

MINUTES OF MEETING OF JUDICIARY & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE
May 9, 2007
KCAB 2ND FLOOR COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE ROOM

Members Present: William Michel II, Joseph Clark, Bob Haas, Ruth Booth, David Arrington

Others Present: Sheriff David Beth, Chief Deputy Charles Smith, Lt. Mark Schlecht, Nancy Otis, Sue Marcinkus, Josh Nielsen, Ben Schliesman

Meeting Called to Order: 8:00 p.m. by Chairman William Michel II

Citizen Comments: Sue Marcinkus reported that the mayor has approached the County Executive about changing the reimbursement costs of Joint Services. He proposed three options: 1) City take over Joint Services and charge the County agencies; 2) County take over Joint Services with the County levying a tax on the citizens accordingly; 3) Split Joint Services with the City paying for the Records and Evidence/Identification Departments and the County paying for the Communications and Fleet Maintenance Departments. The County Executive did not comment at that time. There will be a special Joint Services Board meeting to address how to respond to this request on June 25 at 5 p.m. The JLEC Committee requested this be brought to their June meeting and would like either the County Executive or Assistant County Executive to attend. Supervisor Haas said he would like statistics and percentages of calls for the City and County.

Supervisor Comments: None

Chairman Comments: None

Resolution from the Kenosha County Executive:

1) Appointment of Dr. Mary Mainland to the Kenosha County Traffic Safety Commission

Motion by: Clark **Seconded by:** Haas **Approved:** unanimously

Dr. Mainland's appointment shall be effective immediately upon the confirmation of the County Board and continuing until a successor is appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors. Dr. Mainland will be succeeding Dr. Maureen Lavin.

Resolution from the Office of the Corporation Counsel:

1) A Resolution Urging Congress to Amend Federal Law to Allow Federal Financial Participation in Providing Medical Benefits to Incarcerated Individuals Until Convicted and Sentenced to Secure Detention

Motion by: Clark **Seconded by:** Booth **Approved:** unanimously

Currently FFP is not available in expenditures for services provided to individuals who are inmates of public institutions. States being unable to assume the federal share of providing medical services to FFP eligible persons being held in county jails and detention facilities, tend to terminate or sometimes suspend eligibility. This immediate cessation of benefits occurs prior to the issuance of formal charges or conviction. As a result of this regulation to immediately cease FFP for medical benefits, all costs of medical care must be borne solely by counties.

Supr. Clark asked the Sheriff for his opinion on this. Sheriff Beth said that he is definitely for this resolution, however, believes it will be hard to get passed.

Resolution from the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department:

1) Authorize Increase in Sworn Sergeant FTE

Motion by: Clark

Seconded by: Arrington

Approved: unanimously

Sheriff Beth provided statistics of the average number of federal inmates: 2002 – 30/day; 2003 – 81/day; 2004 – 131/day; 2005 – 146/day; 2006 – 113/day; 2007 to date 160/day. A few months ago a new location, US Marshall Milwaukee, asked us to take a few prisoners. We now have 50 to 80. Since the beginning of the year they have turned down more than 80 inmates. Several conveyance trips are needed per day. This year KSD expects about 1 million in unanticipated revenue. Overtime is at an all-time high. US Marshall asked us to hold prisoners for a weekend and we used the gym at the KCDC. There is an overwhelming burden on the staff that runs conveyance. Conveyance has 1 lieutenant, 1 sergeant and 9 deputies. The unit previously had 2 sergeants, however, they pulled one and added a lieutenant (Lt. Schlecht) because of the burden. Construction will begin soon to add 118 cells at KCDC. This resolution asks for 1 FTE sergeant to work in conveyance. Sgt. Johnson has been doing some conveyance duties, however, needs to go back to the jail. Supr. Arrington commented that KSD does a good job and that needed support should be given. They have the best idea of what is needed. He made a motion to approve the resolution, however, it was not seconded at this time.

Supr. Haas commented that the revenue from two inmates pays for a sergeant. Sheriff said \$35,000 is needed for 2007. They will have paid for this by Sunday at the current rate. Clark said the issue is not with need. When a job is created it is difficult to eliminate it. He asked that if the numbers reach a certain sustained decreased level for 3 or 4 months that this could come back to the Committee. We all have different responsibilities. Chief Deputy said that they should have added personnel a while ago, then when the numbers jumped by 100 there was no longer a choice. Supervisors are working 9-13 hour days. They do not want to fund by tax levy, they want to fund by revenue. The situation has gone from serious to critical. Sheriff said that he has eliminated 1 captain, 2 sergeants, and 1 detective since he took office. Clark said he would trust KSD would bring this forth when necessary, however, he will watch this. Sheriff said they could also see at budget time. Chief Deputy explained that KSD has a report with amounts billed and received, average numbers and whether above or below budget. They watch this carefully. At the end of March revenue was \$102,000 above budget. In July they will have to ask for money for food, supplies, fuel and overtime because numbers are so much higher than budgeted for. In 2008 they plan to increase the number to budget for. At risk issues have been brought forth in the past. Michel asked if jailers would be needed. Sheriff said this would have to be proposed. Michel commented about the gas savings that would result by utilizing video conferencing. Sheriff said the federal government reimburses us for gas, overtime, and mileage. Video conferencing is in the works.

Any Other Business Allowed by Law: None

Meeting Adjourned: 8:45 p.m. on motion by Haas, seconded by Arrington.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna L. DeBree