

DRAFT

Buffalo County Public Meeting Minutes

Committee/Board: LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: January 03, 2017

Electronic and Hardcopy Filing Date: January 31, 2017

Chairperson Mary Anne McMillan Urell called the meeting to order at 4:01p.m.

Members present: Mary Anne McMillan Urell, John Kriesel, Scott Smith, and Bernie Brunkow-EXCUSED

Others present: Sheriff Michael Schmidtknecht, Lieutenant Mikelson and Melissa Brunner

Approval of November minutes. Mr. Kriesel made a motion to approve, second by Mr. Smith. Motion carried.

Approval of November bills paid in December. Mr. Kriesel made a motion to approve, second by Ms. Mc Millan Urell. Motion carried. (**December bills were not ready due to the meeting being so early in the month)

****NO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR THIS MONTH**

Agenda Item #6-IT replacements. Sheriff Schmidtknecht discussed the need for two replacement patrol computers. In the future, he will need to budget for two replacement computers a year.

Agenda Item #7-Budgeted, replacement squad. Sheriff Schmidtknecht advised the committee that he would like to purchase a budgeted, replacement squad with 30 miles and slight hail damage. \$30,000 would cover the purchase of the new squad and the cost of the transfer of equipment. Motion by Mr. Kriesel to purchase budgeted squad, not to exceed \$30,000, second by Mr. Smith. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #8-Jail health care. Sheriff Schmidtknecht and Lieutenant Mikelson both discussed the current jail health situation. Dr. Rick Stoughton had previously given his resignation and advised that he would carry out his services through the end of 2016. However, with difficulty of finding a replacement, he agreed to stay on as the physician through the end of January 2017. It was reiterated that Dr. Stoughton has given the county a great deal for his services and we would not be able to get that pricing from another vendor.

Local physicians were contacted but turned down taking on the contract. Lieutenant Mikelson met with MEND Correctional Care and Advanced Correction Health Care. Both were very reputable companies but it was determined that the county would get more for their money if the jail contracted with Advanced Correctional Health Care at an annual fee of \$45,866.27. The annual fee includes 4 hours per week for Jail Nurse, RN; Doctor on-site every 3 weeks; emergency medications would be available on-site; on-site training would be offered to our staff; as well as numerous other benefits. Motion by Mr. Kriesel to contract with Advanced Correctional Health Care, second by Ms. McMillan Urell. Motion Carried.

Agenda Item #9-Jail service fees. Many ideas were discussed and it was agreed that sentenced individuals should be charged processing fees. An ordinance regarding fees already exists for Huber inmates. It will be tabled until February's meeting but it was agreed

that law enforcement is not the type of agency to make money.

Agenda Item #10-2017 short/long term goals. Sheriff Schmidtknecht discussed projected short term goals (1 year), such as filling all budgeted staff openings; working on locating more budgeted training for communication officers; finalizing the jail security camera project; continuously looking for ways to stabilize medical situations/issues within the jail; discussed that due to weathered, corroded insulation and copper lines a fiber optic conversion from POTS. \$9,138.00 was budgeted from base to the tower controls; needing to do a fire suppression upgrade for the records/IT room which is an unbudgeted project projecting to cost \$10,000-\$20,000.

Long term goals (1-5 years). Ten MDC laptops will need to be replaced at \$3,200-\$3,600 each; replacement of seven squad cameras at \$4,000-\$4,500 each; replacement of eight portable radios at \$700 each; work on ways to keep staff; will need to be repairs to two of the tower site buildings; and looking at adding a ½ night patrol supervisor position and a ½ investigator position at minimal. The committee asked that the sheriff plan for “actual needs” rather than getting by. Sheriff stated that he would like to see additional staffing of two full-time patrol supervisors and one additional full-time investigator, as longer term additions.

Agenda Item #11-2016 year-end financial projection. Sheriff Schmidtknecht informed the committee that Xcel Energy will be hiring the sheriff’s office for over-time shifts again. Currently, the overall budget is at 95% and coming in under budget.

Lieutenant Mikelson reported that in 2015, the jail had 489 bookings. In 2016, the jail had 493 bookings. No further reports are ready for the committee at this meeting.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht informed the committee that in 2016, there were 7,400 Calls-For-Services generated. To date, we are still trying to fill a communications/corrections officer position.

On December 29, 2016, the dispatch phone lines went down. 911 lines were re-directed to another surrounding county.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht advised that Attorney General Brad Schimel called him to discuss the resolution for a regional mental health care facility. AG Schimel asked the Sheriff if he would be on the advisory committee for this project.

There was discussion of future meeting. The committee would like to get on a schedule of the first Tuesday of each month at 4pm.

February meeting is set for February 7th at 4pm.
March meeting is currently set for March 14th at 4pm.

Meeting adjourned at 5:14pm.

Melissa L. Brunner, Secretary

***Attachments: NONE