

MINUTES OF MEETING OF JUDICIARY & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE
October 17, 2011
KCAB 2ND FLOOR COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE ROOM

Members Present: William Michel II, Bob Haas, Ronald L. Johnson, David Singer, Ronald J. Frederick, Robert Zerban, John Grulich, Cole Andrekas (YIG)

Others Present: Sheriff David Beth, Capt. Larry Apker, Nancy Otis, Larry Zarletti, Nick Kasmer, Edward Kubicki, Michael Underhill, Scott Remer

Meeting Called to Order: 6:07 p.m. by Chairman William Michel II

Citizen Comments: 6:08 p.m.: Larry Zarletti, 7815 – 46th Avenue, Kenosha, WI, Spoke on the Sheriff's request to purchase a new mobile command post. It is a topic of interest to him since it was purchased when he was Sheriff. It was purchased from the Wisconsin State Patrol for just over 100,000.00, all of which came from drug forfeiture funds. The vehicle had been regularly maintained with repairs along with various replacements. At that time it was five or seven years old and it has been about twelve years since then. The vehicle has seen better days. The value of this vehicle to law enforcement is priceless. He believes that using the surplus from the inmate revenue is a reasonable request to purchase this much needed vehicle and encourages the committee to approve this resolution along with County Board. He appreciates the time and the ability to speak tonight.

Nick Kasmer, 6517 – 94th Avenue, Kenosha, WI., AFSCME. Requests that the surplus funds not be used for the mobile command unit, but towards personnel. He believes that the proposal for a schedule change for the jail employees will result in a reduction in pay for them. He recognizes the fact that the Sheriff needs various equipment to perform his duties, but at the same time believes it is not fair to ask employees to take massive hits when spending a fair amount of money on this mobile command center.

Sheriff David Beth, 1000 – 55th Street, Kenosha, WI responded to Mr. Kasmer's comments. He is not exactly sure that all the correction officers understand the 5242 schedule. He proceeded to explain that currently there are 260 work days for a correctional officer. The 5-2-4-2 schedule is 252 works days. The employee is not going to lose those eight work days. Approximately, every six weeks they will have one 32 hour work week and will be given the option to pick up any overtime shift during that week or choose not to work the extra 8 hours.

Supervisor Comments: 6:20 p.m.: Supvr. Zerban stated that he is disappointed that the 171 was brought up again with the 5-2-4-2 work week for the jail. It has not been approved yet and believes it should be discussed at committee.

Chairman Comments: 6:21 p.m.: Supvr. Michel thanked the Sheriff for coordinating having the three mobile command centers here for viewing and also thanking the board for this additional meeting for the Sheriff's Department budget.

Minutes Read: 6:22 p.m.: October 5, 2011 Meeting

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

Presentation of 2012 Sheriff's Department Budget:

Motion by: Singer **Seconded by:** Frederick **Approved:** unanimously

6:24 p.m.: Sheriff Beth stated that since he had presented the budget at the October 5, 2011, he believes he is here for questions and answers?

Supvr. Singer asked if the motivation for the 171 hours was for additional savings. Sheriff Beth indicated that the Governor had given boards tools to take advantage of savings. He believes that it was designed to be fair to the employees and believes that working 40 hours is fair.

Supvr. Michel questioned which budget line covered those items and if there were breakdowns by area. Currently, the 2011 projected is basically 1.9 million and the budget for 2012 is one million. How is that accomplished?

Nancy Otis said that they never budget fully for the overtime that is being used when the budget is being prepared. A certain amount is done, the rest is usually from unspent salaries. There are unfilled positions and budget modifications are requested throughout the year on those funds, which allows the department to move money from salaries to overtime. In the past, surplus revenue from federal inmates was used to supplement overtime when there was not enough from regular salaries.

Supvr. Michel – overtime budget is \$150,000.00 correct?

Nancy Otis – what has been submitted to the County Executive's budget has been reduced by \$165,000.00 in consideration of the savings anticipated by the 171 hours in a 28 day period.

Supvr. Michel – Last year it was projected at 16.7 million and in 2012, 18 million in salaries. Was there a substantial amount of positions not filled?

Nancy Otis – People vacating positions due to retirements, or they are hired and don't make probation.

Supvr. Frederick – Asked if the overtime would be covered under the 171 hours that will be adopted separately from the figures that are being done now, correct?

Supvr. Zerban – the 171 hours is something that is on a separate report and will be addressed separately after the budget.

Sheriff Beth - County Executive has already budgeted for the overtime. They took \$160,000.00 from the budget due to the 5-2-4-2 schedule being able to accommodate the \$160,000.00 reduction. There will always be overtime due to vacations, A/S, casuals, but with this schedule it will be much less.

