

**DODGE COUNTY
LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
August 5, 2016**

Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair, Larry Bischoff, at 8:00 a.m.; a quorum was established with the following members present:

MaryAnn Miller - excused
Dan Hilbert
Larry Bischoff
Thomas Nickel
Larry Schraufnagel

Also Present: James Mielke, County Administrator; Steven Bauer, Circuit Court Judge; Martin DeVries, Future Branch 2 Circuit Court Judge; Lynn Hron, Clerk of Courts; Kurt Klomberg, District Attorney; Dale Schmidt, Dodge County Sheriff; Scott Smith, Chief Deputy, Sheriff's Office; Patrick Schoebel, Medical Examiner; Shelby Brandsma and Deb Wolfram, Family Counseling; Amy Nehls, Dodge County Emergency Management; Greg Vollan, State Public Defender's Office; Eric Howlett, Fire Chief's Association; Barb Brandt, Br. 4 Judicial Assistant.

Bischoff certifies compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

Approval of Agenda and Allow for Deviation: Motion made by Schraufnagel to approve Agenda and to allow for deviation; second by Hilbert. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Judge Bauer introduced Martin DeVries to the Committee. Mr. DeVries is a resident of Randolph and will begin sitting as the Branch 2 Circuit Court Judge in October, 2016.

Eric Howlett spoke to the Committee regarding the water rescue operation. He explained that Chief Mannell from Beaver Dam was not able to be at the meeting today. There is on-going discussion between departments on who should provide water rescue, including the equipment needed.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Schraufnagel to approve Minutes of July 1, 2016; second by Nickel. Motion carried.

Communications/Announcements: None

Circuit Court/Judge's Report: Judge Bauer introduced Shelby Brandsma and Deb Wolfram from Family Court Counseling to explain what services are provided by their department. Shelby gave a history of the current part-time position and what the workload currently is for her department. The request is to increase the now 70% position to full time. She explained that previously her office had two full time counselors in addition to two full time support staff positions. Right now they have 1.7 counselors and only a 20% staff person. Judge Bauer explained the process that requires parent education, mediation and custody studies. These custody studies have deadlines in order for the Courts to move forward for cases on their docket. The need for these custody studies has had a significant increase. The concern is that the delays in being able to finish the custody studies are pushing out cases. Shelby has been

needing to work weekends in order to get custody studies done timely and having to continually do this is eventually going to lead to burn-out. The present part-time clerical position is going to be lost as that person will be the new JA for Judge DeVries. Shelby answered further questions by the Committee.

Regarding the budget issues, Judge Bauer reported that he has set up an accrual system with the help of Julie Kolp in order to track psychiatric evaluations so they can more accurately estimate the yearly costs for these evaluations. He feels the budget is going to be approximately \$60,000 short and is asking for a resolution to transfer approximately \$60,000 from the general fund to cover this. Motion was made by Schraufnagel with a second by Nickel to approve. Motion carried.

The next resolution is to increase the 70% Family Court Counselor to a full time position. This resolution is inter-related to the resolution to create a 50% clerical position. Judge Bauer explained the current staffing in the Judicial Reception area that includes the Register in Probate, Deputy Register in Probate and Judicial Assistant/Family Court assistant and how Judge DeVries will be moving his assistant to an office closer to his similar to the other Judges.

Schraufnagel moved to approve the 70% Family Court Counselor be made a full time position. This was seconded by Hilbert. After no further discussion motion carried.

Regarding the creation of a half time clerical position, Hilbert moved to approve with a second by Schraufnagel. After no further discussion motion carried.

As a preview of next year's budget, Judge Bauer informed the Committee that the Judges have met and discussed the following:

*Replacement of the projector systems in the courtrooms. The current projectors are not being supported and parts are unavailable. Possible cost of \$78,000.

*Speaker systems for two of the court reporters at a cost of \$350 per Branch.

*Raises for Bailiffs. In order to recruit retired law enforcement officers for these positions, the Courts would like to be able to offer a higher wage. This higher wage would also have an impact on the Clerk of Courts Office as that office covers the bailiff cost for jury trials.

