

**RICHLAND COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
Friday, February 10, 2017**

The Richland County Board of Supervisors Law Enforcement and Judiciary Committee met on Friday, February 10, 2017 at 8:30am 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, Gary Peters, Don Seep and Marty Brewer. Present from the Richland County Sheriff's Department were Sheriff Jim Bindl, Chief Deputy Chad Kanable, and Amber Muckler. Also present for the meeting or a portion of the meeting was Richland County Clerk of Circuit Court Stacy Kleist, DA Jennifer Harper, Sandy McNamer, and Deputy Coroner Ruth Bristol.

**Agenda Item #1: Call to Order:** Committee Chair Fred Clary called the meeting to order at 8:30am.

**Agenda Item #2: Read and Approve Notice of Posting for February 10, 2017 LEJC Meeting:** Committee chair Clary confirmed with Sheriff Bindl that the meeting was properly posted. Upon receiving confirmation Clary declared meeting properly posted.

**Agenda Item #3: Read and Approve the Agenda for February 10, 2017 Meeting:** Motioned by Marty Brewer to approve the agenda. 2<sup>nd</sup> to this motion by Gary Peters. Motion passed.

**Agenda Item #4: Read and Approve Minutes of the January 13, 2017 LEJC Meeting:** Motion by Gary Peters to approve the minutes as printed. 2<sup>nd</sup> to this motion by Buford Marshall. Motion passed, minutes accepted.

**Agenda Item #5: Coroner Updates:** Deputy Coroner Ruth Bristol had to leave and was not able to present her information for this meeting.

**Agenda Item #6: Probate Department:** Probate officer McNamer went over her reports with the committee members, discussing judicial assignments, and expenditures. McNamer has a bid out for wiring for her computer stations for internet availability and a second work station, which provides public access. McNamer states there is money in the new equipment line item for this cost. Since this project is below the \$1000 dollar amount that would need to be approved by the committee, there is not approval needed for this project, it is only information brought forth to the committee.

Reduction Strategies: McNamer said the clerk of courts office has the collections information for her office and with this being a new budget for her department, her office will be very careful with the budget and not overspending. Clary states with making her budget separate, the budget was supposed to be cost-neutral and it ended up being about a \$4000 expense.

**Agenda Item #7: Clerk of Court Updates:** Clerk of Court Kleist goes over her reports with the committee members. Case filings for the month may have been slightly down, especially for traffic filings. Judicial assignments – more cases are being assigned to other judges, particularly to the Iowa County judge. January collections were much higher than the previous month, expenditures for 2016 is over budget and it's due to attorney fees, revenues were also short for 2016.

Reduction strategies: Kleist noted that a member of her staff is not on county insurance, and when the budget is figured all 4 members of her staff were figured in, which this will be a savings to her budget for this year. Kleist will keep looking at her budget to see where possible savings can be made. Kleist thinks as far as revenue collections, she will see more collections come in with the new program, SDC.

**Agenda Item #8: District Attorney Updates:** DA Harper went over her reports with the committee members. There is a high number of inmates in the jail, and some very dangerous inmates in the jail currently. There have been a few drug meetings during the week and a felon with a gun issue that happened in the county during the week. Drug issues are an ongoing problem within the county and mostly due to the drug meth. Threats are being made by inmates in the jail in regards to the judge, DA and specific plans of how to hurt these individuals, it's no longer that these inmates are just mad that they have been put in the jail for their crimes, it's revenge-type thinking.

Reduction Strategies: The DA's office can't increase revenues currently, Harper looked over her budget and she would like to note that her department has been under budget for the past 5 years. In looking at her budget, paper service fees could be looked at, the department could look at a private process server to serve papers, which possibly this could be at a lesser cost, than having a county law enforcement agency do this.

**Agenda Item #9: Approve monthly invoices and other Sheriff's Department reports:** Sheriff Bindl discussed the invoices for the month with the committee members. Motion to approve the bills by Marty Brewer, 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve this motion by Gary Peters. Motion approved. Sheriff Bindl went over the payout of Lt. Frank with the committee members which would equal about a 2 month period to recover the costs of his payout in accordance with the budget. Once the payout has been recovered, the department can proceed with hiring for this position. Sheriff Bindl went over the blue sheet and jail statistics with the committee members. Sheriff Bindl discussed with the committee a member from the Boaz community that sends our office multiple amounts of paperwork, letters and complaints regarding other members of our community and the sheriff just wanted to make the committee aware of this incase the committee members have any interactions or receive paperwork from him.