Supvr. Singer – clarified that they would not need a budget modification to accommodate the Sheriff's budget at this meeting because the schedule change is more of a policy change and the administration will have to bring it to committee.

Supvr. Michel asked if any of the supervisors present that are not on this committee would like to ask the Sheriff any questions.

Supvr. Underhill – asked is the 40 hours still in effect right now?

Sheriff - Yes, until the end of the year.

Supvr. Michel had a question about the federal inmates. In 2010 it was budgeted for 6.5 million, and it was actually 7 million for 2011. How did it increase by \$500,000.00?

Supvr. Zerban stated that at finance last year at budget time, they did not want it budgeted at what was because they wanted to be more conservative. That way, if there was extra money, it would go back.

Sheriff Beth stated that the federal inmates started out strong, but now we are down to 239. Believes that this may be due to President Obama reducing the dollar amounts and they started releasing more people. We average about 264 inmates. He also stated that the correction officers, under the new proposed policy, are slated to lose about six vacation days. He asked the committee to please consider leaving them their current vacation/casual days to save at least what they currently have. His proposed new schedule took into account the current vacations that each employee currently has.

Supvr. Haas commented on what the jail employees have to deal with when dealing with inmates. If we have people willing to stay and work in the jail, then we shouldn't take away days just because the Governor gave us the tools to do so.

Supvr. Singer thanked and commended the Sheriff on a tough budget issue. Supvr. Michel also commended the Sheriff on taking the time to insure that the proper safety issues were covered and it's unfortunate that there isn't more money.

Resolution from the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department:

- 1). Modify 2011 Budget to Recognize Surplus Revenue to Cover Anticipated Expenditures and Purchase a Mobile Command Vehicle. (MODIFIED – REMOVED LANGUAGE TO PURCHASE A MOBILE COMMAND VEHICLE)

Motion by: Zerban

Seconded by: Singer

Approved: unanimously

6:58 p.m.: Sheriff Beth thanked everyone for coming early to view the three command vehicles. The LDV representative, Scott Remer is here to answer any questions you may have. The sheet that was just passed, shows the history of the federal inmate housing. Since 2002 and slated through 2011, 36 million dollars in anticipated revenue has been generated and an additional 9.3 million dollars in unanticipated revenue, for a total revenue of \$46 million in federal inmate revenue. This money has helped the County support different things throughout the county. Over the last nine years, after supporting everything else that the County has wanted to do, the department has been able to turn back to the general fund roughly 4.2 million dollars. He has been trying to get grants to cover this command post since he has been in office and unable to do so. The current command post is 21 years old and has served the County well, but is no longer reliable and cannot be used as it is. Currently, if there is a situation where a command post is needed, a generator would have to be found just to keep the lights inside of it operational for any length of time. The vehicle was used outside the building during the power outage from the windstorm that took the power down for 30 hours. It was hooked up to several generators to make it work so that the Sergeants had an office to work in because the building had no electricity. If the Dispatch Center ever goes down, the command post will be the backup dispatch center as well.

Supvr. Michel asked how much it would cost to refurbish the current command post. Mr. Remer stated that it would have to be gutted and he could not give an estimate at this time because he cannot see the vehicle internally. It is still a 21 year old vehicle, engine and transmission. He couldn't even rebuild it right now and say that it would last a year, five, or ten years. It is a 21 year old vehicle.

Sheriff Beth stated that when they tried to use it one time, it took almost two hours to get it started and had to be escorted by a squad in front and back due to the lights not working. Currently the unit cannot be used for what it is intended for.

Supvr. Zerban stated he would like to look into that instead of the Sheriff's Department owning the command post, could it be something that Joint Services owns since the vehicle would benefit both City and County.

Supvr. Frederick stated that he still cannot justify this expense with the current economy and cannot support this purchase.

Supvr. Zerban asked for estimates to fix the current problems so that the unit can be used. What are the different price ranges for different command posts – bottom range mid range and up. Needs to see the different numbers for all the scenarios and would like to see a better proposal. Would like to support this, but needs the numbers. He would like to see the Mobile Command Unit to be on its own so that the other items

may be dealt with since they are expenses that have already been incurred and have to be paid.

Sheriff Beth stated that he has all the specs for the different repairs with an itemized list of costs and the trade in value. He apologized for not bringing it with him tonight.

Supvr. Singer requested that we modify the Resolution to remove the Mobile Command Unit and bring it forward in a separate Resolution and approve the remaining expenditures requested on this resolution.

Supvr. Michel – Motion to amend the Resolution to remove the Mobile Command Unit.

Any Other Business Allowed by Law:

7:59 p.m.: None

Meeting Adjourned:

8:00 p.m. on motion by Singer,
seconded by Frederick.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Battellini