

PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE COMMITTEE
October 18, 2010

Call to Order. Chair Collins called the meeting of the Public Safety and Justice Committee to order at 4:00 P.M. on October 18, 2010 in Conference Room N-1 on the Fifth Floor of the Rock County Courthouse-East.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Collins, Brill, Knudson, Wiedenfeld and Beaver (at 4:01 PM).

Committee Members Excused: None.

Staff Members Present: Craig Knutson, County Administrator; Elizabeth Pohlman McQuillen, Criminal Justice System Planner/Analyst; David Sleeter, 911 Communication Center Director; Randy Terronez, Assistant to the County Administrator; Kris Baker Ellis, Child Support Director; Diane Michaelis, Finance Office Manager, Sheriff's Office; Jenifer Keach, Coroner.

Others Present: None.

Adoption of Agenda. Supervisor Wiedenfeld moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Supervisor Knudson. ADOPTED.

Adoption of Minutes. Supervisor Knudson moved approval of the minutes of October 4, 2010 as presented, second by Supervisor Brill. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications, Announcements, Information. None.

Supervisor Beaver arrived at 4:01 P.M.

Consent Calendar.

Transfers and Appropriations. None.

Bills/Encumbrances.

Sheriff	\$	11,983.19
RECAP Operations		39.94
Correctional Facility		12,629.73
Circuit Courts		164.00
911 Project Operation		970.87
District Attorney		218.80
Coroner		1,274.00
Child Support		761.17
Homeland Security Rd Grant		4,500.00
Sheriff's Vehicles		1,664.00
911 Capital Project		12,881.48

Pre-Approved Encumbrance Amendments.

Mediation/Family Court Services

Lawrence Kahn \$ 2,000.00

Supervisor Wiedenfeld moved approval of the above Consent Calendar for the Public Safety & Justice Committee, second by Supervisor Brill. ADOPTED.

Resolutions.

Recognizing Medicolegal Death Investigators Week

“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this _____ day of _____, 2010, that the fourth week of October will be recognized as Medicolegal Death Investigators’ Week, with the gratitude of the people of the County of Rock, for the services that they provide.”

Supervisor Knudson moved approval of the above resolution, second by Supervisor Brill. ADOPTED.

Countywide Communications Upgrade – Update. Mr. Sleeter said the decision has been made to convert from analog to digital. A proposal for this change is in the 2011 budget for \$2.275 million. This will meet the mandate requirements. Mr. Knutson said page 25 (2011 Budget for Public Safety & Justice Committee) of 911 lays the costs out. The \$2.275 million will come from funds remaining in the Jail/HCC Complex account which is sales tax money.

2009 Rock County Communications Center Annual Report. Mr. Sleeter went over the highlights of the report. The Communications Center was re-accredited for the fourth time and they are the only 911 Communications Center in Wisconsin to achieve this. Their turnover rates are lower than in previous years. Their call answer times have improved, but the activity levels are down. Ms. Pohlman McQuillen said this seems to be a nationwide trend from what she has read. Mr. Sleeter said training is a very important area for them. They are trying to hold trainings here as much as possible as they are able to get a reduction in training costs. They do provide a great deal of help to other counties who are using, or looking at using, Rock County’s model for their Communications Centers.

Budget Reviews.

Child Support. Ms. Baker Ellis said they have eliminated a .3 position they have had vacant for a while. The stimulus funds they received have helped in updating their furniture, equipment and computers, which they would otherwise have had to include on a future budget request. Mr. Knutson referred the Committee to page 50 of the comments and said the tax levy for the Child Support budget went up \$6,200 or 1%.

Clerk of Court. No one was present from the Clerk of Court’s Office. Mr. Knutson referred to pages 18 and 19 of the comments and said there were a couple requests for personnel,

which he did not recommend. The Indigent Counsel Fees are still operating under the old 1987 rules, which will be changing July 1, 2011 and should result in an increase in clients being served by the Public Defenders Office and a decrease in costs to the County's Indigent Counsel funds. Overall, the tax levy increased \$126,891 or 5.6%.

Coroner. Ms. Keach said they had a change in the Chief Deputy position from hourly to salary with an increase in pay and a decrease in the department's overtime. She thanked Mr. Knutson for his recommendation to approve this change. Ms. Keach added they are hoping to receive grant money to help in purchasing case management software. Mr. Knutson referred the Committee to page 44 of the comments and said they have an increase of \$13,782 in tax levy.

CJCC. Ms. Pohlman McQuillen said they really don't have a budget, but with the OWI law changes the CJCC has been looking more toward an OWI Court and Mr. Knutson has included \$100,000 in the budget for this. Mr. Knutson said there has been a request from the CJCC for some funding and \$100,000 is placed in a Countywide account until the CJCC decides on a program.

District Attorney. No one was present from the District Attorney's Office. Mr. Knutson referred the Committee to page 31 of the comments and said they had requested \$5,000 for Care House and he has recommended \$4,500, which is an increase of \$1,000 from 2010. Overall the tax levy increased by \$16,598 or 1.2%.

Emergency Management. Chair Collins said he received an e-mail from Ms. Connors that she was at training session, but did not have any concerns with the Emergency Management or LEPC budgets. Mr. Knutson referred the Committee to page 37 of the comments and said money had been put in the budget for preventative maintenance for the sirens to help increase reliability.

Mediation & Family Court Services. No one was present from Mediation and Family Court Services. Mr. Knutson said they had handled this with the Courts.

911 Communications Center. Mr. Sleeter said this budget goes a long way in this economy to maintain their programs and services. He said he is happy a User Support position is in the IT budget as this is key to their office and he supports this position. Mr. Knutson said it was time to add more user support staff for the public safety area as the need has grown over the past few years.

Rock Valley Community Programs. No one was present from Rock Valley Community Programs. Mr. Knutson referred the Committee to page 52 of the comments and said the same amount was recommended for the two programs as 2010. Supervisor Brill said they will have an additional program in 2011 to house about 90 homeless Veterans.

Sheriff. Ms. Michaels said they are happy with the budget and commended the Sergeants for their hard work in looking for ways to cut costs. Mr. Knutson said there has been some changes in State law so Jail Assessment Fees can to be used for the medical care of prisoners. The overall Sheriff's Office tax levy increased by \$162,306 or .87%.

Chair Collins thanked Mr. Knutson for attending the meeting.

Committee Requests and Motions. Chair Collins requested the 2010 Annual Jail Inspection report be placed on the next agenda.

Adjournment. Supervisor Knudson moved adjournment at 5:03 P.M., second by Supervisor Wiedenfeld. ADOPTED.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Bondehagen
Secretary II

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.