

Minutes of the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee – November 30, 2007

Chair Bonnie Morris called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m.

Committee Members Present: County Board Supervisors Bonnie Morris (Chair), Kathleen Cummings, Rick Stevens, Dave Swan, Steve Wimmer and Genia Bruce (arrived at 8:48).
Absent: Keith Harenda.

Also Present: Legislative Policy Advisor Mark Mader, Circuit Court Services Manager Bob Snow, Inspector Steve Marks, Business Manager Tom Koth, Financial Analyst Lyndsay Johnson, Jail Administrator Giese, and Deputy Inspector Eric Severson. Recorded by Karen Phillips, County Board Office.

Executive Committee Report

Morris reviewed the outcome of Executive Committee members' discussion about the following items:

- Ordinance approved at the last Board meeting on the HUD grant expenditures and CDBG expenditures for 2008
- The appointment of Richard Price to the Veteran's Service Commission
- Legislative Update
- Committee Updates

Reports by Committee Member Liaisons

Cummings stated the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) will meet at 1:00 p.m. on December 6, 2007, at the Waukesha County Communication Center.

Future Agenda Items

- In January, Morris would like to schedule an update from Emergency Preparedness Director Richard Tuma and Emergency Management Coordinator Bill Stolte on their agreement with Ozaukee County.
- Cummings would like a Spillman update.
- Update on the Annual Inspection of the Juvenile Center. Mader will check to see if this would be appropriate, since the Health & Human Services Committee has purview.

Future Meeting Dates

- December 14
- January 11

Elect Committee Vice Chair

MOTION: Morris moved, Stevens second, to nominate Swan for the position of Vice Chair of the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee.

MOTION: Swan moved, Wimmer second, to nominate Stevens for the position of Vice Chair of the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee.

Stevens voiced his support for Swan, and requested to withdraw himself from this process. Swan then withdrew his move to nominate Stevens and Wimmer withdrew his second.

Kathleen spoke in support of Swan and stated he would be a great asset to this Committee as Vice Chair.

Motion carried 6-0.

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 162-O-084: Appropriate Revenues And Expenditures To The Sheriff's Department 2007 Budget

Marks recalled that earlier in the year, \$131,000 was moved from the Personnel Appropriation Unit to help fund the day reporting program along with the electronic home bound detention program. The intent was to reduce overtime and other personnel costs, adding that six positions have been left unfilled this year. Despite the Department's efforts this was not able to be done in full, and at this point in the year it is hard to predict how the overtime will go. They currently estimate exceeding the personnel cost appropriation budget by \$50,000. Marks stated this Ordinance will provide the Sheriff's Department with \$60,000 in additional Personnel cost expenditure appropriation authority.

Bruce arrived at 8:48

Marks continued by explaining that the Department has achieved higher than budgeted revenues (approximately \$75,000) from Huber and federal inmate revenue. They are requesting \$60,000 of this additional revenue to fund the additional expenditure authority needed for the previously mentioned higher personnel costs.

Morris questioned if this was normal procedure to request the expenditure change before it actually goes over. Johnson replied yes, it is better to anticipate before it goes over, so funds will already be in place in order to meet expenses and make payroll.

Koth added that the overall budget is well under target.

Mader stated it could come up in Finance Committee or on the Board floor, whether everything has been done to work within the budget. He asked if there would be more to add in terms of efforts which have been put forth. Koth responded that there are at least 6-8 deputy vacancies during the year which they have held open for that reason.

Morris questioned in what area most of the overtime is coming from. Koth stated it is a varying combination of things; one week it could be the jail, one week it could be patrol, depending on what types of investigations are going on or how many people call in sick.

MOTION: Swan moved, Cummings second, to approve Ordinance 162-O-084. Motion carried 6-0.

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 162-O-085: Appropriate Additional Revenue And Transfer Funds In The Waukesha County Circuit Court Services 2007 Budget To Address Higher Estimated Legal Service Costs

MOTION: Cummings moved, Wimmer second, to approve Ordinance 162-O-085.

Snow began by stating things are going to be extremely tight as the year end approaches, and they may be looking at coming forward with a contingency fund transfer in January, perhaps in the range of \$50,000 to \$60,000 to address other year end issues.

Snow then proceeded to explain that this ordinance will authorize \$60,000 in greater than budgeted expenditure authority to address higher estimated expenditures in legal service costs due to greater numbers of county paid attorney appointments for defendants who do not meet state indigency standards.

Snow explained further the 2007 revenue budget is expected to be exceeded by at least \$24,000 mainly due to more revenues in the criminal traffic program area greater than the budget anticipated. Also,

this ordinance transfers \$36,000 of estimated personnel cost appropriation under budget spending resulting from position vacancies.

Snow continued by answering the questions raised by the Committee. He addressed issues dealing with state public defenders, court appointed attorneys, guardian ad litem and advocate counsel matters, and the costs involved at county expense. He stated the cost per hour for a court appointed attorney is \$40.00 per hour, and estimated this year those costs will total approximately \$175,000. Snow stated currently there are bills in the State Senate and Assembly regarding raising the threshold for indigency. Snow stated his concern, as there will still be a significant need for court appointed attorneys at expense to the County, but hopefully less.

Swan stated he would like to see detail of the costs on paper, to be able to better compare costs from year to year. Cumming stated her agreement with Swan, that a visual comparison would be helpful.

Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION: Stevens moved, Swan second, to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 a.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen M. Cummings
Secretary