

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

DATE: MARCH 2, 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  
TOM ELLIS  
DONALD GRIESBACH

EXCUSED: BILL WINGREN

ALSO PRESENT: KATHLEEN DIEDRICH – CHILD SUPPORT  
JEAN MAHY – COUNTY CLERK  
DIANE FREMGEN – CLERK OF COURTS  
MICHAEL BROOKS – SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
BARB SPANBAUER – SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
KARON KRAFT – HUMAN RESOURCES

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

**1. Approve the minutes from February 16, 2009**

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Lawrence Smith, seconded by Tom Ellis. All in favor, motion carried 4-0.

**2. Communications**

Harvey Rengstorf asked if there were any comments from the committee members in regard to a letter that they all received from Judge William Carver stating that Courthouse security was not needed. There was no discussion at this time, but it will be placed on the next agenda.

**3. Input on agenda items by public**

None.

**4. Resolution for Budget Transfer – Child Support**

Kathleen Diedrich advised that they had an overage in Legal Fees and Wages and a shortage in Dental/Medical. They are requesting a budget transfer of \$8,100.

A motion to approve the budget transfer of \$8,100 from Legal Fees and Wages to Dental/Medical was made by Tom Ellis, seconded by Lawrence Smith. All in favor, motion carried 4-0.

#### **5. Resolution for Budget Transfer – County Clerk**

Jean Mahy explained that they did not anticipate the re-count which left a shortfall of \$550 in their auto allowance to pay the people who came to help with the re-count, but they do have an overage in their Data Processing Account to cover it.

A motion to approve a budget transfer of \$550 from Data Processing into Auto Allowance was made by Lawrence Smith, seconded by Donald Griesbach. All in favor, motion carried 4-0.

#### **6. Resolution for Budget Transfer – Clerk of Courts**

Diane Fremgen explained she had shortfalls in Legal Fees, Supplies, Stationary, and Medical for a total of \$315,526. The bulk of the shortfall is from Legal Fees due to the court appointed attorney costs. They will be having a meeting with all attorneys who provide this service to see if there is a way to bring these costs down. She is not sure why she was short in Supplies other than they under budgeted. Stationary increased due to the cost of the file folders that they need to order yearly having increased about \$5,000 from last year and it was the best bid that could be found. Medical increased due to the amount of psychological evaluations ordered by the courts.

A motion to approve a budget transfer of \$315,526 from the General Fund to cover these shortfalls was made by Donald Griesbach, seconded by Tom Ellis. Motion carried 4-0.

#### **7. Resolution for Judicial Assistances Wages – Clerk of Courts**

Harvey explained that he received a letter from Judge Kay that was signed by all six judges, indicating that there is a discrepancy in pay for the Judicial Assistants.

Karon Kraft from Human Resources advised that the letter from Judge Key was attached to a letter that she had received from the six Judicial Assistants regarding their pay scale. It has been placed on March 5<sup>th</sup> agenda of the Personnel and Finance Committee (PNF). No action can be taken at this time until discussed at this meeting; however, she did inform the committee that they are asking for an increase of 10% retroactive to 01/01/09 and an additional 10% effective 07/01/09. She further added that one of the Judicial Assistants did receive a pay increase in May of 2008 as they were below the other assistants and another one of the assistants just took the position last month so they are not eligible for an increase as they are on probation until July of 2009.

She is starting to gather data as to what other counties of similar size are paying their Judicial Assistants and hopes to find out more at the next PNF meeting as what other type of data they would like her to gather. She also requested Judiciary members to notify her any data they would like her to obtain. Once all data has been gathered and the issue addressed by PNF, she will bring the information back to a future Judiciary & Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Diane Fremgen asked on behalf of the judges, if at least 2-weeks notice could be given when this item is placed on the agenda, as all judges would like to attend. They would have liked to have been at this meeting, but there was not enough notice for them to changes their calendars.

#### **8. Resolution for Fiber Optics for Radio/Data Communication – Sheriff Brooks**

Sheriff Brooks displayed a map of where this work would be done. Currently, there is no connection of any kind between the Menasha Police Department and the Fairview Tower due to an existing water tower that prevents microwave from being used. All other towers are connected by microwave. Communication has been lost with the microwave due to weather

conditions in the past. It can also be lost due to car accidents and digging by utility companies. Fiber optics will allow the Menasha Police Department to be connected to the Fairview Tower and will create what is called a "hot loop." The "hot loop" will give a constant connection all the way around, even if a line is cut for some reason. The system will just reverse itself and will remain up and running. Another advantage of using the fiber optics is that it will allow a connection from the Fairview Tower to Outagamie County once they go to the three county radio system.

Sheriff Brooks advised that whether they go with FOXCOMM or not, they need this ability to keep the radio system up and running no matter what happens as far as weather, car accidents or digging by utilities. This is a joint effort between the City of Menasha Utilities, the Town of Menasha and the Sheriff's Office and all three will share in the cost of some portions of the project. The estimate at this time is that Winnebago County will pay about 57% of the total cost, which is approximately \$253,000. Sheriff Brooks does not need a resolution at this time. He will give a presentation to the County Board at a future meeting and then will come back to the committee for a resolution.

#### **9. Sheriff's Report**

Sheriff Brooks advised that a decision has not yet been made regarding the radio system and whether or not they will continue to utilize the VHF radio frequencies or 700/800 frequencies. The problem with VHF is that they call it the unorganized band of frequencies. It needs a send frequency and a receive frequency and there are many antenna and filtering issues associated with this frequency that are not associated with 700/800 Megahertz. Anything that is done needs to be done in the next 3 years - 10 months.

#### **10. Items for next agenda**

- Resolution for Fiber Optics Partnership with the City and Town of Menasha – Sheriff's Office
- Courthouse Security

#### **11. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:50 a.m. by Donald Griesbach, seconded by Tom Ellis. All in favor, motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted:

Sandy Schauz  
Winnebago County Sheriff's Office