

Public Safety & Judiciary Committee

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

9:00 a.m. – Conference Room A260

MINUTES

1. Call the Meeting to Order. Meeting called to order at 9:00 am.
2. Was the meeting properly announced? Yes
3. Roll Call: Terry James, Excused. Present are Al Sebastiani, Bill Miller, Mike Keckeisen, Beverly Ward, Trena Larson, Deb Barnes, Marilyn Rogers, Sandra Green, Les Beckman, Dee Helmrick, Jane Gervais, Jack Albert and from the Humane Society Carol Berry and Fran O'Brien.
4. Approve the Agenda. Motion to approve agenda, Ward/Miller, MC/UN.
5. Approve minutes of prior meeting. Motion to approve minutes, Ward/Keckeisen, MC/UN.
6. Public participation (*If requested by the Committee Chair*). None.
7. Correspondence. None.
8. Supervisor Sebastiani - Present.

Discussion/action –Teleconference call at approximately 9:05 to Aaron Aizenberg, lawyer for the Animal Shelter regarding the contract as well as the annual budgeted amount (\$40,000). Phone contact is 414-271-7100. Aaron Aizenberg was contacted at 9:02 am via teleconference call. He is calling representing the Adams County Humane Society to address the relationship between Adams County and the Humane Society. The HS has been providing animal control care for several years. For the past several years Adams County has been paying \$40,000 per year for the last several years as well. The \$40,000 doesn't come close to covering the services they provide and they are not looking for additional monies in hopes of a profit since they are 100% not for profit. Their aspect is much broader than providing animal control services. They are asking for the county to pay for the cost of the services they provide for the county. If they continue to operate on the amount provided now, the result will be the HS will be out of business in Adams County. There was some confusion between the HS and AC. The HS is not a division of the County where the county does not get to decided how much they will pay the humane society. They are operating under a services contracted agreement with the county. If the county decides to provide them with the \$40,000 as we usually do, the HS may come back and indicate that amount is not sufficient. The problem has been so far there is no offer made back and forth on a set amount the county is willing to pay for the services of the HS. If the county is not willing to pay for the services, then the HS will not be able to provide for the services. If we cannot reach an agreement and there is no contract going forward for next year – who is going to perform these services if it is not the HS? Animal Control services are required to be provided under state law. What will the county do if the county picks up a stray animal? What if there is another large scale animal seizure? One thing we've come to realize is how important it is we have these things in place if this should ever happen again. He is just asking us all to think about these situations and what the county is going to do about these things if going forward if the county decides to not go forward with the HS services. All they are asking right now is for the county to engage in a dialogue regarding a resolution where they have an Agreement in place going forward everyone can live with and clearly defines the terms and obligations. Mike Keckeisen spoke up to indicate he was instrumental in providing the HS with an additional \$5,000 over the past four years. If the HS is not willing to open up their books then we're not going to look at giving them anymore money. Aizenberg indicates they did provide the financials in a letter submitted to the county. Keckeisen asked why four years ago they asked for \$40,000 and they said that would be plenty and now they are asking for \$80,000 only four years later, why the big jump in the costs. Aizenberg indicates that over the past few years that the HS has been using these private monies to pay for the costs that were not covered by the county. This is the main reason they are asking for additional monies to cover these expenses. Now that the HS has been through a situation like the Kolb case, we hope it never happens again, but the reality is it could happen again and if we have an agreement that handles a situation like this, we're saying let's have a contract that defines all our obligations to one another. Ward asks if this happens again, the outfit from Madison would step in and take these animals? Carol Berry says there is a company from Madison that would allow them to come and help us. Nobody really looked at cost accounting years ago, but now they are saying another \$10-\$20,000. There are three ways the HS gets money to pay for their budget. 1)\$40,000 from the

