

COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: LAW ENFORCEMENT/ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: May 23, 2008

Meeting called to order by Paul Babcock as acting chair at 8:30 a.m. Members of the committee present were: Paul Babcock, Rick Kuhlman, George Jaeckel, Pam Rogers.

Others present were: Sheriff Milbrath, Chief Deputy Stapleton, Donna Haugom, Captain Scott, Captain Brown, Captain Parker, Paula Sumpter.

Absent: Glen Borland

Compliance with open meetings law: Chief Deputy Stapleton assured compliance with open meetings law.

Approve agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Election of Officers: Nominations were taken for committee chair. Rick Kuhlman made a motion to nominate Paul Babcock as chair of the Law Enforcement/Emergency Management Committee. Pam Rogers seconded. With no other nominations, the nomination passed unanimously. Paul Babcock nominated Rick Kuhlman as vice chair. Pam Rogers seconded. No other nominations came from the floor and the nomination carried unanimously. Rick Kuhlman nominated Glen Borland for the position of secretary. Pam Rogers seconded. No other nominations were forthcoming. The nomination carried.

Approval of minutes: A motion was made by Rick Kuhlman, and seconded by Paul Babcock that the March 28, 2008 minutes be approved as printed. George Jaeckel and Pam Rogers abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Review of board rules as they pertain to the Law Enforcement Committee: The item was added to all agendas; however no information was available about the rules so the item will be added to the June agenda for discussion.

Report from the Sheriff: Sheriff Milbrath began by explaining the "With Wings and a Halo" program that was put together by Paul Gilbertson of Dane County. The program is much like the Teddy Bear program except that each squad will be equipped with a book bag/backpack containing about 10 age and gender specific books to hand out to children involved in traumatic situations. The books have been donated to the program and each backpack has slightly different contents. Most of the police departments in the county have gone to the program so far and there should be a countywide press release regarding this program coming soon.

The Safe Communities Coalition in Dane County added Jefferson County onto its grant application for the yard signs regarding watching and slowing down for children. The county received 1,500 signs and they are currently being distributed.

The dive bus is up and running. Some pictures have run in the Daily Times with J&L Tire and Aumann's Service in regard to the bus. J&L Tire donated the bus and Aumann's donated their service to take out a lot of the windows and put in metal plating. The bus was then painted and

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Minutes by: Terry Wyse

decaled. It has been remodeled inside to store dive team gear and also will be used as a place for warming up during winter dives and for others to warm up in cold weather if needed for other incidences. Because there is a lift on the side, the generator can also be loaded and hauled to a location.

The truck that was obtained from the 10-33 Military Surplus program in Waunakee at no cost was recently repaired and repainted by students at WCTC in Waukesha. They did an excellent job and the truck looks like new. The truck will be used to haul and move things such as the ATV trailer and snowmobiles as well as the laundry trailer. It also can be used by Emergency Management.

Chief Deputy Stapleton introduced the captains and Donna Haugom to the new committee members. He went on to talk a little about budgets and the challenges with the increased cost of fuel. The squads run on propane which is costing \$1.90 per gallon at this point. Later in the fall/winter, predictions are that the price will be around \$2.10 per gallon. He added that he had recently purchased 9,000 gallons and is in the process of purchasing another load. Since the hurricane season is on the doorstep, the supplementary load will help in case of evacuation of drilling rigs and the ensuing price hike due to a hurricane. In addition, foodservice costs for certain items have increased dramatically. Items such as flour and cooking oil have doubled in price so they are purchasing additional food supplies as well. LD Foods has generously donated some storage space for items that need to be in cold storage as well.

Pam Rogers asked if the Sheriff was planning on conducting a tour for county board members this year. Sheriff Milbrath answered yes, something will be sent out with the next County Board Meeting notices. They hope to have the dive bus, the SWAT vehicle, etc. as well as an option to tour the jail.