Judges would like to have the \$15,000 paid by Circuit Court to Restorative Justice moved to their budget. Judge Bauer explained the process of Restorative Justice and the Victim Impact Panel and suggested that the Committee talk with representatives of Restorative Justice before any action would be taken.

Greg Vollan, Manager of the Dodge County Public Defender's Office spoke to the Committee regarding the Resolution to approve the creation of a Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee. He explained that the CJCC would have oversight for TAD and the ATC. The previous committee was advisory only. The CJCC could also have other duties. Schraufnagel moved to approve the creation of the CJCC with a second by Hilbert. After no further discussion, the motion carried. The County Clerk would be providing a Resolution Number for this.

Clerk of Courts Report: No report. Lynn only commented in support of resolution previously approved by Committee. She added that many people file motions regarding school placement in August, not realizing that because of the process involved, won't be able to actually have a hearing until well after a school year has started.

Child Support Report: No report

District Attorney Report: DA Klomberg gave each of the Committee members an extensive packet wherein he addressed criticisms Judge Bauer has had regarding TAD and ATC. Judge Bauer made comments. Kurt offered comparisons of charges and pointed out what he felt were cost savings. Judge Bauer stressed that it is his decision to protect the public and stated his concerns. The Committee recommended a meeting between the two.

Medical Examiner Report: While there was no formal report, ME Schoebel wanted to make the Committee aware that he may be asking for a budget transfer later this year.

Sheriff Office Report: Sheriff Schmidt gave a report on the monthly numbers handled by his office including traffic fatalities. He also reported on the Iron Ridge mine rescue, including giving a background of the rescue operation. He let the Committee know that the boys were not being charged as the property owner did not request any charges be filed.

Hiring continues to be an issue although the Civil Service process is now not being used and they are anticipating progress as a result. There is ongoing recruitment for corrections officers and the patrol division is also short one person..

Jail numbers continue to be good, still averaging about 280 per day. He anticipates these numbers to remain this high at least through the beginning of November.

He is working on a SMART response regional agreement which includes Columbia and Sauk Counties, and hopes to have this finalized by the beginning of 2017.

His Office has now been conducting exit interviews and they are being handled internally with a level of confidentiality to the reports. He has found that most of the reasons for someone leaving their position is related directly or indirectly to wages.

Union negotiations are also coming up soon.

The K9 Golf Scramble is coming up in September and he handed out flyers to the Committee.

He advised the Committee of an intra-department transfer of funds, from one business unit to another. This was not an item that required an approval of the Committee, but he wanted to keep them updated.

The Sheriff explained the resolution to abolish a Jail Programs Specialist position and create a Programs Corporal - Jail position. The Jail has the need for an additional Jail Supervisor, and this change will allow them to move a Jail Supervisor out of Programs and into the regular rotation and will allow for better efficiency for the staff and better use of time. This will allow for proper supervision without a new position needing to be created and funded. Nickel moved to approve this resolution with a second by Hilbert. After no further discussion, motion carried.

The resolution to create an Administrative Support Staff Coordinator is but before the Committee at this time only to create the position. It is not budgeted at this time. Some of the responsibilities would be to do scheduling and allowing others to delegate some of their responsibilities. Again, this would allow more efficiency in the department. Schraufnagel moved to approve this resolution with a second by Nickel. After no further discussion, motion carried.

Sheriff Schmidt asked for appropriation of funds for the Spillman Technologies contract. \$150,000 is the initial installment with the last payment made in June of 2018. Hilbert moved to approve these expenditures with a second by Schraufnagel. After no further discussion, motion carried.

Other business: Sheriff Schmidt introduced Sgt. Nicholas and his new K9 partner, Kid, for today's information presentation. Kid is a 3 year old German Shepherd, who has already had 2 arrests. He is a titled dog already and is very obedient. A new heating/system has been installed in Sgt. Nicholas' vehicle for K9 safety. They work/train with a trainer in the Iron Ridge area.

Next Meeting: Friday, September 2, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at the Dodge County Justice Facility.

Adjournment: Motion by Nickel to adjourn meeting; second by Hilbert. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.

Larry Schraufnagel, Secretary

Barbara N. Brandt, Recording Secretary