

MINUTES OF MEETING OF JUDICIARY & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE
May 1, 2006
KCAB 2ND FLOOR AUDITOR'S ROOM

Members Present: William Michel II, Joseph Clark, Rooth Booth, David Arrington

Others Present: Sheriff David Beth, Chief Deputy Charles Smith, Capt. Larry Apker, Capt. Gary Preston, Nancy Otis, Gail Gentz, Bethany Lofgren, Margaret Petlock, David Petlock

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m. by Chairman William Michel II

Citizen Comments: Margaret Petlock stated concerns regarding the high volume and speed of traffic on County Highway F, south of Hwy. 50. This road has many curves in close proximity. She said the 15 m.p.h. curves lend themselves to accidents. Vehicles have ended up in yards causing property damage. She has safety concerns for people. She feels there is not enough law enforcement or tickets issued in this area. She recounted an incident where a vehicle left the road and ended up in a yard, which required extensive response with no recourse to recoup costs. She said she spoke with Lt. Heyden and Heyden said they would assign more patrols. She reported that she and others have seen increased patrol presence. She reported there are proposals to add lights, roadstrips, etc., however, she does not want this. She said speed limits are irrelevant if they are not enforced. She stated that she has heard about the numbers of deputies not being replaced. She believes more deputies are needed. Sheriff Beth responded that the deputy staff is at capacity. Mrs. Petlock continued that with Hwy. 83 closed there is yet increased traffic and seasonal traffic will be starting. She asked for the increased patrols to continue and that more deputies be added to the force. She also expressed concerns about the noise from motorcycles.

David Petlock reported that trash and drug paraphernalia litter the neighborhood and park. When KSD was called about drug paraphernalia, they did respond. He would like more enforcement.

Supervisor Comments: Supr. Clark said it appears that KSD has responded appropriately to the Petlocks' concerns based on the reported increased presence sighted. He commended KSD for their response. With limited resources there is a balancing act depending on priorities.

Chairman Comments: Supr. Michel agreed with Clark. He reported that there are similar problems in Racine and many times enforcement has to count on citizens to provide license numbers, etc. He asked Petlock if she would like signs. Mrs. Petlock said yes, and possibly a radar machine that measures speed. Michel said he could refer this to Highway. Sheriff said he would be happy to put the speed radar machine out there. Capt. Preston added that there have been studies of accidents in the area and machines have been used to check speeds and count the number of vehicles. The studies did not show unusually high numbers. The 15 m.p.h. signs are advisory signs, the speed limit is still 35. He said that the excessive motorcycle noise is due to aftermarket pipes added. Sheriff said he would be at the Salem meeting on the 7th.

Minutes Read: April 12, 2006

Motion by: Clark

Seconded by: Booth

Approved: unanimously

Clark asked if anything was being done about the programs and grant money Supr. Huff talked about in the minutes. Michel said that Judge Wagner is creating a committee. Michel will be included in the committee. There will be a meeting the end of the month and Michel will give a report.

Resolution from the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department:

1) Cabaret License – Briese's Brew & Grill

Motion by: Clark ***Seconded by:*** Arrington ***Approved:*** unanimously

Sheriff explained that this is a conversion from a probationary license to a regular license. There were a total of 8 calls for service. Owners applied for a cabaret license after a citation was issued for having karaoke without a license. Since then there has been only 1 citation and 1 battery, otherwise, no other major incidents. Sheriff recommended approval.