Realignment of Emergency Management quarterly meetings: Chief Deputy Stapleton explained that the committee meets every month for review of law enforcement issues and also meets quarterly with Donna for Emergency Management issues. The possibility of combining those meetings has been proposed. In the future, if agreeable to the committee members, the Law Enforcement Committee will meet eight months out of the year and Emergency Management will meet the other four months. Meetings for Emergency Management will be held in January, April, July and October. The other months will be scheduled as Law Enforcement Committee meetings. If an item comes up for the Sheriff's Office during months when the Law Enforcement Committee is not scheduled to meet, that item can be added on to the Emergency Management agenda and vice versa. Eliminating the extra four meetings each year would be cost and time effective. Paul Babcock said he had no objections to combining the meetings as did Rick Kuhlman, George Jaeckel, and Pam Rogers. The Sheriff's Office and Donna Haugom were also in agreement.

Review of proposals for Sheriff's Office operational audit and recommendation: Chief Deputy Stapleton said that the Sheriff's Office audit has been brought forward this year. Many companies were contacted to submit proposals to conduct the audit and four responses were received. He said Paula Sumpter put together the summary/scoring sheet for the four proposals which was handed out to committee members. Gary Petre, Paula Sumpter, the Sheriff, Chief Deputy, and the captains all reviewed the proposals and ranked them. He said it really came down to two proposals in the end, Northwestern University and Virchow, Krause & Co. Of the other two companies, Springstead Inc. did not demonstrate an ability to conduct this type of audit from the information and examples they supplied. The other company, MGT of America, has done extensive audits nationwide; however, they were the most costly of the companies that responded and they failed to supply example copies

as requested in the RFP. Both Northwestern and Virchow, Krause & Co. were relatively equal in performance with the major differences being cost and the ease of understanding/following the final summary and recommendation report (Virchow, Krause & Co.'s report was easier to follow).

Paula Sumpter explained that they all got together to review the proposals after they were ranked and she and the Sheriff then contacted many of the references for the two companies. She added that they want to get everything out of the audit that they need to get because there will not be another one in the foreseeable future. Paula said that she and Gary leaned toward Virchow, Krause & Co. and the Sheriff and Chief Deputy leaned more toward Northwestern. She also said that she had questions regarding methodology. Northwestern uses all current or retired law enforcement officers and do not use standard methodology. Their methodology relies almost completely on benchmarking with other institutions which doesn't give much for the administrative side to work with. Paula added that with Virchow, Krause & Co. the reporting was superior and they also gave a matrix to follow. In addition, after the audit Virchow, Krause & Co. is still available for questions. Sheriff Milbrath then commented on their findings with the companies. He said it turned out that he was impressed with Virchow, Krause & Co. in the end. He contacted the Sheriffs or Chief Deputies of the counties that had completed audits and found nothing but positive comments from each of them regarding the studies that Virchow, Krause & Co. had conducted on their offices. The Sheriff also said that Northwestern would do a good job as well but did concede that their reports are very technical. Chief Deputy Stapleton added that his comments are similar and that when he rated the companies, he rated Northwestern and Virchow, Krause & Co. virtually the same with the exception of cost. However, he added that when looking for a quality final product, cost should not be a consideration. In general there is a good history with Virchow, Krause & Co. and they provide a good product that has more value and is easier to disseminate for everyone.

