

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF JUDICIARY & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE**  
**on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**KCAB 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE ROOM**

**Members Present:** Zach Rodriguez, Laura Belsky, Brian Bashaw, Erin Decker, John Franco, YIG Ben Rothove, YIG Alexa Didinsky

**Members Excused:** Mark Nordigian, Jeff Wamboldt

**Others Present:** Cpt. Eric Klinkhammer, Sgt. Christopher Hannah, Clara Tappa, Mark Melotik, Ruth Dyson, Mitch Ferraro

**Meeting Called to Order:** 4:15 p.m. by Chairman Rodriguez

**Citizen Comments:** 4:15: None

**Supervisor Comments:** 4:15: None

**Chairman Comments:** 4:15 None

**Approval of the Minutes from March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023:** 4:15

**Motion by:** Decker

**Seconded by:** Belsky

**Approved:** unanimously

**Resolution from the Civil Service Commission:**

**Resolution to Approve the Appointment of Ruth Dyson to the Civil Service Commission**

**Motion by:** Decker    **Seconded by:** Belsky    **Approved:** unanimously

4:27: Clara Tappa, Director of Kenosha County Human Resources, presented. Ms. Dyson was not present at the start of the meeting, so this item was moved to present after the Follow Up Discussion Regarding ARPA Funds. Ms. Dyson did join Clara while she presented to answer any questions. Clara stated she was seeking approval for the County Executive's appointment of Ruth Dyson to the Civil Service Commission. Ms. Dyson will be succeeding Mr. Thomas Radmer. Ms. Dyson is an Alderwoman for the City of Kenosha and involved in various community activities.

Chairman Rodriguez thanked Ms. Dyson for putting her name forward. Chairman Rodriguez added that Ms. Dyson and himself share part of a District and with different events and concerns with their constituents she has always been there and a friendly face. Supervisor Bashaw thanked Ms. Dyson for stepping up. Supervisor Bashaw noted that she had interest in Love Inc. Supervisor Bashaw commended her, as he remembers when he was a decan in a church and they looked into Love Inc., which is a big and cumbersome mission. Ms. Dyson replied that she is still working on getting a team together so they can start forming the board. Supervisor Decker motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Belsky. Motion passes unanimously with no further discussion.

**Resolution from the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department:**

**Resolution to Approve the Appointment of Mark Melotik to serve as a member of the Kenosha County Local Emergency Planning Committee (Group #2 – Health Service)**

**Motion by:** Decker    **Seconded by:** Bashaw    **Approved:** unanimously

4:16: Sgt. Christopher Hannah the Director of Emergency Management for Kenosha County Sheriff's Department presented. Mark Melotik joined Sgt. Hannah to answer any questions from the committee. Sgt. Hannah stated he was seeking approval for County Executive Appointment #2023/23-32 to appoint Mark Melotik to serve as a three-year term as a member of the Local Emergency Planning Committee. Mark will serve under the Group #2 Health Services category. Supervisor Belsky stated that she had worked in non-profits with Mark and thought he would be a great candidate for the Local Emergency Planning Committee. Supervisor Decker motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Bashaw. Motion passes unanimously with no further discussion.

A Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Contract with Wisconsin DOT reimbursement of deputy sheriff wages for traffic control during the STH 50 reconstruction project Paddock Lake

**Motion by:** Decker      **Seconded by:** Belsky      **Approved:** unanimously

4:18: Operations Captain Eric Klinkhammer, of the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department, presented. Cpt. Klinkhammer stated that Hwy 50 was a disaster in Paddock Lake while undergoing construction. The highway is down to one lane in either direction, neither of the lanes allows for access to Central High School. The construction manager for the project contacted the Kenosha Sheriff's Department requesting an MOU to reimburse the department for assisting with traffic control. The only access to Central High School will be off of Hwy 83 off a road called Falcon Way, which is located by the school's tennis courts. Falcon Way does not have traffic lights. Cpt. Klinkhammer said that they started assisting with traffic control in anticipation of getting reimbursed. The State of Wisconsin will reimburse the Sheriff's Department for however many hours it takes a day. The Sheriff's Department is projecting it to take a half hour in the mornings and a half hour in the afternoons while school is in session.

Supervisor Belsky asked if Falcon Way went through a subdivision, Supervisor Decker replied it did not. Captain Klinkhammer stated that the Central High School Resource Officer will be used for the morning assignment, and the Village of Paddock Lake squad car for the afternoon assignment. The Sheriff's Department will then reimburse those entities for the time spent away from their assignments and will do this with the money they get from the State for the deputy's wages. Cpt. Klinkhammer said they are currently tracking the time because they have a control officer there.

