

Public Safety & Judiciary Committee
Wednesday, November 14, 2012
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. All present. Others present are Sandra Green, Jane Gervais, Kris Steffens, Deb Barnes, Tania Bonnett, Nick Segina, Angela Hinze, Sam Wollin, Terry Fahrenkrug, Becky Koehn, Marilyn Rogers, Marcia Kaye, Trena Larson, Jack Albert, Attorney, Dean Dietrich from WI County Mutual
4. Approve the Agenda. Motion by Miller/James. Motion carried. Unanimous.
5. Approve minutes of prior meeting. Motion by Edwards/Miller. Motion carried. Unanimous.
6. Public participation (*If requested by the Committee Chair*). As needed.
7. Correspondence. None.
8. Eyes of Hope Shelter to give summary of monthly report. Kris Steffens is present to provide a monthly report for the Eyes of Hope Shelter.
9. Family Court Commissioner – Dennis McFarlin –Not Attending.
10. Child Support – Deb Barnes – Attending.
 Review Performance Measures for October 2012; Reviewed.
 Review Check Summary; Reviewed.
 Discuss and act on Out-of-State travel resolution; Deb was elected to the position of VP for the Wisconsin Child Support Enforcement Association. In February 7-9 2013 there is going to be a Policy Forum in Washington DC. The forum will provide training and information on the shift in policy which has changed from the traditional enforcement and collections core mission, to a more family centered approach. This policy shift has been introduced and supported by the current Administration. The agenda is not out yet, but she reviewed the one from 2012 and found many things that would benefit in her position. Deb is requesting approval for this Resolution. Deb explained justification to the committee in requesting this approval. She has searched for the lowest possible costs in hotel and travel. The fiscal note shows the resolution is budget neutral as the costs are reimbursable through Federal and State dollars at 66% and 34%. The total cost according to the Resolution is \$1215. Motion to approve out of state travel and resolution for Deb Barnes. Miller/James. Motion carried. Unanimous.
 Discuss Office Activities; the fall conference at Chula Vista went very well. Deb thanks the DA's office and the Sheriff's Office for the training they provided. The surveys came back very positive. Child Support will be exempt from the sequestration that may occur in January so Federal funding will remain as it is now.
11. Clerk of Circuit Court – Dee Helmrick – Attending.
 Summary Report of Expense Vouchers submitted for payment. Reviewed.
 Approve conference/training. (CCAP training and webinars). Jury Management Training tomorrow and Char will be attending. Webinars can be reviewed at their desks. There are no out of County training or meetings for a while. However, on Friday there is a district meeting in Stevens Point she is attending with the Family Court Commissioner.
 Discuss General Operations of Department. Deb provided a copy of her retirement letter to the committee. Due to the case load we are trying to streamline some of the processes in court and as a result, we are shifting, city, state, DNR and a few others over to the Court Commissioner rather than the judge. This will allow things to move faster through the court system.
 - a. Community Service Coordinator's Monthly report.

- b. New hire. The new employee is four days on the job and is doing very well. She has experience in confidential documents, numbers and has brought with her a lot of experience from her previous position.

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

13. District Attorney – DA Tania Bonnett –Attending.

Discussion of department activities to include:

Monthly expenditures report. No questions.

General Office Activities. DA Bonnett presented at the conference last month and felt it was a very good display of professionalism from Adams County and heard a lot of good feedback. She attended the Fall DA conference which saw some good presentations and came back with a lot of good information. Regarding the officer involved investigation, Sheriff Wollin passed out a copy of the original news release. DA Bonnett was involved with the initial contact and investigation. She asked the Juneau County Sheriff's Office to present a second opinion and agree the officer acted justly in this incident. Sheriff Wollin stated all of the deputies involved were placed on administrative and have now been placed back on full duty.

14. Emergency Management – Jane Gervais – Attending.

Discuss/Approve Monthly Expenditures and Vouchers. No questions.

Discuss general operations of department.

Approve conference/training if any.

2013 EMPG and EPCRA Grant Award Amounts. The EMPG grant came in slightly higher than last year. The EPCRA award will be \$6,286 and this year was \$6,265. Next year's plan of work is asking for more extensive guidelines. Jane provided three amendments to Jane's budget as proposed by Trena Larson. Trena and the Chair feel it needs to go through the County Board next Tuesday for final approval.

