

**PUBLIC SAFETY & JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES - March 11, 2009**

DATE: March 11, 2009
Adams County Courthouse

TIME: 9:00 a.m.
400 Main Street

PLACE: A260
Friendship, WI 53934

MEMBERS PRESENT: Al Sebastiani, Cynthia Loken, Jerry Kotlowski, Karl Klingforth

EXCUSED ABSENT: Terry James, Florence Johnson

OTHERS PRESENT: Sheriff Renner, Chief Deputy July, Terry Scheel, Deb Barnes, Dee Helmrick, Terry Warner, Jane Grabarski, Shirli Suchomel

1. Call to Order – At 9:00 a.m. Chair Sebastiani called the meeting to order.
2. Was the meeting properly announced? – Yes.
3. Roll call: Sebastiani, Loken, Kotlowski present. Klingforth sat in for James; James and Johnson were excused absent.
4. Approve the Agenda – **MOTION** by Kotlowski/Klingforth to approve the March 11, 2009, meeting agenda. MC/Unan.
5. **MOTION** by Loken/Kotlowski to approve the minutes from February 11, 2009, Public Safety & Judiciary Committee meeting. MC/Unan.

Coroner's Report - Coroner Terry Scheel stated there were 11 deaths in February. The Kalahari matter was rectified with the deputy coroner involved. Scheel conducted a full investigation and found it was a miscommunication. The hospital no longer offers ambulance service; all townships are contracting with ambulances services. Dispatch will make changes on procedure for calls and written agreements are needed. Scheel gave his vouchers to Committee. **MOTION** by Klingforth/Loken to approve the Coroner's Report. MC/Unan.

Family Court Commissioner – Not present.

Child Support – The check register report and Performance Measures were in Committee's mailboxes. The Federal Stimulus package reinstated federal matching funds for Performance money to supplement and not supplant existing funds. The Feds will be checking to make sure that use of the restored funding has allowed positions to be retained or added. Deb Barnes reported that the Central Call Center is back on the table and she will actively campaign to establish it in Adams County. There will be discussion of this issue at the April Director's Dialog. She informed the committee that the company that they use for locating absent parents will begin charging a minimum of \$50.00 per month starting April 1st. In the past there was a fee only if information on the person was provided. She gets reimbursement funds of 66% plus with the match on Performance money. The document scanning and indexing system was in the Manager of Information Systems budget. The cost is under \$5,000.00 and 66% of it is reimbursable, making the final bill \$2,939.00 for the scanner, installation, and training. **MOTION** by Kotlowski/Loken to approve the purchase of the document scanning system. MC/Unan.

Clerk of Circuit Court – Not present.

Register in Probate – Terry Warner had her 2008 final budget figures. The legal fees were in the negative but were offset by recoupment and collections which were higher than budgeted. Warner has a conference in April at the Kalahari all expenses paid except for a \$35.00 fee. She found SKC, a new vendor for courtroom Videoconferencing that would remove the old system and install the new for \$90,000 to \$95,000. She doesn't have information yet on the maintenance costs. The judge was asking that this project move forward. Sheriff Renner added that this system could help cut costs when cancellations happen and the trip team is already en route or on site to pick up subjects for court.

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District Attorney – Not present.

Clerk of Court - Dee Helmrick stated the Community Service annual report was in Committee's packet showing increase in both the use of Community Service and in productivity. Three of her staff went to a seminar in Madison on dealing with the public, proving very helpful in light of increased self-representation. It addressed ethics, where to direct people, what is right and wrong, and legal versus procedural advice. On March 26 two of her staff are going to a one-day training on Jury Information to the State for required statistics reporting. Overall things are good in her department. She stated the District Attorney is preparing for a jury trial and is not present. No reports were available because of this but they have no conference, travel, or vouchers.

Emergency Management – Jane Grabarski had the Communication System Report in Committee's packet. She stated a three-site tower system will be up and active this month. When weather allows for groundbreaking, another three of seven sites will have communication shelters at US Cellular sites. The tower at Jackson Township has no contract yet and Grabarski will keep contact with US Cellular on this. The County-wide Level B Hazmat Team: Juneau County's Corporation Counsel got the proposed agreement to Grabarski who gave it to Corp Counsel Albert. They want more money and more Adams County people in addition to the \$10,000.00 computer and equipment grant. Community Development Block Grant had four applicants for the \$198,000.00 flood recovery grant. Two bids are out to contractors and one project needs inspection is scheduled to proceed. Grabarski invited various agencies to attend Pre-disaster Mitigation and she obtained their input for a written draft to update the plan by October for submission to FEMA. The second half of the 2008 EPCRA money was received and it closed out 2008; the amount was \$2,899.00. In 2009 an EPCRA grant for \$10,000.00 is coming for computer and Hazmat equipment that Grabarski submitted within the deadline in hopes that a team and contract is in place, which is required, and if it is not the money will be given back. When the actual emergency of an overturned tanker happened, mutual aid was called for and received from Marquette County. There were no problems with the bills; the spiller paid without question. Grabarski checked with Columbia County, Wood County, Portage County, Waupaca County, and Waushara County, all of whom declined a contract to cover Adams County Hazmat. The Adams County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) submitted the names Marcia Kaye of the Times-Reporter, Scott Switzer of Moundview Memorial Hospital and Clinics, and Pam Oxman of the American Red Cross to appoint to the vacant positions. **MOTION** by Loken/Klingforth to approve the above-suggested committee members for LEPC and present their names to County Board. MC/Unan.

