

Port Washington, WI
September 8, 2011

The Public Safety Committee met in Room 240 at the Justice Center.

Present: Supervisors Szatkowski, Niehaus, Curtis (8:35am), Walker, and Meyer. Staff: County Administrator Meaux, Sheriff Straub, Coroner Holicek, District Attorney Gerol, Emergency Management Director Owen, Captains Johnson and Guss, Clerk of Courts M. Mueller, and Administrative Support Supervisor Mihalko.

Others present: Dr. Steven Zils

Absent: Supervisor Slater

Call to Order/Proper Notice/Adoption of Agenda: Meeting called to order by Chairperson Szatkowski at 8:30AM. Assurance that the meeting was properly noticed, so noted by Ms. Winkelhorst. Motion made by Supervisor Meyer, seconded by Supervisor Niehaus to adopt the agenda as presented. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. (4-0)

Public Comments/Correspondence/Communications: There were none.

Approve Minutes from the August 11 Meeting: Motion made by Supervisor Walker, seconded by Supervisor Meyer to approve the August 11 minutes as submitted. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. (4-0).

Coroner:

Action Item:

Review/Approve Amending the County Code of Ordinances – Coroner’s Fees: Mr. Holicek explained that the proposed 2012 budget assumes additional revenue based on a revised fee structure. This is still lower than some other counties but not unreasonable. The ordinance reflects an increase of \$25 for signing of death certificates and issuance of cremation permits.

8:35AM Supervisor Curtis now in attendance.

Motion made by Supervisor Niehaus, seconded by Supervisor Walker to approve the recommended increases. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. (5-0) This will move forward to the County Board for final approval.

Management/Financial Report: The report was included in the packet. There were no further questions.

District Attorney:

Management/Financial Report: Mr. Gerol provided an update on the need for file storage, explaining that the scanning and copying machines need to be updated and he is anticipating that there are additional revenues that may be used to offset this cost. He has removed the \$10,000 that was included in the proposed 2012 budget for additional equipment.

Clerk of Courts:

Action Item:

Review/Approve Amending the Policy & Procedure Manual – Juror Fees: Chairperson Szatkowski requested that Ms. Mueller bring this item to the committee with a recommendation. Per the documentation that was included in the packet, there is a significant savings if the fees are reduced. Ms. Mueller has suggested reducing the rate from \$25 per half day to \$12.50.

Supervisor Meyer opposes this reduction as \$25 a full day equates to approximately \$3 per hour. The juror can spend this time in sequestration in small windowless rooms, forced to listen to testimony and then being asked to make important decisions. Some employers will reimburse the difference of lost wages but most do not. It costs the County money but it is a

cost of the justice system. It is hard enough to get jurors to serve and the current \$50 per day is still cheap and jurors are grossly underpaid. There should be other adjustments made to Ms. Mueller's budget for savings besides cutting juror pay.

Supervisor Walker noted that only one other county in the state pays the same fee. The rest are lower.

Chairperson Szatkowski commented that \$56,000 was lost in State revenues as well as revenues from the City of Mequon. Her opinion is that serving on a jury is our duty as citizens of this country and should be voluntary. People aren't even aware that they get a reimbursement when asked to serve.

Motion made by Chairperson Szatkowski, seconded by Supervisor Curtis to approve amending the Policy & Procedure Manual to reduce the rate paid to jurors from \$25 for half day service to \$12.50 for half day service. The majority of members present voting aye. Motion carried. (4-1) Meyer opposed.

Management/Financial Report: Reports included in the packet. There were no further questions.

Chairperson Szatkowski requested to move ahead in the agenda to discuss emergency medical dispatch. There were no objections.

Sheriff's Department:

Discussion Items:

Emergency Medical Dispatch: Out of Hospital Medical Director Steven Zils conducted a presentation on Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD). Included in the presentation was the definition of EMD; review of response times; key components of EMD; and organizations that recommend EMD including the Ozaukee County EMS Advisory Board that voted to support this concept at their last meeting.

Supervisor Walker inquired as to whether there was any liability to the County if a dispatcher provides the wrong assistance. Dr. Zils explained that the answer is no because EMD is a very structured process. There are medical protocols that are developed with oversight from medical personnel. These protocols are step by step instructions provided on the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system.

