

## LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

January 13, 2011

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

Frank McCoy  
Kevin Gobel

Herbert Cornell  
Sheriff John Spears

Jerry Cade

Cade moved to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2010 meeting. Cornell seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Cade moved to amend the Agenda to address the Coroner's invoices and report to the end of the agenda. Cornell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The law enforcement bills were reviewed and explanations provided as needed or requested. Gobel moved and Cade seconded a motion to pay Sheriff's bills in the sum of \$80,900.33. Motion carried unanimously.

In his Sheriff's Activity Report, Sheriff Spears pointed out two big ticket items in the invoices. One was an expense for new mattresses in the jail. Jail staff like the fact that pillows are attached to the mattress, making security checks more reliable. The other item was the annual radio maintenance contract. Sheriff Spears mentioned that Vernon County had its first traffic fatality of the year, wherein a driver appeared to be crossing Highway 14 from Smith Road and didn't see an oncoming semi.

Sheriff Spears and Monroe County Sheriff Quirin have negotiated a jail contract for 25 beds at \$38.00 per day. We were also guaranteed all of Monroe County's overflow inmates. Monroe County's corporation counsel is looking at the contract and we anticipate Sheriff Quirin will sign it in the next week. Our jail is looking at implementing a "booking fee" as other counties have done.

The five applicants for Chief Deputy will take their psychological test Friday and the supervisor test is scheduled for January 28. After that interviews will be conducted, utilizing outside Sheriffs as part of the interview committee. Sheriff Spears may call for a special committee meeting to ratify a new Chief Deputy, sometime after mid February. He has appointed Sgt. Jason Crume as Undersheriff, a non-paid, statutorily mandated position. Sgt. Crume is in charge of the traffic division, and has taken over the responsibilities of Tactical Team Commander.

Previously Sheriff Spears was the Tactical Team Commander and Sgt. Crume was the Team Leader. Also previously Sgt. Bruce Olson was the Assistant Coordinator of Crimestoppers. Sgt. Olson has agreed to be the new Coordinator of Crimestoppers, replacing Sheriff Spears.

We are still short four positions, but the 18 month moratorium on two of those positions expires in late March.

Employee #488, suspended April 23 without pay and put on administrative leave, is going to arbitration on February 3. The severance package offer is open until then.

Sheriff Spears will be going to the “new sheriff school” the end of January.

Gobel commented that the Sheriff’s Department has been covering Stoddard for a full year now and Sheriff Spears came to a meeting in Stoddard last week. The Village Board is happy with the coverage and has received lots of positive feedback from the village constituents, who were not used to seeing officers during week days.

Court security for County Board meetings and repositioning of the Sheriff was discussed. Sheriff Spears will talk to Tom Spenner about this.

Cade moved to approve Coroner vouchers in the amount of \$692.67. Gobel seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Income for the month was \$755.00.

The next meeting is Thursday, February 10, 2011. Cornell moved to adjourn and Cade seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Carol Oliver, Acting Secretary