Grabarski reported a Hazmat rail class coming at no cost through Wisconsin Emergency Management March 28, a Saturday, at the Friendship Village Hall. It is an 8-hour presentation on Hazmat related to railroads, maximum of 40 participants and there is a statewide invitation to attend. Chief July mentioned having no breathing apparatus any longer in the Sheriff's Department, inquiring if Grabarski knew of available funding to cover the purchase in the amount of nearly \$8,000.00. The original funding was from Homeland Security, and the devices that were obtained are past the expiration date. She did not know of funding for this. Storm Spotter training will be held March 31. Kids day will be April 4 and Grabarski will have a table set up there. A grant was denied in conjunction with the library for special needs data base. The mandatory Governor's Conference on Emergency Management is coming and the \$445.00 conference fee is budgeted for 2009. The monthly check summary was in Committee's packet. FEMA assistance money in Adams County was \$189,000.00 to 28 applicants, and three small business administration loans were granted for \$57,000.00 from last summer's floods and small tornado.

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Sheriff's Department – Sheriff Renner said he feels good about the direction this department is going, and he stated good things are happening. The new Road Officer's field training is ongoing, and Lt. Tully is now on duty from 5:30 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. providing command coverage. The Links system (Panic Buttons) went into effect after County Board. Five to six false alarms were received from the courthouse and he will look into the reasons why. Policy is now in effect for answering these calls. Lt. Fahrenkrug responded to one false alarm in 21 seconds with the Department Captain just seconds after him. Project Lifesaver donations are still coming in. Two deputies are on Family Medical leave. Ambulance service meetings will be held with the Sheriff assuring the public on how ambulances will be paged. All information should be on the dispatch screen and it is possible that contracted ambulance services will arrange for their own backup.

Committee appointed Cindy Loken to attend the Humane Society meetings on the second Thursday of the month at 4:15 p.m. in the ACEC building in a **MOTION** by Kotlowski/Klingforth. MC/Unan.

Chief Deputy proposed a transfer of one to two retired squad cars to Health and Human Services at the request of Director Chuck Price. They had no funding to purchase them. Chief and Sheriff had no objections except to the lost revenue from the sale of the squads; \$6,000.00 in revenue has to be met in 2009. Squad equipment and decals have to be removed and Sgt. Kroetz found two squads in decent shape to transfer. Old squads are currently purchased by Cheyka Motors who comes here to get them.

Committee asked about the truck scales that were discussed last year. Discussions with Highway's Ron Chamberlain have to take place on their use, training, staffing, and enforcement. Passes will be available for agriculture multi-trip use during certain hours, only on certain routes, issued by Chamberlain.

MOTION by Kotlowski/Loken to approve the transfer of two retired squad cars to the Department of Health & Human Services. MC/Unan. Chief Deputy is to meet with Director Price and inform him Committee approved his request pending Oversight Committee approval.

Wright Express gas credit card contract has been reviewed by Corp Counsel and this project is still moving forward.

The Safekeeper Contract with Monroe County has gone to Corp Counsel who approved it with minor language changes. It will now be submitted to Monroe County. The rate remains \$45.00 a day and no specific number of inmates was written in the contract; Chief Deputy expects to be able to house ten safely and the contract contains right of refusal if necessary. The Inmate Education contract was approved by Corp Counsel.

A radio upgrade grant is coming and Small Equipment funds can be used as the local match if it does not go over budget.

A squad car repair in question was researched by Chief July who found that the repair was finished before the insurance company decided to total the car. Future repairs will wait for insurance company approval.

The new squad cars are in. Eight cars are due for changeover on the 16th at Communications Service. Savings are expected in maintenance with a leased fleet which is in its second year. Now that the age of

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the fleet is no longer an issue, it will be feasible to reexamine leasing versus owning at the end of the lease's third year.

Chief July distributed a Humane Officer job description to Committee who read it. **MOTION** by Klingforth/Loken to move forward with the Humane Officer Job Description. MC/Unan.

There was no discussion on changes to County rules on positions and hiring with fiscal impact and Chief July removed it from the agenda. Sheriff and Chief had concerns on the impact of part-time and on-call language, and Committee advised them to give their input.

Chief July reported that Captain Beckman was not available today. He stated Electronic Monitoring is working well although one inmate was drinking and had the band removed. There are an average of five to seven inmates on this program at a time and costs are borne by the inmate. Revenues of \$8,000.00 were generated by February.

MOTION by Loken/Kotlowski to convene in closed session per Wis Stats 19.85(1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility: Discuss personnel matters. ROLL CALL VOTE: Loken: Yes. Klingforth: Yes. Sebastiani: Yes. Kotlowski: Yes. Unanimous. The meeting closed at 10:55 a.m.

Committee then reconvened in open session per Wis. Stat 19.85(2) to consider and vote on appropriate matters in a **MOTION** by Klingforth/Kotlowski. ROLL CALL VOTE: Loken: Yes. Klingforth: Yes. Sebastiani: Yes. Kotlowski: Yes. Unanimous. Meeting reconvened at 11:22 a.m.

MOTION by Loken/Klingforth to approve the vouchers presented at this meeting. MC/Unan.

The next meeting date for Public Safety & Judiciary Committee will be Wednesday, April 8, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room A260.

MOTION to adjourn was made by Klingforth/Loken. MC/Unan. Meeting ended at 11:24 a.m.

Submitted by Deputy Sheriff Shirli Suchomel, Acting Secretary
These minutes are not yet approved by Public Safety & Judiciary Committee (03/17/09)