

**Minutes**  
**Law Enforcement/Emergency Management Committee**  
**January 19, 2010**

Members present: Geraldine VanTassel, Paul Halderson, Deloras Vind and Rob Reichwein.

Also present: Sheriff Richard Anderson, Lt. Tonya Niederkorn, Sgt. Joan Koval, Emergency Management Director Dan Schreiner, Debra Boyd, Phil Borreson Chief Deputy Brian Puent and Human Resources Director Jami Kabus.

The meeting was called to order by Van Tassel at 9:30 a.m. stating proper posting and notification has met open meeting requirements. Motion by Halderson and seconded by Reichwein. Motion carried 4-0. There was a request to change the order of the items on the agenda. There was discussion on the potential need to revise the order of the agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Reichwein and seconded by Halderson to accept the December 15, 2009 meeting minutes as submitted. Motion carried 4-0.

***Jail Addresses***

*On-Call Crisis Worker* – On-Call Crisis Worker services for the County was done through Franciscan Skemp Healthcare. This included on-site mental health services for the jail. Recently, there was a change made regarding mental health services at which time the County switched services to Northwest Counseling. The switch created issues with mental health care plan services needed within the jail environment. The Sheriff's Department has been working with Phil Borreson of the Trempealeau County Healthcare Center to contract services with Debra Boyd who would be able to provide the on-call crisis worker services needed within the jail. The liability for this contract and bookkeeping will be done through the Trempealeau County Healthcare Center.

The committee reviewed the contract for mental health services between Debra Boyd, Trempealeau County Healthcare Center and Trempealeau County Sheriff's Department. The committee also had discussion on funding for these services. At the time budgets were prepared/passed the Sheriff's Department was not aware of the change in mental health services that were being made within the County and the impact those changes would have on mental health services for the jail. At this time the Sheriff's Department is not requesting any additional funds to support the mental health services outlined in the contract.

Debra Boyd also advised the committee of the variety of services that she would be able to provide, including crisis therapy, employee training and review of policy and procedures.

**Motion by Reichwein and seconded by Halderson supporting the contract between Debra Boyd, On-Call Crisis Worker, Trempealeau County Healthcare Center and Trempealeau County Sheriff's Department. Motion carried 4-0.**

*Workender Program* – Lt. Tonya Niederkorn and Sgt. Joan Koval presented the committee with information regarding the Rock County Workender Program. The same presentation will also be given to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for further consideration.

***Deputy (Patrol Officer) Personnel Requisition – Fill Vacancy***

Sheriff Anderson advised the committee that as of January 29, 2010 Deputy Roxane McDonah will retire from the Trempealeau County Sheriff's Department. At the time of her retirement Deputy McDonah was filling the position as DARE Officer and Bailiff (Court Security Officer) for the Trempealeau County Sheriff's Department. The sheriff's department not only provides security for the Circuit Court but the Family Court Commissioner as well.

The personnel requisition is to fill this vacant Deputy (Patrol Officer) position. The funds for this position have been included in the 2010 budget.

**Motion by Halderson and seconded by Reichwein to fill the vacant Deputy (Patrol Officer) position. Motion carried 4-0.**

*Closed Session per WI Stat 19.85(1)(c) - to Consider Employment, Promotion Compensation or Performance Evaluation Data of a Public Employee Over Which the Governmental Body has Jurisdiction or Exercises Responsibility*

**Motion by Halderson and seconded by Reichwein to enter into closed session. Roll call vote: Reichwein, yes; Vind, yes; Halderson, yes; and VanTassel, yes.**

No action taken during closed session.

**Motion by Reichwein and seconded by Vind to enter into open session. Roll call vote: Reichwein, yes; Vind, yes; Halderson, yes; and VanTassel, yes.**

***Hiring Process/Eligibility List***

This topic will be tabled until the February meeting.

***Potential FEMA Aid to Firefighters Grant***

Schreiner advised that the Whitehall Fire Department applied for a FEMA Aid grant. It appears promising that the Whitehall Fire Department will be awarded this grant although that is not certain at this time. It is expected that if this grant is awarded it will be awarded in April of this year.

The grant request was just over \$1 million, to include equipment for fire departments throughout the county as well as five repeaters that would be part of the County's Communication System. The initial cap for the grant was \$1 million. If the grant is awarded and the cost of the repeaters is included in the award there would be a need for a 10% match towards the cost of the repeaters. The initial grant request included \$190,000 for the five repeaters.