15. Sheriff's Office - Sheriff Wollin Chief Deputy Fahrenkrug – Attending.

Discuss general operations of department. We also had Sgt. Greeno presenting ICAC at the conference that DA Bonnett mentioned and also received positive feedback for the representation provided. Our squad sales are completed as well as selling other equipment we are unable to use. The auctions closed on Monday. With the squads and equipment the total amount came to \$19,526.18 in Revenue. The thing that did not see and were metal will be cashed in for scrap metal cost. The Sheriff's office will be doing another one at the beginning of the year such as the Corvette and the engine. The evidence and seized items have been cleaned up over at the airport. We have some items from there that will also be placed on the auction site. www.wisconsinsurplus.com. Enbridge did pay us for our time. This check was received in October. They have a community partnership Grant you can apply for is which is approximately \$1500/year. Due to the incident that occurred we were awarded a \$5,000 grant which will be used toward the incident response vehicle. We are now on Facebook and Deputy Joe Lebreck has put this together to include press releases, most wanted poster, squad pictures new and old. We have received a lot of positive comments from the public. The most wanted posters are also passed out to the area businesses. We are also starting up with Nixle which is a public notification system. We started at the beginner level but there are also advanced levels you can purchase. We started up on Monday and we already have a database of over 7000 people. Events like parades, meetings, etc. can be placed here to notify the public. Any notifications placed on Nixle are automatically placed on Facebook as they are linked together. Sheriff Wollin also stated Deputy Lebreck is doing a lot of work in Community Policing. This explained in depth and noted we have and will be in the future receiving donations to keep this program going. We have an opportunity to participate in programs with Community Policing. Sheriff Wollin is asking for a motion to be made to establish a

non-lapsing, carryover account for Community Policing. Sheriff Wollin explained how the Community Policing program would benefit the Sheriff's Office. We would be the first Sheriff's Office ever to be a part of this program which is out of the UK. It includes organizing neighborhood watches and complete community outreach and crime prevention opportunities. Sheriff Wollin explained this would simply be an account to place donations into. Motion by Miller to establish a non-lapsing, carryover account for donations for the Community Policing program. Miller/Eggebrecht. Motion carried. Unanimous. Take this to the Finance Committee for final approval. Another internal investigation is underway and Sheriff Wollin would like to speak with the committee in private regarding this. He is requesting to meet prior to the County Board at 8:00 am in A260. We do have our two hires on board. Our second interview date only four people showed up. We hired two people who are Floyd Lindsey and Joshua Czys. Sheriff Wollin provided background information on both employees. The Dispatch Sergeant position has been filled by Brenda Keckeisen and will begin on November 18th. All promotions are in place at this time. Approve conference/training if any.

Chief Deputy Fahrenkrug – Attending.

Discuss/Approve Monthly Expenditures and Vouchers. Regarding the medical bills there is a process we can put into place and we will be looking into that.

Discuss additional general operations of department if applicable. We have been working hard on our Department Policy. We are having two feedback meetings next week to talk about any changes/suggestions/corrections from the employees. Chief Fahrenkrug will provide the committee with a flash drive with the complete Sheriff's policy. The Sheriff and Chief will be attending training next week to include DAAT refresher and taser training. The Jail also has in-service training next week. There are a number of trainings in the near future that will be held here at the Sheriff's Office.

Animal Control monthly report included in packet. Reviewed.

Review of Mauston Veterinary statement/monthly report. Reviewed.

Both contracts for Eyes of Hope and Mauston can simply be extended per the opinion of Corporation Counsel. A discussion took place on whether to renew the Mauston agreement for cats. Sheriff Wollin will find out more information from surrounding counties and provide this information to the committee next month.

Motion for a 10 minute recess. James/Edwards. Motion carried. Unanimous. Time: 10:20 am.

Meeting back to order at 10:30 am.

16. Discuss and/or act on staffing, finances and operation of the Medical Examiner's office in Adams County, past, present and in fiscal year 2013. At this time Supervisor Sebastiani opens it up to the public to provide their views on it. Attorney Dean Dietrich stated he's an Attorney with WI Mutual. He has been working with Corporation County to come up with a system to view this process. There were concerns that when this topic was first considered by this committee that it wasn't clear whether there was a proper presentation. We have set up a system to provide information to make the best decision for the County and present it to the County Board. This presentation was designed to set a good foundation for the committee to consider as they decide to proceed with a contract for service or choose another route to have ME services provided to the residents of Adams County. Attorney Dietrich strongly suggests they review the information to make a good, sound decision based on what is provided. He has provided this an introductory remark for the upcoming process.

Again, Supervisor Sebastiani asks for open comments. Nick Segina references his past 25 years as Chief Deputy Coroner. He feels they have made some great strides and is proud of the ME's office. No other individuals requested to speak.

Corporation Counsel speaks and discussion ensues on the Inter Governmental agreement. The current inter-governmental agreement was explained in full. This first agreement brought us out of a Coroner system to an

appointed Medical Examiner. Corporation Counsel notes that the proposed 2013 budget for Columbia County does not include a joint agreement with Adams County. However, there is still time on the calendar for the parties to enact the 2013 agreement. The financial data is reviewed by Trena Larson, Financial Director to include accounts payable from 1/1/2011 to 10/18/2012. She also provided other detailed reports in regard to the Medical Examiner's office such as charges and services performed. Angela Hinze explained some of the items in the report the committee had questions on such as abbreviations for death certificates, donations, etc.

