

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

March 10, 2011

Chairman Frank McCoy called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. Committee members present:

Frank McCoy	Herbert Cornell	Jerry Cade
John Mitchell	Sheriff John Spears	Chief Deputy Sheriff Nate Campbell

Gobel called in and was excused.

Cade moved to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2011 meeting. Cornell seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Mitchell moved to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2011 meeting. Cade seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Coroner Reed said that the new reporting program was working well. The cost was \$375. and the price from the State is per capita based. Coroner Reed covered for the Crawford County Coroner for a few hours one day in February. This is a reciprocal agreement and done at no cost to the requesting county. The committee had a few questions regarding the accidental death of a woman in the TMR (farm feed) mixer. Cornell moved to approve the Coroner vouchers in the amount of \$1676.43. Cade seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Income for the month was \$850.00.

The law enforcement bills were reviewed and explanations provided as requested. With transition expenses the budget is running a little high. Now the cost of vehicle fuel is starting to impact us. Cade moved and Cornell seconded a motion to pay Sheriff's bills in the sum of \$57,275.66. Motion carried unanimously.

In his Sheriff's Activity Report, Sheriff Spears said that we are implementing DNA kits for all squad cars. We are investigating 12 hour patrol shifts, which will have zero impact on the budget. It should reduce overtime and provide better coverage on the evening shift. A trial period will be starting soon.

Sheriff Spears will also be implementing straight shifts in the jail on a trial basis.

The Sheriff will be reimbursing the county \$70 for a double occupancy charge on his hotel bill for attending the Badger Sheriff's Conference in Madison, as Mrs. Spears occupied the room, as well.

We have 54 in the jail today, 28 of whom are from Monroe County. Other Sheriff's Departments charge a booking fee, payable by the inmate, and we are investigating that.

Engineers are coming to the Department March 11 to check the feasibility of solar roof panels for supplemental hot water heat in the jail. It is anticipated that this will save \$3,000 in utility costs, per year, and the \$150,000 installation grant is being rolled over from Vernon Manor which is unable to utilize it due to the flux of their building status.

The Sheriff is establishing a new eligibility list, both for jailers and deputies. We are still filling vacancies internally by posting the open shifts. Sgt Crume was a Split-shift Sergeant and he is now the day shift Sergeant, a position formerly held by Chief Deputy Sheriff Campbell. We still have four patrol vacancies and Sheriff Spears will be going to the Personnel Committee to fill those positions after March 31<sup>st</sup>. We have been filling shifts with part time workers, but two of our part-timers have been hired full time by La Crosse County and Holmen Police Department respectively. We have one Dispatch vacancy.

Finally, the Sheriff and Chief Deputy Sheriff met with all county Police Chiefs yesterday for about 2 1/2 hours. The meeting, originally scheduled for one hour, went well and a plan was formulated to meet monthly.

The next meeting is Thursday, April 14, 2011. Cornell moved to adjourn and Mitchell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Carol Oliver, Acting Secretary