

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE: FEBRUARY 16, 2009

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
RICHARD MEYER COMMUNITY RESOURCE ROOM
4311 JACKSON STREET, OSHKOSH

PRESENT: HARVEY RENGSTORF
LAWRENCE SMITH
BILL WINGREN
TOM ELLIS
DONALD GRIESBACH

ALSO PRESENT: DIANE FREMGEN – CLERK OF COURTS
GAIL PIERSON – FAMILY COURT COUNSELING
ROBERT STONE – VETERAN'S DEPARTMENT
MIKE ELDER – FACILITIES
MICHAEL BROOKS – SHERIFF'S OFFICE
BARB SPANBAUER – SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PATTY FRANCOUR – INFORMATION SYSTEMS
JENNIFER WOLDT – NORTHWESTERN

Chairman Harvey Rengstorf called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. Approve the minutes from January 27, 2009

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Donald Griesbach, seconded by Tom Ellis. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

2. Communications

Bill Wingren advised that he had received a phone call from a constituent who felt there was a problem with the Coroner's Office. Bill spoke with Barry Busby about the matter and advised that the story had a wonderful ending. Barry Busby went way out his way to be helpful and called the constituent to straighten out the matter and Bill felt Barry should be commended for what he did.

3. Input on agenda items by public

None.

4. Resolution to receive funds for Family Court – Clerk of Courts

Director Gail Pierson from Family Court Counseling explained that they were approached by the Child Support Agency to take over a program of theirs called "Partners in Parenting." Child Support did have a contract with an outside private agency, but they were not happy with how it was being handled and ended the contract. An agreement with the Director of Child Support Services was developed to have Family Court Counseling provide this service for a reduced amount of money, which creates a 50% savings to the County. The cost is \$5,000 a year and as part of this agreement, Family Court requested that the money be placed into specific areas

of their budget for training purposes. Child Support will pay Family Court Counseling \$416 a month.

A motion to approve a resolution for Family Court to receive the \$5,000 funds from Child Support was made by Bill Wingren, seconded by Larry Smith. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

5. Update on Veteran's Department – Robert Stone

Robert Stone advised that over the course of the year, the Veteran's Department has:

- Sponsored a home buyers seminar
- Attended a senior's conference at the Expo Center
- Participated in a job fair utilizing a CVSO (County Veteran's Service Office) Grant of \$13,000 which is to be used to enhance veteran's programs
- Veteran Service Commission meetings are held once a month. This commission consists of three at-large County veterans and two County Board members. They consider specific welfare requests that come to the committee. This may include text books for college students, rental and food assistance, health care issues, transportation issues etc.
- They hosted the Northeast CVSO Association Meeting
- Sent all employees to Staff Accreditation
- Participated with Welcome Home in Wisconsin Dells for the 1157th demobilization program
- They have a volunteer doing transportation coordination for them
- They purchased a VIMS remote lap top with grant money which enables them to complete applications on site when they go to nursing homes, hospitals, prisons, etc.
- More time is being spent with clients
- Did a mass mailing to individuals eligible for VA medical care if they were exposed to Agent Orange
- Have discontinued using pre-printed envelopes and letterhead
- He continues to give the committee monthly reports and handed out January's report at the meeting
- He also handed out a statistics report for 2008/2009

6. Update on Joint Jail Facilities Committee

Sheriff Brooks advised that they still have not gotten a starting date for the study, but they anticipate that it will not be before April 1st and there are still two counties that need to get the Inter-Governmental Agreement approved.

7. Resolution for Stimulus Application for Court Security

Mike Elder from Facilities advised that Governor Doyle and the President are looking for projects that are "shovel ready" for the economic stimulus. He has presented the County Executive with the project to increase security at the entrance to the Courthouse. He advised that this project is as ready as it can be and to the best of his knowledge it has been approved by the County Executive.

A motion to approve a resolution to send the Courthouse security application into the stimulus was made by Donald Griesbach, seconded by Larry Smith. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

8. Review meeting dates

Harvey Rengstorf advised that it is becoming increasingly more difficult to schedule the meetings. He suggested two options:

1. Set a permanent date once-a-month
2. He would send something out to each one of the departments 2-weeks before the date of the next meeting

The consensus of the committee was to go with option 2 and have a notification sent out 2-weeks before the next meeting.

9. Sheriff's Report

Barb Spanbauer advised that the \$5,000 grant received from the Department of Transportation for alcohol enforcement, can also be used to check gas stations and grocery stores for selling to minors. They will also use a portion of this grant to purchase special goggles as a training tool at schools, impact meetings etc. When worn, these goggles simulate the type of vision that an individual under the influence would have when intoxicated. It creates the illusion of being intoxicated as you try to walk.

Sheriff Brooks advised that after meeting with the union, they will not be hiring four part-time officers. The original intention of hiring part-time was to help save costs by pro-rating the benefits they would receive based on the amount of hours they work. The union has refused to open up the contract and there is a provision in the contract that states all employees will get full benefits.

Sheriff Brooks has been told that based on the dollars coming into Wisconsin from the stimulus, they are hoping to start the 41 Project one-year earlier than anticipated. There will be much more work done on the project in Fiscal 2009 than originally intended.

In regard to the radio inter-operability issues, Sheriff Brooks advised the one of things they have been looking at, and has been on the back burner waiting for completion of the radio project, is to create a "hot loop" so that communication is not lost. Patty Francour of Information Systems stated that the driving force behind this project was the Town of Menasha and they have been working on getting local partners to share in the project and Menasha Utilities is now interested. It has been proposed that going from the Menasha Police Dept. across to the trestle bridge to CTH CB would be joint work that would be split three ways. From CTH CB west to the Fairview Tower would be Winnebago County only. Overall, if Winnebago participates in this project they would pay approximately 65% of the total cost. When the exact costs have been determined, it will be brought to a future meeting. Sheriff Brooks advised there may possibly be some money available for this project through the stimulus, but only if it is a regional project, so it needs to be a part of FOXCOMM. This will also be on a future agenda once more information is available.

Sheriff Brooks advised there are large tickets items in his Small Equipment budget that they will be trying to purchase with some of the savings that he had this year due to two officers currently not working and fuel costs. The idea is to get the items purchased in an effort to hold down costs for next year.

10. Items for next agenda

None.

11. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 10:19 a.m. by Donald Griesbach, seconded by Larry Smith. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted:

Sandy Schauz
Winnebago County Sheriff's Office