Supervisor Belsky asked about sports at the high school on the weekends. Cpt. Klinkhammer replied that Spring sports are not as well attended and do not have traffic issues compared to football. The contract will run from now until January 2024 with a deputy covering traffic coming in and out of the school. Supervisor Bashaw asked the room if anyone knew the timing for the resurfacing project on Hwy 83, because that would put the Falcon Way entrance also then under construction. Supervisor Belsky replied that they would have to ask the Highway Director Clement Abongwa. Chairman Rodriguez asked if Falcon Way was part of the Hwy 83 that was just redone for Quik Trip. Supervisor Bashaw stated that it did not, that Falcon Way was right where the new pavement ends. Supervisor Decker asked if they were doing Hwy 83 north of 50 first. Supervisor Bashaw stated that he did not and there are a lot of other events that draw a lot of people to the high school such as theater and athletic events, and the current MOU is a narrow scope. Cpt. Klinkhammer stated that he was sure the Sheriff's Department would be assisting with graduation and other well attended events such as football. Cpt. Klinkhammer added that he was the School Resource Officer at Central High School in the 2000's and would only see those two large events. Supervisor Belsky stated that per Clement's report online, there is nothing report that will be starting on Hwy 83 any time soon. Cpt. Klinkhammer added that he heard rumors it would start after the school year had ended. Supervisor Bashaw said that it is a mess and requires more support than during the brief times during the day as it is a dangerous area right now.

Supervisor Rodriguez asked if this was a hard cap in the MOU, for instance if they estimate a total of an hour a day and its an hour and a half. Cpt. Klinkhammer replied that the State would reimburse the Sheriff's Department. Cpt. Klinkhammer replied that there is a cap in the contract of \$16k, but they didn't project that they will go over the cap based on the time they would need even if it was a few minutes here and there. Supervisor Decker motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Belsky. Motion passes unanimously with no further discussion.

***Follow Up Discussion Regarding the use of ARPA Funds Law Enforcement Agency Grant:***

4:23: Operations Captain Eric Klinkhammer, of the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department, presented. Cpt. Klinkhammer stated that they ordered the safety vests, 60 safety lights, and radar guns. There had been some switching because they were going to get some Fast ID Devices. Fast ID Devices are devices that somebody can put their finger on it next to a squad car and it will ID the person right there. The company that is the vendor for the jail for the Fast ID Devices is revamping their offerings, which will not be available until after the grant expires. Changes were made to purchase the radar guns and safety lights.

Chairman Rodriguez asked if all the ARPA funds had been used after these purchases. Cpt. Klinkhammer stated they had not, and the department was keeping their options open to other things that apply to the grant. The inability to not get the Fast ID Devices put a wrench in things, but they were still looking. Supervisor Rodriguez asked if the department was looking into mental health services, which he thought was part of the ARPA funds. Cpt. Klinkhammer replied that he did not think so at this time.

Supervisor Bashaw asked if the safety lights were strobes or a projection light. Cpt. Klinkhammer replied that the light strobes are red and blue, attach to the epilate, and activate at the push of a button. Cpt. Klinkhammer replied that they had been received that day and believed they were called “Angel Lights”. Supervisor Bashaw commented that it makes them highly visible and thought about the recent perpetrator at 142 out in the field a few weeks back, the lights would’ve been a good thing to have at the time. Chairman Rodriguez added that Sheriff Zoerner had told him the department expected to use the lights widespread for Country Thunder. Cpt. Klinkhammer replied that it was one of the reasons they purchased them, so if a deputy is in the middle of the crowd of 30k people, they can be turned on and be visible.

Chairman Rodriguez asked the committee if they wanted to follow up on this topic again. Supervisor Belsky stated that she would like to know. Supervisor Bashaw asked if the upcoming budget cycle was enough for an update. Chairman Rodriguez asked when the period for ARPA Funds end. Cpt. Klinkhammer replied that the money had to be spent by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Rodriguez asked Supervisor Belsky if she wanted a follow up in July, to which she replied she did not. Cpt. Klinkhammer added that the he did not know what the exact amount leftover is, but the department would be responsible with and only purchase needs that they have.

***Any Other Business Allowed by Law:***

4:29: Chairman Rodriguez commented that approvals for Country Thunder would be coming up soon, he had spoken with Sheriff Zoerner about it. Supervisor Decker asked if that was coming before the committee in July. Chairman Rodriguez replied that he believed so and would like to do tours of the grounds to avoid any past mishaps. Chairman Rodriguez said if the committee wanted a tour of the campgrounds and facilities that it should be before Country Thunder starts. This way they are out of the way of the Sheriff’s Department while they are dealing with the 30k attendees at the event.

***Meeting Adjourned:*** 4:29: on motion by Supervisor Decker; seconded by Supervisor Bashaw.

A recording of the meeting is available online at [kenoshacounty.org](http://kenoshacounty.org)

Respectfully Submitted,



Alyssa Werfelmann