

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE: JANUARY 27, 2009

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
RICHARD MEYER COMMUNITY RESOURCE ROOM
4311 JACKSON STREET, OSHKOSH

PRESENT: HARVEY RENGSTORF
LAWRENCE SMITH
BILL WINGREN
TOM ELLIS
DONALD GRIESBACH

ALSO PRESENT: CHRISTIAN GOSSETT – DISTRICT ATTORNEY
JULIE PAGEL – REGISTER OF DEEDS
MARYANN BIEBER – CLERK OF COURTS
JOHN BODNAR – CORPORATION COUNSEL
SUE ERTMER – COUNTY CLERK
BARRY BUSBY – CORONER
KAREN CARLSON – FOXCOMM
MICHAEL BROOKS – SHERIFF
BILL TEDLIE – SHERIFF
BARB SPANBAUER – SHERIFF
PATTY FRANCOUR – INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Chairman Harvey Rengstorf called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. Approve minutes from December 12 and 16, 2008

A motion to approve the minutes from December 12 and 16, 2008 was made by Donald Griesbach, seconded by Bill Wingren. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

2. Communications

Harvey Rengstorf received a letter from the Veteran's Office. Bill Wingren advised that the Chairman for the Town of Oshkosh expressed concerns at the last County Board Meeting about the noise created in the area of Parkview by the trains blowing their horns and Bill said he told the Chairman to talk to Harvey. Corporation Counsel John Bodnar informed the committee that it is a Federal Regulation for a train to blow their horn three times anytime they travel through an intersection like the one located near Parkview. They will need to speak to their Congressman.

3. Input on agenda items by public

None.

4. Budget Transfer – Cover overages in travel account – District Attorney

Christian Gossett advised they went over \$1001 in their Travel Expenses due to the amount of witnesses and transports. They have money in Legal Fees to cover the overage.

A motion to approve a budget transfer of \$1001 from Legal Fees into Travel Expenses was made by Donald Griesbach, seconded by Lawrence Smith. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

5. Budget Transfer – Cover overages in labor account – Register of Deeds

Julie Pagel advised that she thought this was taken care of, but was told by Finance to bring it before the committee again and she is still not sure why she is over \$5000 in Labor as she hasn't had any overtime, retirements or anything else out of the ordinary to cause this.

A motion to approve a budget transfer of \$5000 from the Undesignated Fund to cover the Labor shortage was made by Tom Ellis, seconded by Bill Wingren. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

6. Budget Transfer – Cover overages in labor account – Clerk of Courts

MaryAnn Bieber advised that she also thought this has been taken of in November, but was advised by Finance to bring it before the committee. They have an overage of \$38,200 in Regular Pay/Fringe Benefits. As far as the Regular Pay overrun she explained that there are many things included in their Labor Account which includes business fees and jury expenses and they have gone over budget in both of those categories. In regard to Fringe Benefits, they had many changes in staff and some of their staff changed their insurance coverage in October. She advised the Department Heads are not notified of any changes in insurance so they are not involved in these benefit changes until they run into a problem with shortfalls. They did make inquiries with Payroll and Finance, but have not been able to pinpoint exactly what caused the overages.

A motion to approve a budget transfer of \$38,200 from the Undesignated Fund to cover the shortfall in Regular Pay/Fringe Benefits was made by Lawrence Smith, seconded by Tom Ellis. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

7. Budget Transfer – Cover overages in labor account – Corporation Counsel

John Bodnar also advised that he has not been able to determine exactly why he is over budget in Labor by \$7800. He has \$7300 in Other Expenses that can be used to partially cover the overage, the remaining \$500 needed will need to come from the Undesignated Fund.

A motion to approve a budget transfer of \$7300 from Other Expenses and \$500 from the Undesignated Fund to cover the overage was made by Donald Griesbach, seconded by Lawrence Smith. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

8. Budget Transfer – Cover overages in labor account – County Clerk

Sue Ertmer advised that she is over \$3300 in Regular Pay/Fringe Benefits. She believes that this was caused by one of her staff being gone for 12-weeks so their part-time person worked more hours than they had anticipated. She does have money in her Data Processing account to cover this overage.

A motion to approve a budget transfer of \$3300 from Data Processing into Regular Pay/Fringe Benefits was made by Bill Wingren, seconded by Tom Ellis. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

9. Budget Transfer – Cover overages in labor account – Coroner

Barry Busby advised he had an overage of \$7600 in Regular Pay/Fringe Benefits. He has \$6750 in Other Expenses to partially cover the overage. The remaining \$850 needed will need to come from the Undesignated Fund.

