

-Buffalo County Public Meeting Minutes

Committee/Board: LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: October 9th, 2023

Electronic and Hardcopy Filing Date: October 4th, 2023.

1: Call to Order/Roll Call:

In person: Mike Taylor, Carol McDonough, John Hadley, Nathan Nelson, John Sendelbach

Others present in person: Sheriff Mike Osmond, Chief Deputy Colin Severson, Lt Logan Olson, Em Lucas Teska, Brenda Berning.

2: Public Comments: None

3: Review/Discussion/Action: Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Carol McDonough made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by John Sendelbach. Carried.

4: Review/Discussion: Committee Chair Report: None

5: Review/Discussion ~ Emergency Management Report:

Lucas started off with that he attended a 3-day WEMA conference in Stevens Point. Lucas is working on the 2024 grant applications. He attended a state meeting between DHS and Emergency Management and a 2-hour training on railroad incidents and a HERC meeting virtually. Lucas is hoping to test for his EM certification before 12/30/2023. Lucas is continuing to work on updating each Municipalities emergency operation plans.

6: Review/Discussion ~ Emergency Management current Expenditures:

Lucas advised that the budget numbers are still not in the new system, and he isn't sure when they will be. Lucas stated that nothing major has happened.

7: Review/Discussion/Action: Community Justice Services

Brenda, the director of the Community Justice Services introduced herself to the committee. She inquired how often the members would like her to attend the meetings, normally it is once a year. The members were fine with her attending quarterly. Brenda stated that CJS started a new pre-charge program in 2023 and there are additional funds to sustain the program in 2024. There are 3 other counties in the State of Wisconsin that has the availability to apply for additional funds. She is asking for \$250,000 which is \$125,000 for pre-charge and \$125,000 for post-charge. Brenda advised that even though they are applying for the additional funds it is not guaranteed they will receive said funds. They average 50 participants at any given time.. The County pays \$5,000 per year as 'in-kind' and will not be responsible for anything else for the new position.

John Hadley inquired if there are a lot repeat participants. Brenda informed the committee they need at least 2 years with participants in order to change behaviors. Sheriff Osmond advised that when participants fail the program, they don't get the opportunity to do the program again. It was also asked what happens after the 2 years and Brenda advised that their diversion is done and some participants will reach out if struggling. John Sendelbach asked what age groups were? Brenda advised that they serve adults of any age. John Sendelbach asked how many people were in the program 2 years ago, Brenda stated that that they screened 61 so far in 2023, 94 in 2022, 79 in 2021. The proposed new position would handle financials and data entry. Tanisha meets with the majority of the clients as the administration of the TAD Grant has required a lot more of Brenda's time. Sheriff Osmond advised we are getting a high number of inmates that are testing positive for substances. The goal is to have a lower rate. John Hadley is concerned for what the County must cover. Brenda advised that it is all grant funded and if the grant falls through the CJS Program would not exist. Nathan Nelson made a motion to approve hiring a 3rd position within CJS and it was seconded by Carol McDonough. Carried.

8: Review/Discussion/Action: Law Enforcement Vouchers:

Kassie asked if there were any questions. John Hadley asked about US Bank and if there is a way to document more and what is was used for. John Hadley stated that it had when up from last month. Kassie advised that there was stuff purchased for National Night Out that was reimbursed by those funds. John Sendelbach also stated he doesn't like approving things that he isn't sure what it was all used for. Osmond said that we can list more for US Bank.

9: Review/Discussion/Action ~ Law Enforcement Expenditures:

Kassie advised that the budget numbers are not in the new financial system, and we are not sure when they will be.

10. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Law Enforcement Revenue:

Kassie is hoping to have this report next month.

11. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Acceptance of Donations:

Kassie advised that we received 2 donations for the new K-9. The first one was from First National Bank and the second one was from Fountain City Farm Fest Lion Club, both in the amount of \$250.00 each.

12. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Sheriff, Chief Deputy, and Jail Administrator Monthly Reports:

Chief Deputy Severson started off with 1,341 calls for service, 7 transports, 32 traffic accidents, 21 warrants issued, 6 warrants served, 16 civil processes issued, 13 civil processes served. There was a total of 94.5 hours of overtime and 56 hours of reimbursed overtime. There was a total of 26,985 total squad miles for September, and 1,927.5 average mileage per squad for September.

LT. Olson gave his jail report. There was a total of 41 bookings in September. 274 total bookings for 2023. They received \$435 for huber in September. There is 1 inmate on electronic monitoring. In September the jail programs were change company and effective

communication. Casey Brownell attended the CIB Conference. They had 1 high risk watch. There was a total of 2,722 calls, 204 911 emergency calls, and 2,518 non-emergency calls.

Sheriff Osmond showed a list of all critical equipment that was priced around \$400-500, with age. He discussed how the rifles are in the cars being bounced around a year long. He would like to budget to be able to purchase 1 rifle a year for the next 10 years. Osmond advised that our phone system in dispatch was down for 5 days, and they had just got it working just before the meeting. Hy 25 construction was horrendous, there were multiple meetings, and they took the lights down. Motorola was here 3 days for the body cameras, IT was here as well. We have one more traffic grant that we will be working with Pepin County for Highway 25, Highway 35, and Highway 10. Osmond showed pictures of the new squad and explained that we have been going through Redline for lights and graphics. Osmond also pointed out that there is no graphics on the front quarter panel to save money. Lucas Teska brought up having chevron on the backside of the squads to make them more visible.

13. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Buffalo County Jail Project

Osmond stated that they met again about 2 weeks ago. They are still very preliminary stages with Pepin County and we are still a few year out from moving forward. Osmond stated that they need approval to do a jail study to see if they need to build a new jail. Osmond stated that everyone recognizes that we need a new jail and that we don't need to do a study. If we did a jail study, it would cost between 20,000-40,000. Nathan made a motion that based upon prior State Jail Inspections we need a new jail and do not need a jail study to determine we need a new jail and it was seconded by Carol McDonough. Carried

14. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Fountain City Police Services Contract:

Osmond advised that he does not have the contract yet. Osmond will be meeting up with them again tomorrow. The Attorneys are working on the contract. It will be 20 hours per pay period.

15. Review/Discussion/Action ~Next Meeting Date and Time:

A meeting on November 13th, 2023, at 8:00 a.m. was scheduled.

16. Public comment not related to agenda items: None

17. Adjournment

Carol McDonough made a motion to adjourn at 1 p.m.

Kassie Serum, Secretary