

**RICHLAND COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
Friday, March 13, 2015**

The Richland County Board of Supervisors Law Enforcement and Judiciary Committee met on Friday, March 13, 2015 at 9:00am in the County Board Room of the Richland County Court House in Richland Center, Wisconsin.

Committee members present at the meeting were: Committee Chair Fred Clary and Committee members Buford Marshall, Paul Kinney, Don Seep and Marty Brewer. Present from the Richland County Sheriff's Department were Sheriff Jim Bindl, Chief Deputy Chad Kanable, Amber Muckler and Lt. Bob Frank. Also present for the meeting or a portion of the meeting was Richland County Clerk of Circuit Court Stacy Kleist, Jailer/Dispatcher Nettie Collins, DA Jennifer Harper, Barb Scott, Sgt Wes Starkey.

**Agenda Item #1: Call to Order:** Committee Chair Fred Clary called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

**Agenda Item #2: Read and Approve Notice of Posting for March 13, 2015 LEJC Meeting:** Committee chair Clary confirmed with Sheriff Bindl that the meeting was properly posted. Upon receiving confirmation Clary declared meeting properly posted. Motion by Paul Kinney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marty Brewer.

**Agenda Item #3: Read and Approve the Agenda for March 13, 2015 Meeting:** Motioned by Don Seep to approve the agenda. 2<sup>nd</sup> to this motion by Buford Marshall. Motion passed.

**Agenda Item #4: Read and Approve Minutes of the February 13, 2015 LEJC Meeting:** Motion by Paul Kinney to approve the minutes as printed. 2<sup>nd</sup> to this motion by Marty Brewer. Motion passed, minutes accepted.

**Agenda Item #5: DA Updates:** DA Harper informed the committee it has been 1 year with the digital office, that has worked very well, very few problems and only some state software problems. The digital office has worked very well and saved on staff time, along with the discovery process which has been re-vamped and has made things move along in a timely manner much better. DA Harper talked about looking into having money that is re-cooped from paper service and money from the victim witness person duties and having this money show in the DA's budget. This year 54% of costs can be re-cooped for the victim witness person which is about \$17,000, this money does take longer to get to us because the state sends out these types of checks. Don Seep asks about discovery documents and if this has to be done on each case or if it's upon request. Jennifer states this is a upon request type thing from the attorney. Jennifer informed the committee how discovery works and the process it goes through for the DA's office.

**Agenda Item #7: Security Incident in the DA's office:** Jennifer shared with the committee regarding the incident that happened in the DA's office regarding a citizen that has had issues out at Symons and has had issues and been upset in the

DA's office. Jennifer stated the problem evolved when he was in the DA's office in a heated discussion and reached into his jacket, at that point the incident became a security issue. Multiple officers did respond to the DA's office immediately and began looking for this individual which they located him outside the courthouse. Jennifer states it looks like responses were made quickly and things happened in the fashion they were supposed to. This person was supposed to be in court yesterday and he did call into the clerk of court a couple of days prior to his court date. Clerk of court did inform him that per the request of his attorney it has been rescheduled and this individual became upset and stated he was going to come into the courthouse which he never did. The judge kept the rescheduled date even at the opposition of the individual's attorney. Notices were given to offices letting them know about the incident. This individual did not show up when it was believed that he may, he also has to be escorted by the sheriff's department whenever he comes to the courthouse, which is a stipulation of his bond. If he does not follow that order he could be put in jail for bail jumping.

**Agenda Item #5: Clerk of Court Update:** Stacy went over her report with the committee, there are now 4 people in her office they are in the training process with the new clerical person as well as the individual who moved into the deputy clerk of court position and training is going well. The workload in the office the past month has been busy with a lot of data to process. Caseloads – the office is seeing a lot of juvenile ordinance cases, specifically truancy written by the police department and prosecuted by the DA. A lot of times the juveniles don't come in and this seems to be a growing issue. The other judges are still handling cases which will continue in the future as well. Collections – It has been a good month with a lot of tax interceptions being completed on 184 individuals from January to now and the office collecting over \$39,000 from state tax interception, at this point the federal funds can't be intercepted.