Rick Kuhlman asked if anyone had contacted Walworth County and Barron County as references for Northwestern. Chief Deputy Stapleton said he had talked with Walworth County about them and found that Walworth County had used Northwestern twice for studies and were pleased with them. He added that if Mr. Kuhlman was asking if Northwestern did a good job, he hadn't heard anything bad about them and yes, they also would provide a good audit. Rick Kuhlman added that he had a hard time justifying the extra cost for just a language issue. Paula Sumpter put in that it was a little more than a language issue; she said it had a lot to do with what you are trying to measure and study. She said as they went through the examples that were sent, not all of them were on a par for what the county was looking for. Her concern was that Northwestern's methodology wasn't complete. The report from Northwestern would answer some of their questions but not all of them. She added that it wasn't that they would not do a good job but that they wouldn't be as comprehensive as the county would like. Rick Kuhlman said that in looking at the final analysis summary report, Northwestern is not lacking in anything and the scoring regarding their reports is only .7 less and the levels of staffing off by .5. All other areas were equal or above. He added that because they hadn't heard anything bad about Northwestern and Walworth County had used them twice, he had a hard time justifying the cost difference between Northwestern and Virchow, Krause & Co. Pam Rogers said she didn't feel that they could base their decision only on cost and her original preference was for Virchow, Krause & Co. She said they were very specific as to their approach, their timeline and deliverables. She felt that the scope of what the county was looking for exceeded what Northwestern provided and said she had no problem with the higher cost because the county would receive much more from Virchow, Krause & Co. Paula Sumpter also added that the cost given by Virchow, Krause & Co. was very much in line with what they charged for other audits done for the county. In addition, she analyzed the cost differences between the two and found that Northwestern charges less per hour but they offered a lot less hours of service (approx. 307 hours)

than Virchow, Krause & Co. (434 hours). Those two items constituted the difference in cost.

A question was asked about the role the Law Enforcement Committee would play in the selection of an audit company. The answer was that the Administration and Rules Committee is the oversight committee and they are looking for the L.E. Committee to make a recommendation that they will take into consideration. The Administration and Rules Committee will then make a recommendation that will go to the full county board for discussion and a contract vote. At that time, Pam Rogers made a motion to recommend that the county employ Virchow, Krause & Co. to conduct the operational audit. George Jaeckel seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 3-1. Rick Kuhlman cast the dissenting vote.

Review and support of resolution to oppose statewide VHF digital trunking system: Chief Deputy Stapleton went over information regarding the trunking system. He also handed out copies of similar resolutions from other counties opposing the statewide trunking system for review by the committee members. The federal government has set aside millions of dollars to be distributed to states and Wisconsin's share of the federal funds is a little over \$15 million. A stipulation of this federal funding is that 80% needs to be distributed to local government (emergency government or county) for use in upgrading communications systems. The State of Wisconsin is withholding the funds and wants to create a statewide trunking system that would allow all counties to communicate and would put the State Patrol as the lead agency in charge of the statewide system. The \$15 million in funds would fall very short of what would be needed to put the system together and at this time the proposal would only allow law enforcement to communicate with each other (no fire, EMS, etc.). There are a couple committees involved in reviewing this and they have asked that the resolutions be tabled for the time being. The committees feel that the system won't be going anywhere right away and they want to work on some alternatives that involve keeping the funds in the state coffers but putting together something that would benefit everyone. It is not a large amount of funding and if Jefferson County did eventually end up with a share, it would be about \$118,000.00 (under one of the formulas). In about 90 days both of the committees should be making a recommendation to the governor and to local governments as well. Chief Deputy Stapleton asked that the item be tabled for the time being and in a few months be put on the agenda again. By then there should be much more information available. Pam Rogers made a motion to table the discussion and recommendation of a resolution as presented. Rick Kuhlman seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion held on monthly bills. – The committee approved the monthly recap report for March and April bills in the amount of \$160,108.52 and \$125,994.62, respectively. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members. Pam Rogers asked about the report detailing the cost per meal as this cost will be rising. The Chief will request the monthly report.

Monthly Jail/Activity reports: Jail and activity reports were reviewed.

Jail assessment fund items: None. Later this summer an assessment fund item will be listed for some remodeling to accommodate handicapped inmates.

A motion made by Rick Kuhlman to adjourn at 9:42 a.m., was seconded by Pam Rogers. Motion carried.

Motions Carried: 3 Lost: 0 .

Signed _____