (November & December-preliminary): – The committee approved the monthly recap reports for November 2024 bills in the amount of \$467,822.23 and December-preliminary 2024 bills in the amount of \$331,550.68. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members.

Report on the budget:

- Chief Hunter informed the committee that December and January are not closed yet however the department is about \$427,506.49 under budget. The department is being as responsible as they can be and the shortage of employees is also a reason behind being under budget.
- Sheriff Milbrath told the committee that the countless donations from the community throughout the year is extremely helpful with keeping the budget on track.

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 (11/19-12/18) for \$223.58, dish washer lease (12-18-12/31) for \$93.76, Jail inmate instruction for November and December for \$3,600.00, 2 pocket talk translators for \$518, transferring jail medical expenses to the jail assessment fund per finance for \$104,491.00, and a reimbursement for jail inmate instruction of (21,600) for a grand total of \$87,326.34

The jail assessment balance at the end of December is \$210,808.16

Discussion on potential items for the next meeting agenda:

- Update of Physical Evidence Storage needs
- What is the CJCC and what do they do for the county
- Patrol Trends
- When to schedule ME and DA to come speak to the committee.

Adjourn: A motion made by Supervisor Zarling to adjourn at 10:00 a.m., was seconded by Supervisor Drayna Motion carried.