Stacey talked about form CS147 she completes each year which is the guardian et litem money. This is a detailed report the clerk of courts have to fill out and depending on the amount of detail put into the report determines if the county clerk offices receive their money. This detailed reporting will be eliminated in the next budget year. Chairman Clary states there is going to be a new "Block Grant" instead. Chairman Clary believes this gives an opportunity for the county to move money around, the current way does not give that opportunity. It is unknown at this time what the county share will be from this block grant.

Stacey continued to go over her reports, commenting on her department's expenses and revenues with the committee.

**Agenda Item #8: Coroner Updates:** skipped, Coroner Rossing was not available to make this meeting.

**Agenda Item #9: Discuss/decide on time of future meetings:** Back in the fall it was decided to meet at 9 am instead of 8:30 am, with warmer weather coming our way DA Harper stated she would like to be able to meet at 8:30 so she could give her update and then get to court on time. The committee members would also like to move it back to 8:30, motioned by Buford Marshall to move back the time to 8:30 am, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don Seep. Motion carried. Next month (April 10, 2015) will be the first meeting back at 8:30 am.

**Agenda Item #10: Mapping/Radio Updates: Mapping** – Lt. Frank states he is still working on Hwy OO, met with highway department, LEJC, Finance committees. The next step is to write up a draft resolution, meet with landowners and then write up a resolution to go to county board. Zoning and Lt. Frank met with Richwood township going over maps and signage that is not the same as records sent to DOT. Corrections will be made and the members from Richwood Township were walked through dispatch to see how it all works with dispatching. Paul Kinney wondered who was to blame for these errors, Lt. Frank states there is not one source that can be to blame, information is taken from many different places. Richwood is not the only township that has these issues, other townships have these issues and the other townships did not respond when notices were sent out asking them to respond to this information issue, Richwood did respond, so that is why they are currently working on fixing these issues.

**Radio updates** – Chief Deputy Kanable commented on IFERN, the new radio equipment is installed and working so that grant will be closed out. That equipment was a requirement of the MABAs system, which the department is going to start working on that, projected start date for this process is June 1<sup>st</sup>. Radio drills will be started which are like “mock disasters” this will start April 15<sup>th</sup> per Sgt. Rita McCarthy, who has been working on getting this project going. Chairman Clary stated the county matched the balance of IFERN grant, the grant gave \$18,000 and so the county gave the rest for this grant equipment to be completed. Yuba tower should be able to be finished up now that warmer weather is coming.

**Agenda Item #11: IFERN & MABAS updates:** covered in item #10.

**Agenda Item #12: Approve monthly invoices and other Sheriff's**

**Department reports:** Sheriff Bindl went over the blue sheet statistics with the committee. Clary added that 2014 budget report stated the department was over budget in the general, radio and jail budgets. Uncollected revenue – state aid training was down, the department didn't have the amount of training for reimbursement by the state in 2014. Stacy added a decline in paper service, specifically evictions has been happening because landlords can now opt for mail service instead of service by the sheriff's department. Stacy stated service by sheriff's department is more effective than mailing evictions, but mailing is cheaper for the landlords. Stacey stated the sheriff's department does a great job when it comes to paper service. Don Seep stated traffic warnings dropped from January to February, which is due to warnings not being entered into the computer yet and then it's up to the deputy at a traffic stop to decide on giving a warning or citation. Sgt. Starkey stated he believes warnings and citations will begin to rise because all the squads computer equipment is now working and the deputies are able to get access to the information they need at the time of a traffic stop. Chief Deputy Kanable stated the MIS department has done an excellent job getting all the equipment working in the squads and deputies being able to write citations on the spot instead of having to mail them.

Bills - #34 was for squad damage (squad vs. deer usually). Motion for approval of bills, Motion made by Don Seep, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Kinney. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item #13: Radio Maintenance Service Agreement:** Chief Deputy Kanable stated the department is looking into other things with a company regarding this item, Kanable is hoping once they have some information for him, he will bring this back to the committee.

**Agenda Item #14: Committee approval to explore a grant for traffic**

**enforcement:** Chief Deputy Kanable states there are 2 possible grants to bring in officers on paid overtime to reinforce traffic. Kanable wanted to notify the committee he is looking into these possible grants. Don Seep wondered if traffic was an issue, Kanable states because of all other issues and criminal investigations our attention to traffic declines. With warmer weather and kids getting out of school, traffic will become more of an issue and with our current staffing issues we can't keep up with traffic as well as we should. In our county everyone is designated to run traffic, serve papers and handle calls. Chairman Clary states in the past the grant would pay for an officer at 4 hours at a time so they could handle traffic only. Chairman Clary does not have a problem with looking into the grants, the county board would have to make the decision to approve the grants. Kanable stated a letter has been written to the state troopers asking for another officer to be put in the area but doesn't think that will happen.

