

**RICHLAND COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
MEETING
Friday, July 10, 2020**

The Richland County Board of Supervisors Law Enforcement and Judiciary Committee met on Friday, July 10, 2020 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 Melissa Luck and Committee members Chad Cosgrove, Kerry Severson, and David Turk. Present from the Richland County Sheriff's Department were Sheriff Jim Bindl, Chief Deputy Clay Porter, Investigator Toby Johnson, Lt. Dane 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, Jenifer Laue, Bob Frank and Victor Vlasak.

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

Agenda Item #2: Read and Approve Notice of Posting for September 7, 2020 LEJC Meeting: Committee Chair Luck confirmed with Sheriff Bindl that the meeting was properly posted. Upon receiving confirmation Luck declared meeting properly posted.

Agenda Item #3: Read and Approve the Agenda for September 7, 2020 Meeting: Motioned by Chad Cosgrove to approve the agenda. 2nd to this motion by Kerry Severson. Motion passed.

Agenda Item #4: Read and Approve Minutes of the August 11, 2020 LEJC Meeting: Motion by Kerry Severson to approve the minutes as printed. 2nd to this motion by David Turk. Motion passed, minutes accepted.

Agenda Item #5: Coroner Updates: no updates for this meeting

Agenda Item #6: Clerk of Court Update: Clerk of Court Kleist went over her reports with the committee members. Kleist commented to the committee that revenues are down and believes they could remain less due to shut down this year, however expenditures are less this year as well. Funding has been approved for the new video system for the court.

Agenda Item #7: Probate Updates: Jenifer Laue went over her reports with the committee members. The Probate and Clerk of Court offices are asking for the Deputy position in the Clerk of Court office be filled and transferred to the Probate Office. There will be no financial impact on either department as money has been saved for this position. The position will be moved from the Clerk of Court budget to the Probate budget. Kleist mentioned to the committee that this position will be in the Probate office and will be working mainly in that office, but will also be needed in the Clerk of Court office as well. This position will be partially crossed training with both offices, but will have more time and training in the Probate Department. Motion to

approve this position transfer and move it forward to Finance and Personnel made by Chad Cosgrove, second to this motion made by David Turk. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #8: District Attorney Updates: DA Jennifer Harper went over her updates with the committee members. Her office staff is now back in the office. Harper believes money coming into her department will be less due to the shutdown factors that have taken place this year.

Agenda Item #9: Approve monthly invoices and other Sheriff's Department reports: Sheriff Bindl went over the invoices with the committee members. Motion to approve the invoices made by Chad Cosgrove, second to this motion by Kerry Severson. Motion approved. Sheriff Bindl went over the jail statistics sheet with the committee members.

Agenda Item #10: Rehire for the casual dispatcher/jailer position: Zach Halverson would like to come back and work as a casual jailer/dispatcher. Motion to approve the rehire of Zach Halverson made by Kerry Severson, second to this motion by David Turk. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #11: Retention of staff issues, request for department wide increases: Chief Deputy Porter stated to the committee that there is an ongoing issue to retain staff in our jail and dispatch. One option would be higher pay for the staff. Luck discussed the mentality of the work staff with the younger generation. Luck also talked about that for the budget year if increases in wages are wanted then cuts have to be made in other parts of the budget. Porter discussed a hand out showing the costs incurred when people leave and the cost associated with the training and rehiring people. Exit interviews are done with people leaving the department. Recently the staff that has left was due to comparable pay but better benefits. Neighboring counties are attracting people from our department and county to work there instead in Richland. A lot of staff is leaving due to better benefits at another job, our county needs to look into our benefits and how we can attract people and retain them. Insurance is a huge factor to keep a person in this position, the county used to be a part of the state plan and it was a very good plan. Our most recent resignation will be going back to Culver's where the pay and bonuses are comparable to our pay, however the benefits are better than the county benefits. Porter stated there are options that can be looked at for benefits. Other options would be to increase the comp time balance a person can have on the books at a time, longevity pay increase, protected status retirement for the jail/dispatch. Luck talked about separating out the jail and dispatch as a future possibility. The wage study used county's that were comparable to our county but not necessarily our neighboring counties and that's where we lose people are to the neighboring counties.

Agenda Item #12: Budget Discussion for 2021: This will be on the agenda next month as budget information was just dispersed to the department.

Agenda Item #13: Discussion of radio tower project: The 911 system has taken precedence and is now live and working. Now that project has been completed the department will be working with IT to look into the radio project. A consultant has not been hired yet, that will be the next step in the project. This project is the next big

priority for the department. The main expense in this project is building tower sites and tower rental.

Agenda Item #14: Mapping, Radio System & Squad Updates: Porter stated that the new squad are waiting to be built. AED's have not been received for all the squads, \$25,000 was put into borrowing for these AED's, the department would like to move forward to get these AED's.

Agenda Item #15: Adjourn; Motion by Kerry Severson to adjourn until the regular LEJC meeting on Friday, August 14, 2020 at 9:00am. Second to this motion by David Turk. Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Office Manager, Amber Muckler