

Minutes of the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee

Friday, August 14, 2015

Chair Wolff called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Peter Wolff, Kathleen Cummings, Robert Kolb, and Carl Pettis.

Absent: Janel Brandtjen, Mike Crowley, and Jim Batzko.

Also Present: Legislative Policy Advisor Sarah Spaeth, Senior Financial Analyst Aaron Daul, Business Manager Lyndsay Johnson, Sheriff Eric Severson, Deputy Inspector Torin Misko, Inspector Jim Gumm, and Financial Analyst Joshua Joost. Recorded by Mary Pedersen, County Board Office.

Approve Minutes of June 19, 2015

MOTION: Cummings moved, second by Kolb to approve the minutes of June 19. Motion carried 4-0.

Correspondence

Wolff circulated the following correspondence.

- Specialized Prosecution grant application for the District Attorney's Office.
- Training grant application for the Emergency Preparedness Department.

Executive Committee Report of July 20, 2015

Wolff highlighted the following items discussed at the last Executive Committee meeting.

- Approved an ordinance and appointments that have since been approved by the County Board.
- Reviewed and approved the scopes for the Purchasing audit and the Parks cash control audit.
- Heard a report on the National Association of Counties Association annual conference.
- Heard standing committee reports.

Future Meeting Dates

- September 11, 2015 (capital projects and regular business)
- October 2, 2015 (operating budget reviews; meeting may start at 8:00 a.m.)
- October 16, 2015 (regular business)

Ordinance 170-O- 048: Amend The Sheriff's Department 2015 Budget For The Expenditure Of Office Of National Drug Control Policy Cooperative Agreement Funds

Severson discussed this ordinance which allows the department to accept Office of National Drug Control Policy cooperative agreement award funds totaling \$50,063. The 2015 adopted budget included \$9,660 of Milwaukee High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) grant funds. This ordinance further authorizes the department to appropriate the remaining \$40,403 of non-appropriated cooperative funds in the 2015 budget to be spent on staff overtime and equipment. The funds are planned to be used for overtime and corresponding benefits (\$10,440) and the purchase of surveillance equipment (\$26,463) and Cellbrite software licensing and a money counter maintenance agreement (\$3,500). These purchases support HIDTA investigation and enforcement activities which includes Waukesha County. There is no direct tax levy impact from this ordinance.

MOTION: Cummings moved, second by Kolb to approve Ordinance 170-O-048. Motion carried 4-0.

Presentation: Sheriff's Department Equipment Replacement Plan

Severson said 61 department vehicles are included in the Vehicle Replacement Plan while 35 vehicles and other wheeled equipment are not. Some of those not included in the plan which Severson described were the 2009 Freightliner LDV and the 2011 Lenco Bearcat, both purchased with UASI grant dollars and/or drug asset seizure funds totaling approximately \$454,000 and \$260,000 respectively. A 2014 22' Boston Whaler purchased with drug asset seizure funds totaling \$94,000 with \$85,000 reimbursed over five years from the DNR at 70%, and a 2014 boat trailer. A 2005 Freightliner M2 purchased with drug asset seizure funds totaling \$79,000 and refurbished in 2014. A 1998 Ford V-10 purchased with drug asset seizure funds totaling \$74,000. A 1998 28' Harris FloteBote and a 2012 Midwest Shoreland trailer. The boat was donated by Skipper Bunds and the trailer was purchased with \$3,000 from drug asset seizure funds. Also, various vans, ATVs, motorcycles, snowmobiles, and speedboards purchased with drug asset seizure, tax levy and/or reimbursed in part by the DNR.

Severson noted it was always their intention to use drug seizure funds to replace vehicles and equipment not included in the replacement plan, however, their ability has been hampered. New Federal rules for drug seizure funds do not allow them to replace existing equipment. They have to make a reasonable and articulated argument that the purchase will enhance operations and sometimes they can, sometimes they cannot. Also, due to less than cost-to-continue budgets year after year, the Sheriff many years ago took several fleet out of the replacement budget and began reducing the fleet. Severson said he has since begun working with the Vehicle Replacement Committee to replace some of those vehicles and get them back in the replacement plan. Severson said the anticipated replacement schedule totals \$2.7 million. Fortunately, much of the equipment has long, useful lives and others can be repaired. However, certain equipment may need more immediate replacement such as life saving equipment. Severson advised there are AEDs, tasers, preliminary breath test devices, and squad equipment that need to be replaced soon. He is in the process of developing a strategy, a long-term project that is responsible to the taxpayer but also provides for citizen and staff safety. Some equipment staff have grown accustomed to using, may not be replaced. Potential solutions/suggestions were briefly discussed. Severson said he will keep the committee updated and apprised of future issues.

Legislative Update

Spaeth said there is not much activity in the State Legislature since the budget passed and they will go back in session in September. She is currently working with Federated Library Director Connie Meyer to get a bill passed pertaining to library board membership which she briefly explained.

Future Agenda Item

- Review Jail Challenges and Operations (Severson)

MOTION: Cummings moved, second by Kolb to adjourn at 9:34 a.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Batzko
Secretary