**Agenda Item #10: Department budget & reduction strategies for 2017:** Sheriff Bindl discussed with the committee about this issue and instead of cutting places in the budget where there is no room to cut, he would instead like to increase revenue within our EMP program and increasing the amount of people we can put on the bracelet to around 11 to 12 inmates. Sheriff Bindl states it costs more to keep these people in the jail, why not take them out of the jail and have them pay the fee to

be put on EMP. Clary stated that when you take a person out of the jail and put them on EMP, this takes them out of our system to be fed daily, possibly medicated and housed which is a savings to the department.

Sheriff Bindl would also like to start charging a booking fee when a person is brought into the jail. The fee the Sheriff would like to see charged to an inmate would be either \$5 to \$10, as most people have that money available when coming into the jail. The sheriff discussed if the department should charge for people being booked on a probation hold. Clary thinks that if a booking fee is being charged for everyone, he thinks \$10 fee would be fine. Motion made by Gary Peters to charge a \$10 fee to people being booked into the jail. 2<sup>nd</sup> to this motion by Don Seep. Clary said he's not sure this committee has the authority to approve this fee or if it needs to go to the County Board. Motion approved.

Sheriff Bindl commented in regards to the budget reduction, he went through each line item and in looking through the budget he's not sure he can find any item that can be cut more than it already has been. Clary stated that Finance looks at the overall budget instead of each line item.

**Agenda Item #11: Possibilities to increase revenue:** This item was discussed in item #10

**Agenda Item #12: Mapping, Radio System & Squad Updates:** Sheriff Bindl discussed with the committee members about squad updates. Sheriff Bindl stated there is a used vehicle sitting at a local dealer which would create a huge savings to the department if it could be looked at and sometimes those vehicles are gone by the time all committees have made approvals. Clary states the car outlay account has to get full county board approval, any outlay account works that way, there is no other way to do this. Clary stated that mechanics have informed county board members that the current Chief Deputy vehicle does not need to be replaced and questioned why the Chief Deputy needs to have an extra sized vehicle, in which Sheriff Bindl stated that the Chief Deputy does respond to law enforcement activity. Sheriff Bindl stated that this vehicle was available and could save some money in the budget by purchasing a used vehicle. Clary doesn't think it needs to be that big of a vehicle. The department would like permission to bid out for a new patrol unit. Motion made by Buford Marshall to approve bids for a new SUV, 2<sup>nd</sup> to this motion by Gary Peters. Motion carried.

Chief Deputy Kanable had notified committee president of 2 squads to sell and put the money back into the new car outlay. Motion by Marty Brewer to approve this issue, 2<sup>nd</sup> to this motion by Don Seep. Motion approved.

Kanable stated there is also another SUV that could be put on the auction block, this vehicle has high mileage and a slight steering problem. He would like to set the bid at around \$4800. Clary stated this issue needs no approval from the committee, the department can go ahead with this item. Radio, the new console is working well in dispatch. The Lone Rock tower project has begun and progress is being made. There was an antenna issue on the courthouse roof, which needed to be replaced. Clary stated Frontier is coming in and discussing with the county about needing \$92,000 to update the 911 system. Motion made by Don Seep that Clary could represent the entire committee for this meeting with Frontier, 2<sup>nd</sup> to this motion by Marty Brewer. Clary states Frontier isn't the only company that this county can look at for this service and this would need to be bid out and he wants to relay that information to the

representative from Frontier. Kanable believes the last update to the system was around 2003. The meeting is next Tuesday at 1:30. Motion approved. Kanable talked about mapping and that Dispatcher/Jailer Devon McNurlin has stepped in and helped out with mapping issues and updates.

**Agenda Item #13: Adjourn;** Motion by Marty Brewer to adjourn until the regular LEJC meeting on Friday, March 10, 2017 at 8:30am. Second to this motion by Gary Peters. Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Office Manager, Amber Muckler