

MINUTES OF MEETING OF JUDICIARY & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE
May 13, 2009
KCAB 2ND FLOOR COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE ROOM

Members Present: William Michel II, Bob Haas, Ronald Johnson, Roger Johnson

Others Present: Lt. Paul Falduto, Ben Schliesman, Neelpreet Kaur, Gisel Romero

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

Citizen Comments: None

Supervisor Comments: None

Chairman Comments: New Youth In Governance members, Kaur & Romero, were introduced. Supr. Michel stated that he would keep the Committee informed as to the status of Country Thunder. Land Use permits were pending for reasons including the removal of buildings.

Minutes Read: April 7, 2009

Motion by: Haas **Seconded by:** Roger Johnson **Approved:** unanimously

Resolutions from the Division of Emergency Management:

1) Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant

Motion by: Ronald Johnson **Seconded by:** Roger Johnson **Approved:** unanimously

Ben Schliesman presented this resolution to accept \$9,895.70 from the State of Wisconsin Division of Emergency Management. The grant will be used to hire a temp to update and enhance the County's emergency management software, which is used by the County's HazMat team, all Countywide Fire Departments, Sheriff's Dept. Tactical Response Unit, the Regional HazMat Team, and Emergency Management. The grant was originally budgeted for the utilization of an outside contractor to perform the grant work, however, this person is no longer available. Budget money will have to be transferred from "Other Professional Services" to "Salaries-Temporary, FICA, and Retirement." The grant is 100% funded, requiring no tax levy.

2) Additional Money for Siren Repairs

Motion by: Roger Johnson **Seconded by:** Ronald Johnson **Approved:** unanimously

Ben Schliesman explained that \$16,000 was originally budgeted for siren repair/maintenance. \$10,000 was carried over from Emergency Management's FY08 budget. Sirens are inspected every 18 months. As of the date of this meeting, five sirens had already been found to need both minor and major repairs. During the rest of the siren inspection, and for the rest of the year, it is unknown as to how many other outdoor warning sirens may have problems and/or not engage when sounded during the monthly test. It is anticipated that an additional \$10,000 from the General Fund will be needed for future siren repairs during the 2009 budget year. Any surplus would be returned to the General Fund. Schliesman reported that many units are reaching their life expectancy of 20 to 30 years. Testing is done once per month. Supr. Michel asked if the replacement of sirens is being considered. Schliesman replied yes; refurbished units last 15-25 years with a cost of about \$5,800 and new units cost about \$25,000.

Supr. Haas commented that possibly more money would be needed because all sirens have not yet been looked at and that he would rather have a full picture. Schliesman responded that he was pretty confident that \$10,000 would be sufficient; many are minor repairs such as electrical or fuses. Michel asked for confirmation that this additional money is for future repairs and Supr. Roger Johnson asked if the money that was previously budgeted is covering current problems. Schliesman responded yes to both.

Haas asked if siren damage would be covered by insurance if struck by lightning. Schliesman responded no, sirens are grounded and usually repairs are minor such as fuses. Roger Johnson asked how many would be replaced and when. Schliesman replied that this has not yet been determined but they will be replaced in phases. Current units were also installed for nuclear reasons and they wanted full penetration in houses so many large units were used. Kenosha is one of the few counties that own and operate sirens throughout the County. Other counties have the individual municipalities maintain them. People are also encouraged to get NOAA radios.

Roger Johnson asked if there is a warranty on refurbished units and when the units would be replaced. Schliesman replied that the warranty for refurbished is one year. Large sirens would be replaced with large sirens. He doesn't know the length of warranty for new machines. Additional budget money will be proposed in 2010. Michel asked if the County will continue to supply and maintain countywide. Schliesman said that municipalities would have to agree to a transfer and the County Board would have to prepare an Order for this. He also reported that Kenosha County also pays the electric bill for all units countywide. Michel asked if Kenosha Co. maintains City sirens. Schliesman replied yes. Roger Johnson asked how many there are in the City. Schliesman said he would have to look this up and would send an email to Committee members with a breakdown of numbers and locations by municipalities.

