

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE: NOVEMBER 12, 2012

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

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

PRESENT: BILL WINGREN
TOM ELLIS
BILL ROH
PAUL EISEN
LARRY SMITH

ALSO PRESENT: CHRISTIAN GOSSETT – DISTRICT ATTORNEY
JOHN MATZ – SHERIFF
TODD CHRISTOPHERSON – SHERIFF
BARB SPANBAUER – SHERIFF
MELISSA KONRAD – CLERK OF COURTS
THOMAS WIDENER – COUNTY BOARD
GUY HEGG – COUNTY BOARD
DARLA LEUTHOLD – ESTHER (Empowered Solidarity Truth Hope Equality Reform)
ANGELA LEWIS – ESTHER (Empowered Solidarity Truth Hope Equality Reform)
JENNIFER WOLDT – OSHKOSH NORTHWESTERN

1. Call to Order

Chairman Bill Wingren called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and it was verified that the meeting was properly noticed.

2. Approval of minutes from October 8, 2012

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Bill Roh, seconded by Larry Smith. Paul Eisen then requested that corrections be made on page 1 under "Communications" to change NECO to NACO and indicate that NACO stands for National Association of Counties. He further requested that the word pre-trial be changed to pre-trial. With these corrections being addressed, all were in favor, motion carried 5-0.

3. Public comments on agenda items

Angela Lewis and Darla Leuthold discussed their involvement with ESTHER and their efforts to educate the public on treatment alternatives and diversions to incarceration and the benefits both financially and to the public. Many individuals in prison have mental health and/or drug and alcohol addictions and don't receive proper treatment and have more problems once released from prison. ESTHER promotes treatment before prison.

County Board Member Thomas Widener spoke in reference to agenda #6 regarding alternatives to incarceration and advised that he is favor of moving the resolution to the Legislative Committee and County Board. He feels we are spending more on incarceration than education.

4. Communications

Paul Eisen attended a Legislative Round Table on 10/30/12 at St. Marks Lutheran Church in Neenah which was sponsored by ESTHER. State Representatives Dean Kaufert, Gordon Hintz, Alvin Ott, Penny Bernard Schaber and Judge Hart-Key were also present.

Bill Roh mentioned an article in the NACO magazine regarding Indiana's Richard Mourdock, a former Vanderburgh County commissioner, who unseated Senator Richard Lugar in the Republican Primary and now faces Democrat Joe Donnelly for that State's open Senate seat.

Bill Wingren attended the Courthouse Security Committee meeting in October where there was a wide range of discussion. Many things are still up in the air in terms of making the Courthouse safe and secure such as putting in new windows, and the fact that it is an historical building creates more complications.

5. Review County Budget session

Bill Wingren commended Sheriff Matz and his staff in regards to presenting his budget without a lot of questions or challenges. It is a credit to the fact that they were kept in the loop and there were no surprises at the end. He further advised that almost all of the department heads did the same and he felt the budget session went very well.

6. Discussion/Action on Resolution regarding Alternatives to Incarceration. Resolution to be forwarded to the Legislative Committee

Bill Wingren had mailed copies of an Outagamie County resolution to all committee members prior to this meeting which had been forwarded to him by Paul Eisen. A copy of Outagamie's resolution was given to Paul Eisen by a parolee who approached him and asked that Winnebago County consider having this type of resolution.

Paul Eisen then handed out copies of a resolution he drafted for Winnebago County. This draft resolution was discussed along with a lengthy discussion regarding what ESTHER is trying to achieve, current alternatives already in place in Winnebago County, and some of the problems presented with different alternatives with input from both Sheriff Matz and District Attorney Gossett. Thomas Widener also advised that he had already discussed this matter with the Legislative Committee who would be looking into it further.

It was then determined that this resolution would not be forwarded to Legislative Committee at this time due to the fact that the Legislative Committee would already be working on this along with the fact that more information is needed.

7. Budget Transfer – District Attorney's Office

Christian Gossett requested a budget transfer of \$15,000 from the Contingency Fund to cover the cost of creating four office stations on the 3rd floor of the Orin King building due to the re-organization of the District Attorney's Office and the absorption of Day Reporting Center personnel.

A motion to approve the budget transfer of \$15,000 was made by Larry Smith, seconded by Bill Roh. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

8. Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Matz advised that they have begun the 30-day radio system testing where they have handed out a limited number of radios to each agency to include the fire departments. These radios will be tested for coverage and/or programming issues in the radios. After the 30 days, they will then begin the side-by-side testing where everyone gets their radios and both the old and new systems will be kept running. Within 60 days, the old VHF will then be stopped.

Sheriff Matz handed out copies of a letter that was written by a former inmate of the jail, who is currently incarcerated at Oshkosh Correctional, indicating how the staff of the Winnebago County Jail can have a positive impact on inmates and the positive impact it had on him. Sheriff Matz said the letter was very enlightening and was shared with his staff who will continue to do a great job.

9. Next meeting agenda items

Publication of summons

10. Adjourn

Bill Roh asked to be excused for the next meeting. A motion was then made to adjourn at 10:03 a.m. by Larry Smith, seconded by Tom Ellis. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sandy Schauz
Winnebago County Sheriff's Office