



JUDICIAL/LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

July 23, 2013

The Special Judicial/Law Enforcement and Emergency Management Committee Budget meeting was called to order by Chairman Gene Thom at 4:30 PM on July 23, 2013 in the County Board room of the Green Lake County Justice Center, 571 County Road A, Green Lake, WI. The requirements of the open meeting law were certified as being met.

Present: Gene Thom, Chairman
Debra Schubert, Vice-Chairman
Sue Wendt
Michael Starshak

Others Present:

Mark A. Podoll, Sheriff
Tami Eisenga, Register in Probate
Coroner Darlene Strey
Chief Deputy Mark Putzke
DA Kyle Sergeant

Lori Evans, Admin. Asst. Sheriff
Judge Slate
Gary Podoll – EMD
Sue Krueger – Clerk of Circuit Court

AGENDA

Motion/Second (Schubert/Starshak) to approve the agenda. All Ayes. Motion carried.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the group.

2014 Budgets

Child Support - A letter was in the packet from Terry Stellmacher, Child Support Administrator apologizing for not attending the meeting; however she was on vacation that she had been planning for several months. Supervisor Schubert stated that she had spoken to the County Clerk regarding the Child Support budget. What happened is that both Child Support and IT have been budgeting for the Laserfiche annual maintenance agreement. Child support will continue to budget for it due to getting reimbursement from the State. IT will pay for it and a journal entry will be made from the Child Support budget. Child Support will be reallocating her Laserfiche funds, deleting her capital equipment line which will be given to the Clerk's Office for the County wide copier replacement fund, and adjusting her personnel costs due to having a ¼ time person that is shared with Corporation Counsel. The end result will be an increase of \$895 to the Child Support budget.

Circuit Court/Probate/Court Commissioners – The Committee was very impressed with the way Judge Slate put his budget together. It was informative and easy to understand. Henri Conti is no longer eligible for benefits so the \$16,949.51 decrease in the budget is basically the savings from his health insurance benefit. The Committee questioned as to whether a resolution covered his pay or if he should be contracted. The Judge will look into that question and get back to the Committee.

Clerk of Courts – The Committee also complimented Sue Krueger on her budget. They questioned her Jury expenses. Sue related that one never knows what the cost of juries will be as it is an unknown factor as to how many will actually occur. Many get canceled. She stated that if there are funds left in that account, they will be used to offset overages in the Guardian Ad Litem line. They also questioned the increase in the transcript line. It was explained that a transcript is required for all persons sentenced to prison and now, due to retention laws, all OWI related cases will be transcribed. Sue and the Judge reported that Family Court Commissioner mediation fees, by statute, must be retained and spent on mediation and those funds should be retained by the Circuit Court budget. Therefore the Clerk of Courts budget shows zero revenues in that account and the Circuit Court budget is showing an anticipated revenue figure of \$2,000. The Committee also asked that she have the Clerk's Office make corrections to her personnel page to update names and wage rates due to personnel changes.

Coroner – No questions of the Coroner's budget.

District Attorney – The Committee questioned DA Kyle Sergeant as to a decrease in copy fees that are being collected. He stated that many are being sent electronically at no charge. It is a requirement to send copies to the defense. This is the fastest and most efficient way to send the records. It appears to be the way of the future. If this trend continues that revenue line may need to be decreased.

Emergency Management – No questions of the Emergency Management budget.

Sheriff's Office – Sheriff Podoll and Administrative Assistant Lori Evans presented the Sheriff's Office 2014 budget, explaining all of the different line changes, additional revenues and reallocation of funds. Other than in the Corrections budget, the biggest of those changes were a decrease in Civil Process Fee revenues, a reallocation of \$4,000 from the Uniform account to the Fuel Account, an increase in Boat and Outlay revenues and a decrease in the Radio Maintenance Contract Account.

She stated even though there will be no increase requested in the Squad and Squad Equipment Outlay account, the Sheriff's Office will be moving forward to replace the IP Radios in the Squads with Air Cards as the State is phasing out IP Radios. The Committee question how many Air Cards would be needed. The Sheriff told them we have reduced the number of computers in the squads and they are used by each officer during their rotation and then brought back to the office for the next set of officers to use during their rotation. There has to be an Air Card for every computer, so we will only need to have 8 Air Cards. The Committee agreed with the plan.