County 2) private donations and 3) and licensing fees. The reason why this is an issue, year to year the HS can't depend on being guaranteed to have enough private donations to go forward with their nonprofit mission and provide animal control services. You can't always guarantee the money is going to be there with fundraising. But going forward, we (the HS) may not survive. Miller said last month we were told that on these seizure type things we will be able to use outside sources and shouldn't be an expense to the county. The other thing is we should make an offer and you should think about it. I don't think that's right. I think you (the HS) should make an offer and then we will come back with another offer. The other comment he had was the AC officers for example for this money they brought in 15 animals for September. Why should the county bring the strays in that are not brought in by AC? Aizenberg answered these questions and indicated he would work on the contract and meet, or we can talk and play numbers and talk about the terms of the contract later. Aizenberg would like to meet and talk about the offer of services to the County. Ward had comments regarding the administrative fees to the HS as well. Aizenberg indicates he and the HS would be happy to sit down and talk about the figures. As it currently stands the HS cannot sustain another year most likely if we continue under the current terms with the County. Severe budget issues will certainly be considered when the discussion takes place. Ms. Berry would be happy to provide all documentation regarding the costs they are asking be covered. Sebastiani asked a question and this was address as to why the strays are being charged to the county. It doesn't necessarily matter who brings the animal in, it's an animal the county is responsible for because it is a stray animal. Jack Albert said as you know from us speaking he had mentioned he spoke with several other counties and those results overall are inconsistent and there are different ways to go about this. Some have agreement, purchase of service contracts, etc. Mr. Albert asked for hard numbers of the budget from the HS so we can compare it over the last few years. Aizenberg would like to get back to the drawing board and getting the county something more in line to what the county is asking for. Aizenberg will go through all the numbers with the HS and break them down again and get the proposal back to Mr. Albert by Friday afternoon as Sebastiani indicated the proposed budget will be introduced to the county board next Tuesday evening. Ms. Ward sees most of our problems are with cats. Maybe we should do something with cats and would reduce the problem greatly. We've had 100 cats this month, vs. 13 dogs. Aizenberg states there is some value we provide being a nonprofit. If we don't have the HS who would we use for these services? He says you will find there will be no one that will do it more efficiently and more effectively than the HS. Ward says one option is turning the responsibilities over the townships and then it is their responsibility. Mr. Albert indicated that the person performing their tax returns is a county supervisor and the chair of the Finance and puts him in a position that Mr. Albert needs to note to him and the board as well. Aizenberg will reconvene with the HS folks and will provide a simple proposal derived from our actual hard number costs of animals and the services they provide and provide this to Jack Albert by the end of the week. He will provide only numbers which services are provided for the county.

Supervisor Keckeisen indicated the issues he has are with the new management. Carol Berry asked him to put his concerns in writing and she promises to look into these concerns. Mr. Albert indicates in the proposed contract there a lot of "may" statements because there is not a statutory requirement that we must have a shelter.

9. Family Court Commissioner – Dennis McFarlin – Not present.
Review check summary.

10. Child Support – Deb Barnes – Present.

Review Performance Measures for September 2011. The agency met and exceeded all the benchmarks for performance for the last Federal fiscal year. Unproductive cases were reduced by 321 cases.

Review check summary. Reviewed.

Discuss and/or act on any 2012 budget revisions if necessary. The LTE position is being split between two people it is working out well.

Discuss office activities. Call center will be in effect on January 1, 2012. The suggestion was made at Admin/Finance to leave the secretary position in the budget in case the call center doesn't work out. Deb has received the proposal from ACS and they have agreed to an initial six month contract. Deb suggested going with a six month contract, cut the secretary's position wages in half instead of a full year and this will balance the budget. The fall conference is in two weeks. Deb, Janet and Tori will be attending and the LTE staff will be covering the office while they are gone.

11. Clerk of Circuit Court – Dee Helmrick – Present.

Summary report of expense vouchers submitted for payment. The department is over budget in a couple of different areas and these were explained to the committee.

Approve conference/training.

Discuss general operations of department.

Community Service Coordinator's monthly report.

12. Register in Probate – Terry Reynolds – Not present.

Monthly expenditures report.

General office activities.

13. District Attorney – Janis Cada – Not present.

Monthly expenditures report

General office activities.

14. Emergency Management – Jane Gervais – Attending.

Monthly check summary/expenditures. A change on the budget was explained by Jane.

Discuss and/or act on training/conferences, if any. She attended a Special Needs Population training at Ft. McCoy.

The radio base station was discussed over at HHS and was decided the base station would be remove and would use the portable radios. She is still working on the Tornado Relief Fund as well. On September 26th had a debriefing with the Air National Guard on the F16 crash and were very pleased with the assistance provided.

Office activities. Brian Satula the WI Emergency Mgmt. Administrator was at a meeting last month and did mention there are rumors there are no monies in the WI Disaster fund, but there are monies, they are working on it.

15. Medical Examiner, Angela Hinze – Deputy Coroner, Marilyn Rogers – Attending.

Monthly expenditures report.

Approve conference/training if any.

Department operations. Addendums to the MOU's were handed to the committee chair for signature. Supervisor Ward indicated she should get hers and Becky's signature on them and then get copies to the appropriate committee.

