

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
May 8, 2014

Chair Frank McCoy called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Committee members present:

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| Frank McCoy | John Mitchell | Jerry Cade |
| Frank Easterday | Kevin Gobel | |
| Sheriff John Spears | Chief Deputy Nathan Campbell | |

McCoy confirmed that the Agenda was properly posted. Gobel moved to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2014 meeting. Cade seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Coroner's invoices were reviewed and explanations provided as requested. Cade moved and Mitchell seconded a motion to pay the invoices in the sum of \$2,520.28, which motion passed unanimously. Income for April was \$1200.

The Sheriff's invoices were reviewed and explanations provided as requested. Cade moved and Gobel seconded a motion to pay the invoices in the sum of \$39,374.89, which motion passed unanimously.

Sheriff Spears indicated in his report that call numbers are up, and we had three highway fatalities recently. In both cases, drivers were passing into oncoming traffic and it was not a highway fault. Traffic was light and moving at the speed limit.

The Sheriff's office recently arrested Ernest Knox on crack cocaine charges. He got out on bail and continued selling drugs in La Crosse. Now Federal charges are pending and if convicted Knox will serve Federal time. The feds have sealed the records as one of the Knox brothers is still on the run. Steve Miller of Stoddard was arrested following a two month investigation into marijuana manufacturing and distribution.

The Sheriff said that we did not get the radio equipment grant of \$550,000, but Stoddard Fire Chief and Emergency Management are already working on next year's application.

The E-3 Coalition bill came in \$2000 under budget on the energy grant project. The research indicates the savings will be approximately \$25,000 per year, with payback in less than one year.

At the March meeting we discussed computer purchases. The Finance Committee approved the purchases to come out of the 2013 budget. The Auditors questioned this and reversed the purchase to come out of the 2014 budget. Chief Deputy Campbell has contacted the Clerk's office to see how the Auditors can overrule the Finance Committee. The consensus of the Committee members was that it should come out of the general fund and the Sheriff's 2014

budget should not be compromised by this reversal. Chief Deputy Campbell said that the Finance Committee actually made the decision in December, but there was some confusion in the minutes. He got clarification in 2014 and proceeded. He watches the budget very closely and thought that the Auditors could make suggestions, but not overrule a committee of the County Board. With Monroe County inmates leaving and revenues dropping, we knew we have a tough time coming up. This \$70,000 budget hit may make a big difference by the end of the year.

Sheriff Spears mentioned that he talked to a Monroe County Board member. Monroe County knows that they will be over budget on their new jail, but they are proceeding and should have inmates housed in the new facility early next year.

The next meeting is June 12, 2014. Easterday moved to adjourn, Cade seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Carol Oliver, Acting Secretary