Lori told the Committee that we expect expenditures for Juvenile Board to go over budget by \$12,000 in 2013 and that funds are being reallocated to increase that line by \$9,000 in 2014. Juvenile detention tends to go in trends and it appears that we are currently in an upward trend.

Inmate Medical costs are anticipated to be about \$24,000 over-budget in 2013.

Lori also reported that Huber revenues have decreased dramatically due to a lack of Huber inmates that have jobs. Some can get jobs but have no transportation to get to the job. Therefore the revenue line for Huber revenue was decreased to a more realistic dollar figure. The Committee was very appreciative of the fact that the budget was being presented in a genuine manner rather than inflating revenues to balance the budget unrealistically.

In the packet there was a spreadsheet that included most of the items that will need to eventually be replaced in the jail along with a life expectancy memo from Accurate Controls regarding the electronic pieces of equipment. Some of the capital equipment items were brought over from the other building and some of the items have a life expectancy of 3-5 years. We have been in the building for 3 years. The Sheriff explained that there is a critical need for the Jail Capital Equipment line to be increased. Therefore that line has been increased by a little over \$17,000 for replacement of capital equipment with a plan to carry over any unspent funds in order to plan for outlay for future jail capital equipment purchases.

The Sheriff also reported to the Committee that our first major jail capital equipment expenditure will be brought forward to the Committee next month. That is for the Digital Video Recording System (DVR). In order to save money when the building was built, the Board decided not to use the local jail electronics vendor from Ripon, but instead use someone else whose bid came in \$30,000 to \$40,000 less. That vendor recommended that we get the Pelco DVR system. The local vendor had recommended not using that vendor as they had seen an increase in problems with

Pelco's DVR system. The Pelco system was chosen at the time. Not only has it caused us problems, we have found out that it was an older technology and is no longer being made. We have sent 8 of the original 10 units in for repairs since the building opened. These were all sent in under warranty, however the warranty has since expired and the units are still giving us problems. In addition to that, even with the settings put at their maximum capacity we cannot get 120 day's worth of recording from some of the units where cameras have a lot of motion. After reviewing the laws and liabilities, our Corporation Counsel has strongly recommended to us that we should be recording 120 days. The committee was also advised by the Sheriff that he is now working with Accurate Controls on other electronic systems in the jail as repairs are needed.

The Sheriff then explained his long range plan to the Committee. The boat has depreciated out and we are no longer getting DNR funding reimbursement for it. It is now starting to cost us more in repairs, so at the next meeting a purchase request will be presented for the purchase of a new boat.

He also explained his long range plan for squad replacement. He reiterated to the Committee the different steps he has taken to reduce the fleet and purchase more fuel efficient vehicles. Supervisor Starshak applauded his efforts and stated that the public should be made aware of things like this that the Sheriff is doing to work within a very restricted budget when the costs for things such as fuel are constantly rising.

In the end, the Sheriff explained to the Committee that his budget came in at 0%, but he feels that the Committee should seriously consider increasing the General Fuel account as even with the \$4,000 increase he has made in the reallocation of funds, he believes that account will be over-budget in 2014. He also recommends increasing the Inmate Medical Account due to increases in prescriptions, a 3% increase in the contract and the requirement for inmate mental health care when the Recidivism Reduction funding ceases to exist. The Committee had a fairly lengthy discussion regarding what to do about these two accounts. It was unanimously acknowledged that it is anticipated that both accounts will be seriously over budget in 2014 but rather than increase the budget, the Sheriff was instructed to go to Finance and request money be taken out of contingency to cover the overages when it becomes necessary. Supervisor Schubert, who is on the Finance Committee, will advise the Finance Committee of this decision.

The Committee praised and thanked Sheriff Podoll, Chief Deputy Putzke and Administrative Assistant Lori Evans for all of their efforts and the hard work that they do on behalf of the Sheriff's Office.

Motion/Second (Starshak/Schubert) to approve the budgets as presented with the corrections in the Child Support Budget and the Clerk of Courts personnel costs. All Ayes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

None

NEXT MEETING DATE

Next regular meeting set for Wednesday, August 14, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. in the County Board Room of the County Justice Center, 571 County Road A, Green Lake.

ADJOURN

Motion/Second (Schubert/Starshak) to adjourn. All Ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Evans, Committee Secretary, Administrative Assistant to the Sheriff