Memos from the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department:

1) Regarding Payment of Supervisors Working Country Thunder

Sheriff explained that last year several restrictions were applied to Country Thunder that resulted in a need for much overtime. The campground was covered 24/7. Last year eight agencies sent personnel including officers, sergeants, lieutenants and captains. County Thunder reimburses all costs. KSD would like to allow KSD supervisory staff to be paid by County Thunder as special assignment pay. KSD supervisory staff is on salary. KSD personnel have working knowledge of the grounds and department operations. Other agency supervisors get paid but ours do not. This resolution also requires Administration approval, which it already has. Clark asked if the rate paid last year was \$39/hour. Sheriff responded that salary amounts varied but all costs are reimbursed by Country Thunder. Bond is collected in advance for costs. Michel asked if the bond amount was calculated yet for 2006. Sheriff said \$130,000. Capt. Apker added that the festival is one day less this year. Sheriff said there will also be Hedgepeth the weekend after Country Thunder. Michel asked if Hedgepeth allows overnight camping. Sheriff replied yes. Clark asked if this requires a resolution and if this pay will be limited to these two events. Sheriff replied that this only needs to be advisory and that the pay would be limited to these two events. Supr. Booth asked why this was not done before. Sheriff answered because of the restriction of being paid on salary.

2) Request Approval for Modification of Capital Project Involving Digital Video Recording Equipment for Detentions

Motion by: Clark ***Seconded by:*** Booth ***Approved:*** unanimously

Capt. Preston explained that he is charge of detentions for both Downtown and KCDC. In the 2006 Capital plan, there is \$75,000 to fund installation of digital video recorder units (DVR) in the control room of the Public Safety Building. These units would replace the current VCR recorder units. These recorders store images captured on cameras. KCDC has VCR recorder units. Initial plans were to replace units Downtown exclusively, however, after re-evaluating this project, they feel they can get more for their effort if they prioritize what cameras would be digitally recorded. They suggest replacing some from each facility. The modification does not change the intent of the project nor the funding, only the location of the purchased equipment. The current VCR system only records every 1.75 seconds. There are numerous incidents that they miss recording vital movement due to the missing seconds. The digital system uses DVR to store 30-60 days at 4 frames/second. Real time can also be used but then can only store about 1 week. They can designate which cameras are on. It is better to cover both facilities well than one facility

excellent. There are cameras from which some cells can be viewed 24 hours a day. Clark asked how many units would be purchased. Preston replied 10. Booth asked if there will be the capability to move the cameras and at what cost. Preston explained that the DVR will be there and that it will just be a matter of switching and creating files at no cost. ***Motion made to approve the request for modifications as outlined in the Sheriff's memo of May 1, 2006.***

Resolution from the Clerk of Courts:

1) Subject: Wisconsin Act 59 Allows the Counties to Charge and Collect a Reasonable Amount to Assist in the Efficient Collection of Amounts Ordered to be Paid to the Clerk of Circuit Court for the Use of Credit and Debit Cards of Three Percent of the Transaction Amount and an Amount not to Exceed \$15.00 for Establishing and Monitoring a Payment Plan

Motion by: Clark ***Seconded by:*** Booth ***Approved:*** unanimously

Gail Gentz explained that in December 2005 legislation was passed giving Circuit Court the ability to add a fee for credit/debit card usage. Credit/debit cards are also now used at KSD to pay fines and bonds. In the past the county absorbed the cost of accepting this payment method, however, it was worth it because it increased the total collections. The County Board must approve assessing a fee. 3% would be added, comparable to other counties. They now also accept payments on the Internet and via the phone. They will continue to use Official Payments Corp. to assist in collections. This fee will be added for payments received at the Clerk of Courts and KSD. They are also adding a fee of up to \$15/plan if people want a payment plan. This does not have to be approved by the County Board, they are just advising of this fee. Fees will start 4/1/2006. They would take the projected revenue of about \$10,000 to offset personnel (2 temporary employees) costs for an imaging project for old Case Management & Fiscal Systems (CCAP) records that need to be kept indefinitely. Clark asked if regular staff would eventually be able to handle the task. Gentz replied yes. She also explained that they are also currently piloting a project for e-filing for small claims. Agencies could file cases for money judgements electronically. Currently there are about 300 paperless files. Booth asked how long they would need the temporary employees. Gentz responded that hopefully the \$10,000 will take them to the end of 2006 when they will re-evaluate. They currently have temps in the office and want to keep them.

Any Other Business Allowed by Law: None

Meeting Adjourned: 7:50 p.m. on motion by Clark, seconded by Booth.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna L. DeBree