Item #4 is calculation of fringes and wages to hire two part time coroners to serve for the County which is a previous consideration from the committee. The current deputies are under an Annual Contract at a set rate. Each year a new MOU is completed for the Chief Deputy and two deputies. Attorney Dietrich indicates he has some concerns about the validity of the independent contractor status however, he's not sure that is a relevant consideration. He'd like to address at a later date. Ms. Larson introduced the budget of \$70,795 for 2013 and discussed and explained other areas of the budget that was put together. Supervisor Miller questioned the high costs. Ms. Larson deferred to Ms. Hinze to elaborate on what kind of supplies the office would need.

Item #5 is the proposed budget to go before the County Board next Tuesday for approval. These totals do not include expenses that would be incurred if we move away from Columbia County and have to purchase supplies to continue as a full ME's office. Supervisor Miller has a question on the Resolution enclosed in the packet.

Question answered. All Revenues stay in Adams County.

Mr. Hinze requested the committee review the binder given by her. It includes a mission statement, policies, statutory requirements and additional information specific to the ME's office.

Chief Deputy Marilyn Rogers is given the opportunity to speak. She wanted to clarify we also pay toxicology fees in addition to Columbia County. Supervisor Sebastiani asked Ms. Rogers if she feels the County would benefit from being on our own and she stated yes. He then asked why you believe that even with the possibility of additional fees. She states even with those fees being incurred, I still feel we would benefit being on our own.

Supervisor Miller asked if all the appointed deputies obtained the AMDI certification. Ms. Hinze answered the question as to where they are with training and whether complete or almost complete.

Motion made that we re-contract with Columbia County for 2013 for ME services. James/Edwards. Discussion: Supervisor Miller is opposed to this because the people we have that have been doing the death investigations are people that have been in the office with no complaints regarding their ability in the last three years. He asks how many years should you be on probation? At some point we were going to sever ties and he feels the motion he made a couple of months ago to sever ties, he still feels we can do this. If we have the people with the ability to do it and if there are additional expenses incurred he still feels we should move forward with cutting ties from C.C. His opinion is that we are the point of moving forward on our own and is opposed to renewing the contract. Supervisor James agrees that at some point we were going to cut ties. He would also like it to move forward as well but is uncomfortable with doing it quite yet for 2013. He would be happy to look at it again for 2014 but for now he is comfortable with continuing with the C.C. ME's office. Ms. Edwards doesn't feel quite ready yet to move forward also. The plan is not complete as to what is needed fiscally to move forward for 2013 so we would be more prepared for 2014 to have this all in place. A roll call vote will be taken. Marcia Kaye suggested one option the county might consider is staying with CC this year, and then preparing the staff with whatever is needed to take over the office in 2014, as well as planning in advance for a smooth transition. Trena Larson commented that she does see an advantage in Adams County going independent but we should explore this, have the relationships and facilities all in line and calculated into the budget. It is advantageous for Adams County to explore and develop what we need to be independent for 2014. Mr. Segina thanks the committee for allowing

him to speak. He stated that the ME's office has made great strides in the past and present. He is taken back a little bit that this discussion didn't take place prior to the budgets process. There are some valid questions being asked that no one has prepared a response to. Mr. Segina explained the process when he was Coroner regarding medication storage. He explained a number of ways to take advantage of local facilities for the things that have not been looked into. His opinion is the Adams County team has been trained, the team has been given the tools and he states at this point he feels they should be able to consult with another ME or the Doctor's at UW. Why are you paying more money for simply an administrative service? "The material is in front of you to review. Every concern you have is covered."

Roll call vote: Motion to continue with Columbia County for 2013 under the terms and conditions for 2012. Eggebrecht- NO, Edwards - YES, Miller -NO, James – YES, Sebastiani - YES. Motion carried and passed.

Medical Examiner, Angela Hinze – Chief Deputy Medical Examiner, Marilyn Rogers –Attending.

Discuss/Approve Monthly Expenditures and Vouchers. Reviewed.

Discuss general operations of department.

Approve conference/training if any. None.

Motion to go into closed session James/Edwards. 11:55 am.

Motion to stay with Eyes of Hope with no further action for 2013. Miller/James. Motion carried. All vote yes. Unanimous.

17. The Committee will convene in closed session, per Wis. Stats. §19.85(1)(g), for purposes of conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.

The Committee will reconvene in open session per Wis. Stats. §19.85(2), to consider and vote on appropriate matters. Motion Miller/Eggebrecht motioned to go back into open session. At 12:20.

18. Approval of all vouchers and monthly expense reports. James/Miller. Motion approved. Unanimous.
19. Identify upcoming agenda items. Sheriff's Office – Cat Summary.
20. Set next meeting date. December 12, 9am in Conference Room A260.
21. Adjournment. Motion at 12:20 pm by James/Edwards. Motion carried. Unanimous.