

Buffalo County Public Meeting Minutes

Committee/Board: LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: September 14, 2021

Electronic and Hardcopy Filing Date: September 24, 2021

Meeting called to order by Mr. Nelson at 11:00am.

1: Call to Order/Roll Call:

Mr. Larry Grisen, Ms. Carol McDonough, Mr. Nathan Nelson, Mr. Mike Taylor-EXCUSED, and Mr. John Sendelbach.

Others present: Sheriff Mike Schmidtknecht, Chief Deputy Lee Engfer, Ms. Melissa Brunner, and Mr. Lucas Teska

2: Public Comments: None

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

Motion to approve July minutes made by Mr. Grisen, second by Ms. McDonough. Motion carried.

4: Review/Discussion: Committee Chair Report: None

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

Committee discussion of the conversion from Verizon to AT&T-FirstNet coverage. Sheriff Schmidtknecht advised that there are still some dead spots but staff is working with the vendor to try and resolve. Mr. Sendelbach made a motion to accept vouchers, second by Ms. McDonough. Motion carried.

6: Review/Discussion/Action ~ Current Law Enforcement Expenditures Update:

Sheriff Schmidtknecht advised that the budget is currently still under. The overtime line in patrol budget has a number of hours that will be reimbursed in a revenue line item to offset. Overall, the jail budget is at 57%. Primarily due to vacant positions, we are currently under budget.

7: Review/Discussion/Action ~ 2022 Patrol/Jail Budget:

Sheriff Schmidtknecht advised the computer (#316) line item is still under review. A cost-share amount of \$841.05 needs to be added into the budget for Lexipol (LE policy). It previously was paid by the county's insurance. Currently, the courthouse security system is being put in the law enforcement budget but Ms. Sonya Hansen is verifying if the purchase could be taken from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Sheriff Schmidtknecht handed out a breakdown of Patrol line item#998. The breakdown includes: the Tango/Tango app for (6) users, (3) ballistic shields, (11) spike strips, (4) Mobile Radios w/ programming/install, totaling \$30,068.00 to be considered taken from available ARPA funds instead of paid by tax levy dollars. A remainder of \$6,200.00 will stay in the budget for (2) Tasers/cartridges, if other items are paid for by (ARPA) funds.

There was discussion of the jail budget. There is no out of the ordinary purchase requests. There has been no major issue with the meal vendor so no need to consider opening up bids. Discussion of

mental health, which is not a reimbursable line item. Mr. Grisen made a motion to approve budget as presented, second by Ms. McDonough. Motion carried.

8: Review/Discussion/Action ~ 2022 Patrol Budget – items to be considered for purchase under ARA Funds (#998 and #316):

Sheriff Schmidtknecht reiterated that line #316 is being considered for (ARPA) funds. He presented to the committee a Motorola-Ancom quote for replacement of end of life tower radio equipment for the North and South towers in the amount of \$34,812.88 to be considered for purchase from (ARPA) funds. If the radio towers go down, this purchase will need to come out of the county's budget, however, (ARPA) is an opportunity to use non-tax levy funds.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht discussed the need for record redaction software. Currently, staff is evaluating types of equipment/software available but roughly around \$10,000.00 would be needed. In addition, an open records training is coming up on September 21st and he expects to have a better idea of what will be needed after the training. Therefore, total to be considered to be taken from (ARPA) funds would be \$75,000. Mr. Grisen made a motion to make a request to the Allocation Committee for up to \$75,000.00 of (ARPA) funds for reimbursement of expenses for identified items, second by Mr. Sendelbach. Motion carried.

9: Review/Discussion/Action ~ Dairyland Power-Alma radio tower site changes:

Sheriff Schmidtknecht discussed the Ancom quote in the amount of \$2,966.25. Ancom needs to transfer the Sheriff and Fire control stations equipment from old Dairyland Power shelter site to new building shelter site due to structural building issues. Ms. McDonough made a motion to allow Ancom to transfer radio equipment from old Dairyland Power site to new site, second by Mr. Sendelbach. Motion carried.

10: Review/Discussion/Action ~ Backfill law enforcement personnel due to resignations:

Sheriff Schmidtknecht advised the committee that he recently received two resignation letters from communications/corrections officers. Both employees went to other offices within the courthouse. Currently, there is an ad open for full and part-time communications/corrections officers. Ms. McDonough made a motion to approve the backfill of both budgeted positions, second by Mr. Grisen. Motion carried.

11: Review/Discussion ~ Sheriff, Chief Deputy, and Jail Administrator Monthly Reports:

Chief Deputy Engfer presented his July report. 803 Calls for Service. 62.16 overtime. 18 hours of reimbursed overtime. Two M/V fatalities. **August:** 702 Calls for Service. 47.16 hours of overtime. 42 hours of reimbursed overtime for Ashely for the Arts. Received several donations, \$100 from Tractor Central for National Night Out, \$100 from Lindstrom Equipment for National Night Out, \$155 from Arcadia Library for the K9, and \$50 from Zion Lutheran Church for Drug Enforcement.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht presented the August Jail Report. 211 bookings for the year. Received \$1,389.42 for DOC prison holds. 15.77 daily inmate head count. 3,311 total calls into dispatch-3,045 were non-emergent.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht informed the committee that the upcoming weekend is Flood Run, so expect to see overtime on the next report.

(Duplicated #11) Review/Discussion ~ Emergency Management Written Report:

Mr. Teska is working on getting familiar with the position. He's been working with Mr. Bruce Fuerbringer to finish getting the current grants closed out. He's completed several trainings since

being in the position, and has been working on the EOP. Also, looking into a new alert system called Nixle.

12: Review/Discussion ~ Emergency Management current Expenditures:

Mr. Teska advised, currently, about 50 % of the budget has been used.

13: Review/Discussion/Action ~ Emergency Management 2022 Budget:

Mr. Teska advised the committee that the LEPC committee approved a 70/30 split of the EM and Risk Management positions. Requested amount of \$77,289.00. Mr. Grisen made a motion to approve budget as presented, second by Ms. McDonough. Motion carried.

14: Review/Discussion/Action ~ Next Meeting Date and Time:

Currently, no meeting in October. Next meeting is set for November 8th at 11:00am.

15: Public comment not related to agenda items:

None

16: Adjournment:

12:46pm, Mr. Grisen motioned for adjournment, second by Mr. Nelson. Motion carried.

Melissa Brunner, Secretary