

DRAFT
Buffalo County Public Meeting Minutes

Committee/Board: LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: August 15, 2016

Electronic and Hardcopy Filing Date: August 22, 2016

Members Present: Mary Anne McMillan Urell, John Kriesel, Scott Smith, Steve Schiffli, and Sheriff Michael Schmidtknecht. Bernard Brunkow-EXCUSED

Others Present: Chief Deputy Severson, Lieutenant Mikelson, Investigator Lee Engfer, and Melissa Brunner.

Public Comments: None

Ms. McMillan Urell called meeting to order at 3:40pm.

Ms. McMillan Urell called ahead agenda item #15 through #18, Emergency Management. Mr. Schiffli reported that there was nothing out of the ordinary as an expenditure. Mr. Kriesel made a motion to approve the current Expenditure Report, second by Ms. McMillan Urell. Motion carried.

Mr. Schiffli explained that he is still waiting on FEMA to approve the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan before moving forward with the plan.

Mr. Schiffli discussed his 2017 budget. He advised the committee of his need for a replacement hand-held radio. His current radio is 10 years-old. He stated that 50% of the \$5,560.41 cost would be paid for by a State grant. In addition, ANCOM is drafting a quote for an IFERN fiber converter for the remote antenna to the Buffalo City Tower. He is hoping that the quote will come in around \$1,800 versus the \$4,000 that he was initially quoted. Again, a State Grant will pay for 50% of the cost. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve Mr. Schiffli's budget as presented, second by Mr. Kriesel. Motion carried.

Mr. Schiffli then discussed the flood update. He stated that Buffalo County is currently in the recovery stage. He knows for certain that Buffalo County will not meet Federal aid level, damage needs to be over \$8 million. DOT's flood Grant is a 75/25 cost share and will cover the damage of the County roads but not personal property. There are 2-1-1 services available to the public out of Gundersen. These services are being used to collect data about the amount of personal damage. Red Cross and Kwik Trip aided in handing out supplies to the public. There were six displaced families that arrangements were made for to stay at a local Mondovi hotel. Mr. Schiffli explained the line of priority 1) life safety 2) reporting 3) public safety. Good communication was key by all of those involved.

Ms. McMillan Urell called the June minutes to order. Mr. Kriesel made a motion to approve minutes as presented, second by Ms. McMillan Urell. Motion carried.

June and July bills were called to order. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve bills as presented, second by Mr. Kriesel. Motion carried.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht discussed the Resolution for the unbudgeted squad. He stated that there was a surplus vehicle sold recently on the auction website and that he received more money than anticipated. He proposed that with unused 2016 salary funds and the surplus vehicle funds of \$3,950.00, we would have funds available to purchase the newer vehicle. He also gave two other options in addition to the resolution. Mr. Kriesel made a motion to approve the resolution as presented and approved to forward onto the Finance Committee, second by Ms. McMillan Urell. Motion carried.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht then discussed the Fountain City Police Department agreement. It is a sixty (60) day contract and is to be revisited after the sixty days. The contract reads that that deputies are to use the Fountain City squad and Fountain City will pay for the over-time/benefits salaries of those deputies that work Fountain City shift coverage. He stated that Fountain City will be filling the Police Officer position but they are waiting to hear back from the Federal Government as to whether or not they have received the C.O.P.S. Grant.

Contracted jail meals were discussed. Sheriff stated that there was a brief change of ownership, which we only received a 3-day notice and are to receive 60 days. Lieutenant Mikelson discussed that the sale had fallen through and Neitzel's (former owners of The Cove), again, would be taking back ownership. She discussed some issues that had taken place during the interim ownership. She will continue to monitor those issues.

Deputy resignation letter was presented to the Committee. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to advertise and rehire for one full-time, budgeted deputy position, second by Mr. Kriesel. Motion carried.

Discussion of communication/correction officer's request for leave of absence. No letter has been received to express employee's decision. Item is on H/R agenda. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion that if the H/R Committee does not approve the leave, the Sheriff is allowed to fill the open, budgeted position, second by Mr. Kriesel. Motion carried.

Discussion of jail health contracts. Jail health nurse resignation letter was presented to the Committee. Both the jail health nurse and the doctor want out of their contracts. However, Ms. Stewart, R.N. will continue to perform blood draws. There is no need for other committee approval as they were contracted and not County employees.

Discussion of resolution for mental health treatment. Ms. McMillan Urell asked that once approved by Administration, to send out to other counties for their review together with a cover letter explaining that the resolution is being sent to the State. This agenda item will be added to September's agenda.

Chief Deputy Severson presented his reports. 72 hours of over-time will be reimbursed. Sheriff again discussed the option to have the deputies work one (1) eight (8) hour shift a month to assist in over-time cost.

Lieutenant Mikelson presented her handouts. She discussed the need for some upcoming training for communication/correction officers. Also, she presented to the committee some photos of inmate handmade contraband. These are just some of the challenges staff has to deal with.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht presented his monthly report. He stated that there were roughly 4,000 runners for the annual RAGNAR race held last weekend. Investigator Engfer discussed a few issues that he

came across with the racers/support vehicles. Sheriff discussed the upcoming fall flood run. On September 14th, St. Lawrence on 2nd Street, is hosting a non-denominational prayer service for support of Law Enforcement, EMS services and Military at 6:00pm. He then mentioned the Mondovi tower damage and the squad versus deer damage.

The 2017 Law Enforcement budget was presented. Currently, the Sheriff was able to cut the budget by \$80,735.91. He stated that the CFC school does not pay for their use of the Fountain City tower that Law Enforcement pays \$350.00 a year land rental fee. Mr. Kriesel made a motion to charge the CFC school \$100.00 a month towards offset of rental fee, second by Mr. Smith. Motion carried. A contract will need to be drafted.

The Sheriff then discussed equipment that is not budgeted for but should be. One of those items is a bullet proof vest expiring in August of 2017. The Committee recommends that he put that cost back into the budget, as it is a lifesaving piece of equipment. Sheriff stated that ½ of the \$750.00 cost is covered by a federal bullet proof vest grant. The Committee also recommends that he purchase and replace the three (3) in-squad cameras that are six (6) years old (3 x \$4,000.00). It was discussed that these camera purchases could prevent legal issues and save in over-time due to trials to the court. The Committee is aware that adding these items back into the budget will put Law Enforcement below the \$80,000.00 cut but since they cut more than \$80,000.00 in 2016, they felt it was understandable. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to accept 2017 budget as presented with the recommended changes, second by Mr. Smith. Motion carried.

Next Law Enforcement/Emergency Management meeting scheduled for September 6, 2016 at 3:30pm. Meeting adjourned at 5:49pm.

Melissa Brunner, Secretary

*****ATTACHMENTS: COPY OF RESOLUTION, PATROL REPORTS, JAIL REPORTS, DISPATCH/911 REPORT, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT.**