

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**DATE:** June 28, 2024

**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), Mary Roberts, Karl Zarling (zoom)

Others present were: Chief Deputy Donald Hunter, Sheriff Paul Milbrath, Corporation Counsel Danielle Thompson, County Administrator Ben Wehmeier

Absent: Brandon White

**Certification of Compliance with open meetings law:** County Administrator Ben Wehmeier certified compliance with the open meetings law.

### **Introduction of Policy Oversight Department Heads (Medical Examiner):**

- Medical Examiner Nichol Tesch spoke to the committee about what her office has been doing over the last year. She informed the committee that her office has been involved in attending events around the county with Heroes of Hope for suicide prevention. Her office is also involved in the child death review team and overdose death review team in hopes to educate more on prevention.
- Currently she has 4 new hires that are training and she is training her part-time helper Ashley to be her backup if she is out of the office.
- Overall her office has seen a decrease in cases in 2023 from 2022.

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

**Public Comment:** None

**Approval of the May 24, 2024 meeting minutes:** A motion was made by Supervisor Roberts and seconded by Supervisor Zarling that the May 24, 2024 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

### **Communications:**

- Sheriff Milbrath informed the committee that the only communication the department has received is a letter thanking Deputy Jansen for assisting a woman who was waiting for a tow truck by sitting behind her car with his lights on or safety.

### **Grants - Update of ongoing or new grants:**

- Sheriff Milbrath spoke on the grant he applied for from Senator Baldwin's office for flock cameras that is moving forward and just waiting for hopeful approval.
- Sheriff informed the committee that there is a Goodyear Tire First Responder grant he applied for in order to get 9 "Angel Eyes" for the department which would assist if there was a big search and rescue to know where officers are.
- Sheriff also spoke on applying for the Enbridge Grant under Emergency Management, looking into a Pocket Talk Grant, and that the Traffic Safety Grant is ongoing.

**Report from the Sheriff:**

- Sheriff informed the committee that the grievance from Deputies Breitenfeldt and Schroeder is moving to arbitration.
- Vacation and Holiday has been changed to now only allowing 3 deputies off in the jail and patrol due to staffing issues.
- Sheriff informed the committee that currently there are 3 potential new hires, 2 that are female in the background stage and that 4 more candidates are moving into the background stage which 2 of those being female as well.
- 3 new fulltime dispatchers are starting in the next couple weeks. There were 2 resignations in the jail to other departments.
- Sheriff informed the committee that the Jail has 23 deputies with 3 in training with 116 overtime shifts for June and Patrol has 20 deputies with 3 in training with 91 overtime shifts for June.
- Building project is scheduled to be complete September 9 and there will only be a few things to finish up in the jail after then.
- Sheriff explained to the committee that the Jail might be 1 nurse short but he is looking at changes in the contract with Southern Health partners and may have to look into other options.

**Update on Communications Project:**

- Sheriff told the committee that they are waiting on the final drive test but the distance is better with the new system and only working on a few fixes with vendor.
- County Administrator Wehmeier spoke on how there are some spots with paging issues yet that are getting worked out.
- Chief Deputy Hunter spoke on there are still some garbled transmissions and missing transmissions that are getting looked at.

**Update on Evidence Storage at the Sheriff's Office:**

- Chief Hunter informed the committee that with the remodel the evidence room has better climate control and slightly more space. This will help with records being preserved better than where they were previously stored.
- Chief told the committee that there are currently 4 evidence officers who are in charge of evidence storage and the only issue is finding time to clear out evidence that can be disposed of.
- Process of evidence is deputies put it in lockers and only the 4 evidence officers transfer it into the system.

**Review monthly bills and financial items (May):** – The committee approved the monthly recap reports for May 2024 bills in the amount of \$178,918.78. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members.

**Report on the budget:**

- Chief informed the committee that the department is hitting all the percentage it is suppose to with budget at this time and the only issue yet is overtime is still a huge issue.

**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 (04/19/24-05/18/24) for \$223.58, dish washer lease (05/19/24-06/18/24) for \$223.58, Jail inmate instruction for May and June for \$3,600.00 for a grand total of \$4,047.16

The jail assessment balance at the end of April is \$238,397.15

**Discussion on potential items for the next meeting agenda:**

August or September- Internet crime investigation

September- DA's Office

**Adjourn:** A motion made by Supervisor Roberts to adjourn at 10:03 a.m., was seconded by Supervisor Zarling. Motion carried.