Resolutions from the Kenosha Co. Sheriff's Department:

1) Homeland Security/Law Enforcement Specialty Team Equipment 2009

Motion by: Haas ***Seconded by:*** Roger Johnson ***Approved:*** unanimously

Lt. Falduto presented the resolution to accept \$59,944.00 from the State of WI Office of Justice Assistance. Funds have been awarded to provide support equipment for the Bomb Squad. They are currently using a 1985 surplus truck. The Chevy Silverado just went out. They will purchase a new truck with radios, lights, computer, etc. The new vehicle will also have a capacity of six to carry the entire crew. Roger Johnson asked if this was bid out. Schliesman replied through a State bid that saved the County over \$10,000.

2) FY09 Law Enforcement Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

Motion by: Ronald Johnson ***Seconded by:*** Roger Johnson ***Approved:*** unanimously

Lt. Falduto presented the resolution to accept \$108,227.00 from the Office of Justice Assistance. This is the County's portion of the agreed upon distribution between the County, City of Kenosha, and Pleasant Prairie. KSD plans to purchase a monitor and mount for Conveyance Office, ammunition for patrol rifle changeover, cabinet/chargers/power strips for 45/50 contract squads, accessories for portable radios, digital camcorder, sound level meter, ultralyte ALS crime scene light, detentions boats, patrol rifles/spare magazines/mounts, 24-inch television monitor for SMC, photogrammetry software upgrade, tasers with holsters and cartridges and targets, stop sticks, detentions UHF radios, and ATVs. Michel asked if the rifles would be replacing shotguns and about the tasers. Falduto replied yes, rifles are easier to use, hold more ammunition, and have a longer range. The tasers will allow more use of non-lethal forms of control. Roger Johnson commented that some counties are against the use of rifles. Falduto explained that this is true and that rifles penetrate more. Criminals are using more advanced assault rifles. These will be semi-automatics more equal to the power they are faced with. Haas commented that Wheatland has already ordered rifles. Wheatland being so far out in the county they need quick access to local equipment. Shotguns can be changed over to hold rubber bullets for a non-lethal tool. There has been a continuous progression in performance of weapons throughout the years. Falduto said they will be trading in the shotguns to defray the cost of the rifles. Roger Johnson asked who would be doing the training. Falduto said that two people are already going to school and will be the trainers.

Sheriff's Dept. Memo Regarding Disposal of Radios:

Lt. Falduto explained that this notification is only required to go to Finance, not Judiciary & Law, however, the Sheriff likes to keep the Committee informed. Salem Safety Officers requested these radios

and they meet their needs and requirements. Haas commented that the radios are probably not worth much. Falduto affirmed.

Sheriff's Dept. Update on Video Conferencing:

Lt. Falduto reported that Gina from Information Services was supposed to attend the meeting but was not there. He reported what he knew of in that there was a tour of Racine and Judges liked the program. The program is moving along and they are checking the parameters of what is required by attorneys, judges, etc. This is mainly an Information Systems project to provide the equipment, network, etc., KSD can provide the space. Michel asked if there were discussions involving St. Luke's for mental health cases. Falduto said yes, this is very important because it is risky to transport Chapter 51 cases.

Any Other Business Allowed by Law:

Roger Johnson asked for an update at the next meeting of cameras in squads. Lt. Falduto being at this meeting said he could provide this now. They just had the final meeting on this. Installation and training is scheduled to begin the first week in June. Roger Johnson asked if this would start with new cars and how many new cars there were. Falduto replied that it would start with new cars and that there are eight this year. Michel asked when the project would be completed. Falduto said hopefully by year-end. Haas asked how long the discs in video cameras last. Falduto responded 16 hours on hard drives that will be downloaded every time the car comes in. Michel asked how long the videos would be kept. Falduto replied that 120 days is required but they will keep for longer for more serious cases. They want to video all Field Sobriety Tests. Videos may result in a cost savings once people realize that there is visually recorded proof. Haas asked when the recorders are activated. Falduto said the cameras go on as soon as the car goes on. This is a video recording, not audio.

Roger Johnson commented that he heard Ford was coming out with smaller squad cars. Falduto explained that only unmarked cars are being replaced with smaller cars. Marked squads will not be replaced with smaller cars.

Meeting Adjourned:

7:50 p.m. on motion by Roger Johnson, seconded by Haas.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna L. DeBree