

COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: LAW ENFORCEMENT/ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: March 23, 2012

Meeting called to order by Paul Babcock at 8:32 a.m. Members of the committee present were: Paul Babcock, Glen Borland, Pam Rogers, Dwayne Morris

Others present were: Sheriff Milbrath, Chief Deputy Parker, John Molinaro, Gary Petre, Donna Haugom

Absent: George Jaeckel

Compliance with open meetings law: Gary Petre assured compliance.

Approve agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of minutes: A motion was made by Pam Rogers, and seconded by Glen Borland that the February 24, 2012 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Communications: No communications.

All Hazards Participation Plan – Public Participation Plan: Donna Haugom, Emergency Management Director explained that the county has an All Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan which went through committee in 2008 and the natural hazards/disasters that were the most prevalent for Jefferson County were identified. If and how those hazards can be mitigated, identifying different floodplain properties and where special facilities are, were some of the items the committee went through at that time. The plan is up for update/renewal and part of the process is a citizen's participation plan, a municipal participation plan and/or a county participation plan. The document sent to committee members explained how they would go about doing that. This would include identifying a steering committee, public notices for meetings, local government involvement, and resolutions from each municipality saying they would be willing to participate in the All Hazards Mitigation Plan update. The plan will be posted on the website and any updates are posted as well. Information will be posted for public meetings in local jurisdictions about three or four times a year. Grant requirements state that the plan will need to be approved by the county board. The Law Enforcement Committee is the first step in the process. Questions regarding the timeline of the plan and how the public would be notified were asked. Donna answered that the plan would be completed by the end of the year and the process of notifying the public would be via newspaper, radio, website, facebook, cable, etc.

Pam Rogers made a motion to forward the Public Participation Plan to the County Board for approval. Dwayne Morris seconded. Motion carried.

Law Enforcement Memorial Day Resolution: The Law Enforcement Memorial Day program will be held on Thursday, May 17th, 2012 and will start at 11:30 a.m. The luncheon will be held at the fairgrounds activity center. If it rains, the program will be held at that facility as well.

Pam Rogers moved to send the Law Enforcement Memorial resolution to the County Board for

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Minutes by: Terry Wyse

approval. Glen Borland seconded. Motion carried.

Grants – Status of ongoing or new grants: Sheriff Milbrath reported that the Sheriff's Office re-applied for the COPS (Community Oriented Policing) grant. Only agencies that applied last year and did not receive the grant were eligible to re-apply. The Sheriff was very hopeful at first that the county would receive some funding; however, because Countryside was sold six months too early for those employees to be counted as an economic downturn, the odds are that they won't receive anything. There may be a slight possibility of getting one officer funded. They applied for four. If the Sheriff's Office receives one or more positions through this grant, the committee will be informed of all of the conditions. The Sheriff also said all of the requirements and responsibilities of the receiving agency (Jefferson County) were thoroughly researched before applying.

There was some funding left over from the Clean Cities grant (propane) that the Sheriff is waiting for approval from the state to use on the 2012 propane systems for the Tahoes. These systems have already been budgeted for and have been shipped.

Chief Deputy Parker talked about the CARD grant (youth alcohol grant). The Sheriff's Office did not receive the grant this year. It was used a lot during the county fair the past several years. He added that there is an opportunity to apply for a Festival Grant which would specifically be used for an event such as the county fair, etc. Other local municipalities can also apply for these grants. The Sheriff's Office did not receive the Click It or Ticket grant either this year. Chief Deputy Parker said they will be participating in the program but will not generate any overtime since there will be no reimbursement for hours logged this year. It will also increase the chances that they receive the grant in the future. The Sheriff added that by participating in the program, the Sheriff's Office will be eligible to purchase a \$4,000 piece of equipment.

Report from the Sheriff: The Sheriff mentioned the VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) program which is free to the county and operated by the state. Appriss is the company providing the program to the state. It is a telephone and online service for victims and the public that will notify them of any changes in custody status for inmates that they wish to receive information about. The public/victims may also be able to receive information through an app on their smartphones. The public may also be able to receive information through their smartphones about hazards or accidents, etc. Appriss contacted the Sheriff's Office to see if they would be willing to be a test agency for this application. Captain Haferman is working on the details.

The Sheriff also talked about the Town of Koshkonong. They are looking at some contract policing; about 6 to 10 hours a week right now. A draft contract is being drawn up for them. At this time it is a limited number of hours and no extra deputies are required to fill the contract. Possibly in the future, if extended contracts for more patrol time are needed, additional personnel may be needed and that would be addressed at that time. These limited contracts are one-year contracts and can be adjusted as needed (budget issues on the township or other concerns).

Chief Deputy Parker brought up the proposed IRS rule change that would affect retirement age for law enforcement personnel. Because the Wisconsin Retirement System has both protective and non-protective in the same program, it will create problems for retiring officers. The proposed change would raise the retirement age to between 55 and 60. Right now an officer can retire at age 50 (with penalty) and age 52 (without penalty) with 25 years of service.

Deputy John Strese is retiring on April 1st. The Sheriff's Office will be participating in a new

testing program for hiring deputies. The program is managed by Empco and the exam will be taken at specific tech colleges (Blackhawk and MATC are two) that have indicated they would like to participate. A candidate will pay \$70 to take the test (\$50 to Empco and \$20 to the facility hosting the test) and will be able to choose which agencies they are interested in to send their test results. Agencies such as the Sheriff's Office can indicate the cutoff for test scores and will only receive the scores from candidates that are above that level and have indicated they want to apply at the agency.

Chief Deputy Parker also talked about the changes to the Civil Service Ordinance in regard to the chief deputy position. He added that he was disappointed the end result was not the same as he was led to believe (first internal, then external) during the process. The change will open up the chief deputy promotional process right away to outside candidates as well as internal candidates. At this time, only internal candidates are considered for promotion to the position. He and Terri Palm are working on the wording for the ordinance and it will be presented to the County Board for approval when completed.

Chief Deputy Parker discussed with the committee his thoughts and the appropriateness of drafting a letter to the County Board in regard to an article appearing in the Daily Union on March 16, 2012. The article was about the recent resignation of the Fair Park director. Chief Deputy Parker expressed his concern about some of the content that appeared in the article. After brief conversation with the committee, Chief Deputy Parker felt it was more fitting that any future concerns or communications on this issue be handled directly by the County Board or other appropriate committees.

Review monthly bills and financial items: – The committee approved the monthly recap report for January bills in the amount of \$129,344.85. February bills are not closed out yet. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members.

Chief Deputy Parker said that for the month of January, the budget figures were running at 8% (slightly below the monthly mark of 8.3%).

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

Jail assessment fund items: General fund items for the month in the amount of \$3,019.00.

Next meeting date is April 23, 2012 (Emergency Management).

A motion made by Pam Rogers to adjourn at 9:40 a.m., was seconded by Dwayne Morris. Motion carried.

Motions Carried: 4 Lost: 0 .

Signed _____