**Agenda Item #15: Discuss squad car fleet:** Chief Deputy Kanable gave a printout to the committee showing a graph of our fleet and each squad's mileage by month. Average mileage by month by a squad was 2,358 miles, if that is multiplied out this will show where mileages will be in December. Six out of eight cars will be above 100,000 miles, 2 squads will be above 140,000 miles this year. Not on the graph is the repairs that have been completed on the squads, the Expedition is filling with smoke because of a serious oil leak problem. Sheriff Bindl states the department is trying to show the committee the issues with the current fleet and what it will be in the future so they are aware. Sheriff Bindl states that a second squad is needed and by having these printouts it shows on paper what the issues are and what they are going to be facing in the future. Don Seep asks about maintenance, Kanable does have the maintenance since the new admin took over for 2015. Kanable stated 2 vehicles have been taken out of the fleet, there have been 16 incidents with squads needing repairs this year, out of those 4 incidents have been major. The squad purchased from the city has 76,000 miles and will be put into action this coming weekend. Chairman Clary states it is not known how far the explorers will get for mileage until they begin to become a repair issue, Crown vics were always expected to get around 150,000 miles. The explorers do have higher change over costs. Kanable states that the amount we've been spending in the past on change over costs of around \$13,000 to \$15,000 will not be done in the future, he's been in negotiations with a company to look over these costs and see where they can see savings. Kanable has been doing some of the squad rebuilds, he is also getting costs on the engine for the expedition. Chairman Clary states for the expedition if it's around \$2000 to \$3000 to repair it is worth it to fix, if the costs would be somewhere around \$7000 to \$8000 it would not be worth it to repair that vehicle. Kanable thinks for the new engine it could cost somewhere around \$7000 to \$8000. Clary states we do have enough money in the new car outlay to purchase a squad now and possibly store until the fall. For 2016 Clary doesn't see much of an increase to the new car outlay account due to decisions made by previous administration. If change over costs could be decreased that would help some of the outlay expenses. Kanable states he does believe there will be a savings regarding change over in the future. Problems with the explorers so far have been mostly covered by warranty, there have been a few transmission issues with them recently. \$26,900 for basic costs of vehicle, change over costs per Kanable could

be decreased somewhere around \$3000 per change over. Admin cars don't get as many miles, age becomes a factor with those vehicles.

**Agenda Item #16: Update on new squad for 2015:** Chief Deputy Kanable states this was covered some under discussion for item 15. Squad bids can be solicited at any time during the year Chairman Clary stated.

**Agenda Item #17: Notification of employee retirement:** Chief Deputy Kanable read the letter submitted by Sgt. Monte Ewing, his last day will be March 31, 2015 he's had a 33 year career with the department. Motion by Don Seep, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marty Brewer to approve the notification, motion carried.

**Agenda Item #20: Discuss filling job vacancy:** Clary stated the department can start the process to interview to fill that position, the position can't be filled until after March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Agenda Item #18: Notification of jailer resignation:** Chief Deputy Kanable read letter submitted by dispatcher/jailer Bethany Helmich, who's resignation date is effective March 20, 2015. Motion by Don Seep, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marty Brewer to approve the notification, motion carried.

**Agenda Item #19: Set date for open jail position interview:** Chief Deputy Kanable states due to withdraws from the female candidate list, we only have 1 candidate available for the female jailer/dispatcher position vacancy. Chairman Clary wonders if the department is comfortable with only 1 candidate and the department states the there is no problem with this issue. Interviews must be done by the committee even though there is only 1 candidate. Chairman Clary states since there will be no further females available after this, the list will have to be opened again and Kanable has already been in talks with the city and they would like it opened as well. Interview date will be Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 9am.

**Agenda Item #21: Adjourn;** Motion by Marty Brewer to adjourn until the regular LEJC meeting on Friday, April 10, 2015 at 8:30am. Second to this motion by Paul Kinney . Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Office Manager, Amber Muckler