***Narrowbanding***

Schreiner advised that currently a frequency is 25 megahertz wide. In an effort to free up more frequencies the federal government is mandating that everyone go to frequencies that are 12 megahertz wide. This is mandated to be done by 2013. Any equipment that has recently been purchased or is to be purchased in conjunction with the communication project is narrowbandable. This includes all public safety radios county wide. There will be a future need to budget for programming and licensing to update the radios to meet the narrowbanding requirements. Schreiner advised he is not requesting funds at this time. He just wanted to advise the committee that they are working with local police departments, EMS personnel and fire departments to ensure that everyone is on the same page for these updates. The County will be responsible for funding their equipment and each municipal agency would then be responsible for funding their equipment. The coordination is ensuring that all updates are made during the same timeline.

***Centurylink Contract (9-1-1)***

Schreiner advised that he is continuing negotiations with Centurylink regarding the new 9-1-1 contract. Centurylink has advised that because the number of landlines has decreased the County will need to cover the difference in cost.

***Use of Highway Department Van***

Schreiner advised that this issue has been resolved. He further advised the committee when they had a site visit for the communication project he rented the van from the Highway Department. He was told when the van returned he was to fill it with fuel and he then received a bill for mileage as well. This was an error and has been resolved and the Highway Department has reimbursed Emergency Management for the cost of the fuel.

***West End Parking***

Schreiner advised he would like the committee to make a decision/recommendation on the West End Parking. If there is an emergency within the jail that would require the fire department to respond there are a minimum of five parking spots on the west end of the building that would create an issue with the fire department's response to the emergency.

There is also a liability concern associated with evacuating inmates and adequate response from the fire department in case of an emergency response needs.

**Motion by Vind and seconded by Reichwein that because of safety concerns the Property Committee consider eliminating parking on the west side of the courthouse parking lot.**

***Emergency Management 2009 Budget Carryover Communication Project***

Trempealeau County contracted with Elert and Associates in 2008 for phases II and II of the communication project. The agreed upon cost for that contract was \$36,000.00 plus expenses up to \$6,000.00. Those monies were placed into the Emergency Government 2009 budget (101.52600.210 Professional Services). The County to-date has only been billed for (and paid) \$30,236.68 of the agreed upon \$42,000.00

The resolution recommends to the Trempealeau County Board of Supervisors that the Trempealeau County Emergency Management Department be authorized to carryover \$11,763.32 from its 2009 budget surplus with the entire \$11,763.32 being placed into the Emergency Government professional services account (101.52600.210) in the 2010 budget.

**Motion by Halderson and seconded by Reichwein to forward the Emergency Management 2009 Budget Carryover Communication Project Resolution to Executive/Finance Committee. Motion carried 4-0.**

***Communication Project Presentation***

There was no need to go into closed session while discussing this topic as all the necessary information has not been received. Schreiner advised that they are still waiting for pertinent information from some of the vendors in order to compare apples to apples. At this time they are working with proposals from four vendors regarding the communication project.

Schreiner advised that there is a request for a special Law Enforcement/Emergency Management Meeting on Thursday, January 28, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. in the Packer Room. Representatives from Elert and Associates will also be present at that meeting.

Schreiner further advised that he is hoping to accept bids in March of 2010.

***Electronic Monitoring and Jail Census***

Trempealeau County Average Jail Population = 27.87  
Average Out-of-County Jail Population = 18.26  
Average Electronic Monitoring Population = 5.00  
Total Average Jail Population = 51.13

***Discussion of General Operations***

The committee discussed the release of inmates from the state prison system and the potential impact their release will have on the local jail population. Vind questioned if the release of inmates from the state prison system has had an impact on the jail population. Sheriff Anderson advised that since the releases have just recently taken place the county jail has not noticed an impact at this time. Vind advised that many of the individuals being released from the state prison system have felony convictions and are repeat offenders. She does not feel it is right that they should be released from the state prison system, at which time they return to the local community and have the potential of ending up in the county jail. She further advised this seems to conflict with legislation that requires they serve their full sentence. Sheriff Anderson advised that this is an alternative to jail, just like many of our local programs, and these programs allow for inmates to be released from correctional facilities to save on housing costs.

The committee was also advised that the Sheriff's Department has received the final report from the Jail and Justice System Assessment conducted by NIC. Per request the report will be emailed to members of the Law Enforcement/Emergency Management Committee.

Sheriff Anderson wanted to take this opportunity to commend Carmen Wilson for all the work she has done raising funds for Hailey's vest and her continued efforts in raising funds for the drug canine.

***Questions Regarding Monthly Vouchers***

Monthly expenditures were reviewed by the committee.

***Set Next Meeting Date/Time***

The monthly Law Enforcement/Emergency Management Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. in the Sheriff's Office.

VanTassel, adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

Rebecca Suchla  
Office/Fiscal Manager