Supervisor Meyer inquired about transferring a call to a hospital for emergency directions instead of using an EMD. Dr. Zils explained the difference and the effectiveness with the EMD providing directions over the phone as they are trained versus the doctor whose training on emergencies is directly with the person in front of them.

Dr. Zils stated that rough estimates for the cost of training are \$45,000 for the initial implementation of the system which would include training for 10 dispatchers, software for the consoles in the communication center, and technical support to link the current CAD system with the EMD software. The ongoing cost estimate is \$2,000 to \$3,000 per year for software and protocol upgrades. Discussion on staffing needs. Dr. Zils encourages the committee to speak with other counties that currently have EMD.

9:50AM Recess

9:55AM Reconvene

Chairperson Szatkowski reverted back to the order of the agenda.

Motion made by Supervisor Walker, seconded by Supervisor Meyer to enter into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(b) of the WI State Statutes. Roll call vote was taken. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. (5-0)

Sheriff's Department cont.:

Closed Session – Pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(b) of the WI State Statute: Personnel Discipline: Entered into closed session at 9:56AM. Present: Szatkowski, Walker, Niehaus, Curtis, Meyer, Meaux, Straub, Guss, Owen, Johnson, and Winkelhorst.

Motion made by Supervisor Meyer, seconded by Supervisor Niehaus, to reconvene into open session. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. (5-0)

Open Session: Entered into open session at 10:11AM. Present: Szatkowski, Walker, Niehaus, Curtis, Meyer, Meaux, Straub, Guss, Owen, Johnson, and Winkelhorst.

Action Items:

Approval of Disciplinary Action: Motion made by Supervisor Niehaus, seconded by Supervisor Meyer to approve the Sheriff's recommendation regarding disciplinary action. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. (5-0)

Review/Approve Request to Fill Dispatcher, OPEIU, Pay Grade 8, Full-time Position and to Exceed Job Related Experience Credit: Sheriff Straub explained that this position is vacant due to resignation of a dispatcher in June. There was an opportunity to hire a candidate with 8 years of experience and an offer was given. Sheriff Straub further explained that in hindsight it was realized that permission was not given by this committee or the Finance Committee. Subsequently it was approved by the Finance Committee pending approval of this committee.

Sheriff Straub further requested that per the Policy & Procedure Manual a 10% increase which would equal the current lowest paid dispatcher is being requested due to experience. The Finance Committee did approve hiring at 10% above the starting wage at a step 3.

Motion made by Supervisor Niehaus, seconded by Supervisor Walker to approve the request to fill the Dispatcher, OPEIU, pay grade 8, full-time position and to approve the 10% above the starting wage at a step 3. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. (5-0)

Discussion Items cont.:

Emergency Medical Dispatch cont: Sheriff Straub continued the discussion of Emergency Medical Dispatch with the committee.

Bike Trail Designation: Sheriff Straub explained that there is a conflict in the statutory language as it relates to the bike trail and whether the bicyclist or the vehicle needs to yield at a crosswalk. From a public safety standpoint he doesn't want vehicular traffic to stop for bicycles at the trail crossings and certainly doesn't want bicyclists to believe that they have the right of way. Sheriff Straub has been working with Corporation Counsel to develop some language for a county wide ordinance, but it appears that municipalities would have their own applications in the statutes. Discussion on the inconsistencies that exist not only within the municipalities but also with the drivers and bicyclists.

Sheriff Straub would like to resolve this so that if there is a problem it is defined to who is in the right or wrong. He will continue to research this and work with Corporation Counsel.

Sheriff's Report: Four new deputies have started, one will start next week and two are going through the screening process.

Management/Financial Reports: Chairperson Szatkowski commented that two Freedom Life Skills Programs have been completed. This program has proven effective in reducing recidivism. Through the grant we will be able to run five programs and after that funding will be needed to continue. This is part of the fund raising that will take place at the Autumn Open.

The Criminal Justice Collaborating Council (CJCC) is facing an issue where there is nothing in place, such as a half-way house or counseling after release, to help these individuals adhere to what they learned in the program. This is a goal of the CJCC to move in this direction.

Reports were distributed. There were no questions.

Training and Conference Reports: Training and conference reports were submitted and approved.

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, October 13, at 8:30AM

Adjournment: Motion made by Supervisor Meyer, seconded by Supervisor Niehaus to adjourn. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. (5-0)

Meeting adjourned at 10:50AM

Julianne B. Winkelhorst, County Clerk