

MINUTES OF MEETING OF JUDICIARY & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE
August 10, 2005
KCAB 2ND FLOOR COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE ROOM

Members Present: Jim Huff, Terry Rose, William Michel II, Susan Deschler

Others Present: Sheriff David Beth, Chief Deputy Charles Smith, Capt. Larry Apker, Chris
Wipper

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Jim Huff.

Citizen Comments: None

Supervisor Comments: None

Chairman Comments: None

Minutes Read: June 8, 2005, June 20, 2005 and July 13, 2005

Motion by: Rose

Seconded by: Michel

Approved: unanimously

Resolutions from the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department:

1) HIDTA FY 2004 Grant – Supplement Award

Motion by: Rose

Seconded by: Deschler

Approved: unanimously

Sheriff reported that this is for an additional \$14,000 by the federal Office of National Drug Control Policy under the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) initiative, which has been established to focus on disrupting and dismantling local, regional, and national-level drug and money laundering organizations. The grant funds have been awarded to support overtime costs for the Sheriff's Dept. Traffic Interdiction enforcement efforts to reduce organized drug distribution, drug related violent crime, and reduce demand for illegal drugs within the Milwaukee HIDTA region.

Supr. Huff asked for the revised grant total. Sheriff responded \$54,970.00

2) Recognize Unanticipated Federal Housing Revenue

Motion by: Rose

Seconded by: Michel II

Approved: unanimously

Sheriff reported that originally only about \$500,000 was allotted for overtime. Federal inmates create more overtime within the Jails and transportation costs. Gas cost is up substantially. Nearly 1 million is requested to cover these areas. Budgeted goals for federal inmate revenue was met by the end of June. KSD was told that when McHenry County opened their facility our federal inmate numbers would decrease, however, this did not happen. Numbers lowered for only a short period. Kenosha is still one of the top three facilities preferred for housing federal inmates. If to date population numbers continue through year-end, actual revenue is projected to exceed budgeted revenue by 1.4 to 1.6 million. Supr. Rose asked why the modification is being requested now before the money is actually received. Chief Deputy replied that they have budgeted in the past based on anticipated revenue and that some of the money is needed now. As the revenues come in money will be drawn to cover expenses.

Rose asked how much profit there is in housing federal inmates and if all overtime is directly related to federal inmates. Chief Deputy replied that most of the \$70/day is profit and that they knew from the

beginning that the original money budgeted for overtime would be at least \$800,000 deficient. The original overtime budget requested was cut by Administration to meet budget limits. Capt. Apker reported that last year he did an audit and determined that the actual cost per inmate is about \$20/day. The more inmates the lower the cost per inmate. The Federal Government reimburses us for mileage and medical costs for federal inmates. Huff commented that it is still cost effective to house federal inmates because tax levy of at least 2.4 million is saved by applying the revenue towards expenses that would otherwise be funded by tax levy.

Rose asked what equipment is needed. Sheriff responded digital recording, copy machines, kitchen equipment, etc. Supr. Michel asked if these modifications would cover expenses through the end of the year. Sheriff answered that projections do indicate so. Chief Deputy added that the average number of federal inmates being housed is 120/day. McHenry County is full and today we have 134 federal inmates. Usage of other Wisconsin Jails is decreasing, not ours. KSD is confident that these numbers will continue. Michel asked what number was used originally to budget for federal inmate revenue. Chief Deputy responded 80 inmates/day. Capt. Apker informed the Committee that year-end for the Federal Government is September 30. Last year towards this time they had tighter restraints and were only housing Credible Fear Inmates (Inmates that could be harmed if they return to their countries). This year the Federal Government bumped their numbers up from 500 to 700 so we are not even experiencing a decrease in numbers at this time. Michel asked where funds would go if we receive more revenue than what will be used by this Budget Modification. Projections show that there may even be another approximately \$600,000. Chief Deputy responded that they might come back to ask for more equipment, otherwise, it would go to the General Fund.

Kenosha County Sheriff's Department Report Regarding Country Thunder 2005:

Sheriff reported that he was at the festival 4 out of 6 days. A comment he heard by a young lady was that she was not coming back next year because KSD took all the fun out. He translates this as successful. County Ordinance Citations were high, a total of 288. Violent crimes were kept away from the grounds. Seven agencies assisted working out of the Command Post. Next year he will probably recommend a few more officers on grounds because when it was crowded it was hard to get from one place to another. The Thursday night free ticket night caused a gridlock until 3:30 a.m. Some people who paid could not get into the festival. This will be addressed and resolved with Country Thunder before next year. 60-100,000 free tickets were given out. Rain caused parking problems because of mud and cars getting stuck. Parking attendants were from a church group and had little experience in handling large numbers. No one was forced to overtime. Entertainment was good. Some issues still need to be addressed in the campground. The campground may be taken over by Genoa City next year.

Capt. Apker said that he was at the festival every night. The two sensitive crime detectives said that this if the first time nothing was on their desks after Country Thunder. There would have been even more arrests with more officers but people knew they were there. He agreed that additional officers are still needed on the festival grounds. Chief Deputy reported that KSD took 50% of the assignments in the festival and campground and 80% of the traffic assignments. Coordinating was a monumental task accomplished by Capt. Apker. Saturday there was a squall line, sirens sounded, and the grounds were evacuated. All officers were even evacuated to Twin Lakes. The severe storm did end up missing Country Thunder. All of the assisting agencies took the assignments well. Sheriff said that before next year a determination would have to be made of what is acceptable. The violence was reduced to almost nothing and there was no severe violence. The intoxication level was high because people knew they were there for several days without needing to drive.

Huff reported that people living in the area were unable to get to their residences. He suggested that better signage is needed, especially for VIP parking. Also possibly some type of permit could be issued to residents allowing them privileged ingress and egress, through barricades, etc. People were surprised at the great numbers of people. He also recommended a suggestion box or email address for input for next year. Michel asked if the money posted for bond was sufficient for expenses. Sheriff said that they are still putting the numbers together and would bill if need be. Michel asked if a tax could be applied to campsites sold. Chief Deputy said that he is not aware of any tax now. Country Thunder has an agreement with the property owner to use the land. Huff said that there is an entertainment tax in the city. Chief Deputy said that Corporation Counsel could be asked to look into this. Michel asked if there could be a limit to tickets given. Sheriff said that Country Thunder would be told to make changes or KSD will not recommend the event next year. Michel suggested consulting the Highway Dept. about putting in an extra lane. Sheriff said that Larry Brumbach is looking into this. Michel said that some neighbors complained about the noise. Chief said that there are decibel level restrictions and these restrictions have not yet been exceeded. Decibel levels are measured by KSD. He also said that some area residents were allowing parking on their property for a fee. Michel asked that if the campground were annexed to Genoa City would Kenosha County still be involved. Chief Deputy replied yes.

Any Other Business Allowed by Law: None

Meeting adjourned: At 7:55 p.m. on motion by Rose, seconded by Michel.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna L. DeBree