

Columbia County
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
November 12, 2012

Present: Adam Field, Fred Teitgen, Joann Wingers, Kevin Kessler
Absent with Approval: Kirk Konkel
Also Present: County Board Chair Ross, County Board Vice Chair Gove, Sheriff Richards, Chief Deputy Babcock, Captain Kuhl, Emergency Management Coordinator Beghin, Medical Examiner Hinze, Comptroller Schepp, Steve Dubberstein, PDR Lyn Jerde, NaDeanna Giuffre

I. Called to Order. Posting Compliance. Approve Agenda. Pass Minutes. Chairman's Comments.

- 1) Meeting called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Field.
- 2) Posting compliance was met per Open Meetings Law.
- 3) *Motion was made by Teitgen to approve the agenda. Seconded by Kessler. Motion carried.*
- 4) *Motion made by Teitgen to approve the previous meeting minutes. Seconded by Wingers. Motion carried.*
- 5) Chairman's Comments. Public input from budget hearing. The biggest topic of discussion was the increased problem with drug enforcement. This topic will also be discussed further under Sheriff's Administration.

II. Emergency Management.

- 1) **General Review of Department Activities.** Handout provided. Discussion.
- 2) **ERN Update and County Ordinance.** P&Z's Brian Zirbes is working on clearer definitions. Meetings are ongoing and issues are being worked through.
- 3) **Expenditure Reports.** Visual review of reports was completed. *After a review of the Emergency Management expenditure reports, a motion was made by Teitgen to approve the reports. Seconded by Wingers. Motion carried*

III. Sheriff's Office/Jail.

- 1) **Amendment to 2013 Budget—Upgrade Deputy Sheriff to Detective.** Discussed with topic #2.
- 2) **Amendment to 2013 Budget—New Deputy Position.** Personnel costs handout provided. Both amendments were discussed. Sheriff Richards explained that his intent in bringing this request up now is not to “steal” a position at the 11th hour from another county department, but merely due to the process and where we are at with the approval process with the County Board. The Sheriff proceeded to advise that he ultimately needs to add another deputy and upgrade a current deputy to Detective. Discussion. *Motion by Kessler to recommend the approval of the upgrade from a Deputy Sheriff position to a Detective position at the cost of \$3913.33 funded from the Sheriff's Administration wage budget. Seconded by Teitgen. Motion carried.*
- 3) **Narrowband Radio Project Update.** Communications Service Steve Dubberstein was present to discuss the system testing process. It is hoped that the testing will conclude this week and close out the project by year-end. The biggest hold up was the real estate issues at the Big Springs site. The Change Order consisted of the Dennis and Diane Jones-Roberts Road property to be resurveyed and excavation work to be done. Discussion. *Motion by Kessler to approve the Change Order which will not exceed \$2999. Seconded by Wingers. Motion carried.*
- 4) **Radio Tower Lease Extension.** The five-year term agreement with Divine Savior Hospital expired in June 2012. The tower lease agreement for \$120/month for five years was drafted and already approved by Columbia County Corporation Counsel. Discussion. *Motion by Teitgen to recommend the County*

Board's approval of the five-year extension tower lease agreement between Columbia County and Divine Savior Hospital. Seconded by Kessler. Motion carried.

- 5) **General Review of Department Activities.** Handout provided. Discussion.
- 6) **Inmate Count and General Review of Jail Operations.** Inmate Count: 161. Roof work was done as well as additional lighting and surveillance installed in the impound lot.
- 7) **Drug Enforcement Update.** Handout provided. The Sheriff explained that drug investigations are intricate, take time and a tremendous amount of work and preparation. Recently a public forum was held at the Sheriff's Office and from that meeting; the Sheriff's Office has received positive feedback. Recognizing the financial struggles, the Sheriff advised that Robbins Manufacturing from Fall River donated \$6000 from a golf outing fundraising event for this drug enforcement purpose.
- 8) **Replacement Position Request—Dispatcher.** Discussion. No need to go to the Finance Committee for their approval. Last day for this dispatcher was 11/04/12. Candidate list from HR is still active. *Motion by Teitgen to approve the Replacement Position Request for Dispatcher. Seconded by Wingers. Motion carried.*
- 9) **Replacement Position Request—Jailer.** Discussion. Jailer's last day will be 11/16/12. *Motion by Kessler to approve the Replacement Position Request for Jailer. Seconded by Teitgen. Motion carried.*
- 10) **BOTS Grants.** Discussion. The following grants: Click-It for \$8000, Speedwave for \$50,000 (of which \$4999 can be used for equipment needs), and Alcohol for \$8000 are active now and into 2013.
- 11) **Mental Health Update for Jail.** Discussion. Continued discussions about alternatives for Columbia County are occurring between Department of Health and Human Services, Northwest Connections, and Sheriff's Administration/Jail. A meeting will be set with Pauquette Center's Dr. Hayes in the near future to determine his availability in the event he chooses to continue in assisting with the Jail's Chapter 51.15 needs.
- 12) **Expenditure Reports.** Handout provided. *After a review of the Sheriff's Office and Jail expenditure reports, a motion was made by Wingers to approve the reports. Seconded by Teitgen. Motion carried.*

IV. Medical Examiner.

- 1) **General Review of Department Activities.** Handouts provided. Discussion.
- 2) **Adams County Update.** ME Hinze explained that it is unclear how and which direction Adams County will go – either continue on with Columbia County or go on their own. Their next meeting is set for this week.
- 3) **Vehicle Discussion.** Handout provided. Discussion. Hinze requested on direction the committee wished for her to pursue. Both the new and used bid costs exceed the \$20,000 allowance. Hinze was asked to keep going with the process and report back to the committee in December. Further exploration should be conducted for an end-of-year 2012 vehicle.
- 4) **Expenditure Report.** Visual review of reports was completed. *After a review of the Medical Examiner expenditure report, a motion was made to approve by Teitgen. Seconded by Wingers. Motion carried.*

Motion by Teitgen to adjourn the meeting at 11:16 a.m. Seconded by Wingers. Motion carried.

Secretary of Record,

Recording Secretary,

Supervisor Kevin Kessler
Committee Secretary

NaDeanna Giuffre
Assistant to Sheriff Richards

cc: Judiciary Members
Chair Ross

Approved