Motion for a recess at 10:25.

Meeting called back to order at 10:30.

16. Sheriff's Department - Sheriff Wollin Captain Beckman – Attending.

Animal shelter/animal control officer report. Report handed out to the committee by Mrs. Green.

Department operations: We have finished our 2nd round of firearms training for the year. This is a tremendous leap in commitment to Deputies training and their confidence in the use of firearms. In LE this is the highest liability we need to train for. This one is more advanced than just standing in front of a target and shooting. At the Sheriff's direction Firearms Instructor Bitsky is setting up a lesson plan for a low light/night/inclement weather firearms training session as well. Chief Todd Hansen was able to have FLETC (Federal Law Enforcement Training Center) come and conduct their first course in WI. This was done through a federal grant for Rural Law Enforcement and is free. The two classes were the use of force which covered officer safety issues as well as officer survival and the mindset to survive deadly encounters. This is phenomenal training and the fact that it was free was outstanding.

Approve conference/training if any.

Discussion/action on dispatch eligibility list: We're advertising inside for this per the Union agreement. The Sheriff would ask if he could have permission to go forward with the advertising of the eligibility list. We don't want to incur a bunch of overtime while we are going through this process. Motion to move forward to create an eligibility list. Ward/Miller, MC/UN.

Discussion/action on Bullet Resistant Glass project: A lengthy discussion regarding the bullet resistant glass took place. We explained to them what was going on in terms of the property committee meeting/decision. Supervisor Miller who is a member of the property committee stated his recollection from that meeting was the same as F&SS Manager Green, the Sheriff's and the Captain's in that the Property Committee could not fund the project for BY 2012, but if we could find the money in our budget or through a grant we could move forward with the project. It was stressed that this is the only area in the Courthouse that citizens are ordered by the Judge to turn in their weapons, and the civilian staff need this protection. We informed them we have a meeting this Friday, the 14th to discuss this.

Captain Beckman – Attending

Review monthly expenditure report and check summary. Several questions were asked and then answered by the Captain and Fiscal Manager.

Discussion on jail inspection results. Captain Beckman handed out the results of the jail inspection. We did pass but had one violation and that had to do with the fire inspection. They did give us a pass on this because we tried repeatedly to get an inspection in the timeframe, but was unable to get an inspection rescheduled. This was noted in the final inspection document. There will be a significant change for next year for the inspection schedule which will now be one fire inspection per year rather than two. The jail inspectors give each jail some homework and provided a checklist of things to prepare for next year. Keckeisen had questions regarding the Jail Simplex Upgrade. Captain Beckman answered these questions. The bulletin boards are installed now as of the beginning of this last month. They are also putting together the inmate exercise equipment, which consists of a pull-up bar. Captain Beckman said the jail inspector would be more than happy to address any concerns the committee might have.

Videoconferencing – we are at \$77,246 at the end of September so this is basically the benchmark of two years. Keckeisen would like to ask not having the Sheriff's Department provide this financial information any longer as it is no longer needed. This information no longer needs to be presented to the committee.

Debt collection: F&SS Manager Sandra Green has been doing an outstanding job in collecting debt both with Bay West Acquisitions and new debt on closed accounts less than one year old. Approximately \$5,000 has been collected by Bay West and paid to the Sheriff's Department. Sandra just began collecting on jail debt/closed accounts less than one year old with debt more than 1.00.

ICAC (Internet Crimes against Children): Deputy Greeno is working on this. This report is a review of what has been done so far in this. He is doing this along with his regular deputy duties and is doing an excellent job.

17. Approval of all vouchers and monthly expense reports. Motion to approve all vouchers and monthly expense reports, Ward/Miller, MC/UN.
18. Set next meeting date. Next meeting set for November 9, 2011 at 9:00 am in conference room A260.
19. Action items for next meeting.
Discussion/action on Sergeant and Lieutenant positions.
Discussion: Future planning of jail simplex upgrade.
The addition of Bailiff positions / Clerk of Courts office.
20. Adjourn. Ward/Miller, MN/UN at 11:55 am.

Submitted by Sandra M. Green, Fiscal and Support Services Manager, Sheriff's Department. *These minutes are not yet approved by Public Safety & Judiciary Committee.*

Cc: Sebastiani / James / Keckeisen / Miller / Ward / Wollin / Beckman / McFarlin / Cada / Gervais / Helmrick / Warner / Barnes / County Clerk Dept / McGhee / Green / Hinze / Rogers