A motion to approve a budget transfer of \$6750 from Other Expenses and \$850 from the Undesignated Funds to cover the overage was made by Donald Griesbach, seconded by Bill Wingren. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

10. Update on Joint Jail Facilities Meeting

Sheriff Brooks advised that he was not able to attend the last meeting, but did inform the committee of the results of a meeting held with Carter Goble Lee (CGL) on 01/26/09. They discussed the methodology they would use to accomplish a study and the methodology used in regards to projections for jail bed use needs for all three counties. There is a Phase 1 and a Phase 2 and a lot of time was spent on Phase 1. Upon completion of Phase 1, the information will be taken to the County Boards to determine whether or not they should proceed to Phase 2. Phase 2 is more of an endeavor to identify staffing needs and costs

of putting together an infrastructure to meet the needs of all three counties along with life cycle costs, labor, heat etc.

11. Update on FOXCOMM with Brown County

Karen Carlson advised that Brown County has taken action to get out of FOXCOMM and may be out before the end of the year. Fiscally, they must stay with FOXCOMM through the end of the year. They have a meeting with Brown County on Thursday, 01/29/09, to come up with a transition plan.

Both Karen Carlson and Sheriff Brooks advised early on that one of the reasons why Brown County lost interest in participating in FOXCOMM was that they did not want to pursue a regional radio system with Calumet, Outagamie, and Winnebago County. Eventually Brown County took action get out of FOXCOMM completely because they felt they get a new radio system more cost effectively on their own and stated that they did not want to have the same formula for the radio system that is used by FOXCOMM. They were asked on two different occasions to advise what type of formula they felt would be appropriate and it was even placed on a meeting agenda. At no time did Brown County provide any formulas that they felt would satisfy their needs.

In addition, Brown County had an open position for a FOXCOMM Committee member and they wanted to appoint an individual to that position that had been defeated in the Board elections three months earlier. It was pointed out to Brown County that while the committee did not have a problem with the individual Brown County wanted to appoint, the Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) states that it must be a Board member and if they wanted to appoint someone who was not a Board member, the IGA would need to be changed. Brown County then claimed part of the reason they wanted out was because they were denied a vote by denying the individual they wanted to be placed on the committee. They were not denied, Brown County chose not to exercise their right to appoint a Board member to the committee. Several attempts were made to work with Brown County. Options/suggestions were given to Brown County and they would never provide a response. Sheriff Brooks does not believe that the reasons Brown County gave to FOXCOMM or the reasons they gave to their own County Board are the true reasons as to why Brown County decided to get out, but this is the path they chose.

Members of the Fiscal Advisory Board are continuing to meet with adjacent counties to see if there are any other counties that would be interested in joining. A Power Point presentation has been developed that is used to bring counties up to speed as to what has been done and Karen Carlson did discuss this presentation with the committee. Outside of finances, they do not see any other issues with Brown County pulling out.

12. Budget Transfer – Cover overages in labor account 2008 – Sheriff’s Office

Barb Spanbauer advised they have an overage of \$97,000 in Regular Pay/Fringe Benefits. When she received the information from Finance that they were over \$33,000 in Regular Pay, she contacted Finance because according to her figures, they made budget in Regular Pay but did go over in overtime. Finance explained that both Regular Pay and Overtime are lumped together in Labor and they are not concerned with what account it goes into, so they create a Journal Entry under Regular Pay with whatever amount is needed. 2008 Fringe Benefits were determined by doing a comparable of the last five years and then a percentage was given to all Department Heads based on history. 2009 Fringe Benefits will be done differently. They do have money in Other Expenses to cover this overage due to savings in repair costs on squads, savings in medical/dental in the jail, savings in professional supplies, savings in food service, and savings in other areas. Overall, they spent only 98.75% of their budget.

A motion to approve a budget transfer of \$97,000 from Other Expenses to cover this overage was made by Donald Griesbach, seconded by Lawrence Smith. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

13. Accept \$15,000 grant from Department of Transportation for Traffic Enforcement

This grant will be used to offset overtime costs for traffic enforcement focusing on speed and use of seat belts. The Sheriff’s Office will conduct two details a month through August.

A motion to accept the \$15,000 grant was made by Donald Griesbach, seconded by Tom Ellis. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

14. Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Brooks briefly discussed an article in the Post Crescent regarding demolition derbies being held on Lake Winnebago. As far as he knows, doing this is legal. The motor vehicle laws do not apply to frozen water. He will look into this further to see if any other laws are being violated.

Sheriff Brooks advised that he had a significant savings in Regular Pay, but he was 50% over budget in overtime costs. The main reason for this was due to the many openings he had in Patrol and in Corrections. There was a lengthy hiring process and once people were hired, it still takes several more months before they are able to work on their own. This is why he has asked for part-time officers and he had a meeting last week with the Deputies Association to discuss contractual issues. They will have further meetings regarding this matter within the next week and Sheriff Brooks will keep the committee informed of its progress.

As of this date, there are 30 State inmates in the jail.

15. Items for next agenda

Veteran's Office (exact agenda item unknown at this time)

16. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made at 10:09 a.m. by Donald Griesbach, seconded by Tom Ellis. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted:

Sandy Schauz
Winnebago County Sheriff's Office