

**DODGE COUNTY  
JUDICIAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETING  
JUNE 2, 2017**

**Call to order:** Meeting was called to order by Chair, MaryAnn Miller, at 8:00 a.m.; a quorum was established with the following members present:

MaryAnn Miller  
Thomas Nickel  
Larry Bischoff  
Dan Hilbert  
Larry Schraufnagel

**Also Present:** James Mielke, County Administrator; Steven Bauer, Circuit Court Judge; Michelle Kenning, Chief Deputy, Clerk of Courts; Kurt Klomberg, District Attorney; Bob Barrington, District Attorney Managing Attorney; Bernie Mueller, Child Support Agency; Dale Schmidt, Dodge County Sheriff; Scott Smith, Chief Deputy, Sheriff's Office; Brooke Bittner, Chief Deputy Medical Examiner; Lynn Steger, Register in Probate.

Miller certifies compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

**Approval of Agenda and Allow for Deviation:** Motion made by Hilbert to approve Agenda and to allow for deviation; second by Nickel. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Schraufnagel to approve Minutes of May 5, 2017; second by Bischoff. Motion carried.

**Communications:** None

**Announcements:** None

**Circuit Court/Judge's Report:** None

**Clerk of Courts Report:** None

**Child Support Report:** Bernie Mueller distributes an example of the job postings that she is putting in the two brochure stands located on the first floor near the Branch 5 Courtroom. These job postings are to help individuals find a variety of jobs in the area. Mueller plans on putting out new job description postings every two weeks. She will be contacting Maintenance so that they can put up a sign. The Committee believes this is a good idea.

**District Attorney Report:** Kurt Klomberg notes that he is not on the Agenda, but he wants to advise that at the Joint Finance meeting on the District Attorney Budget, an assistant DA position was approved for Dodge County. In addition, Rep. Mark Born brought a motion to create a Statewide Prosecutor's Council which passed unanimously with full support. This Council would oversee the District Attorney statement programs. Klomberg noted that Rep.

Born was the single driving force for this motion. Klomberg notes that he was very impressed by Rep. Born.

**Medical Examiner Report:** None

**Sheriff Office Report:** Sheriff Schmidt distributes the numbers handout. He indicates that the 9-1-1 hang-ups are up a little. He is frustrated that they do not have the capability of finding out the location of the hang-up calls.

Burglaries have been a problem in the northeast corner of Dodge County and have recently become a problem in the southwest part of the County. He states that they will be hitting the northeast area really hard and will probably be putting some of the non-emergency calls on hold to a later time in order to stop these burglaries; they need to prioritize due to limited staffing.

There was one fatality last month. It involved a vehicle's failure to stop at a stop sign resulting in the vehicle being T-boned; the driver was not wearing a seatbelt and was ejected. The Sheriff expressed the importance of wearing seatbelts.

Operational Update: Sheriff Schmidt indicates that Capt. Scott Mittelstadt has been doing a fantastic job. Klomberg notes that he met with Capt. Mittelstadt and that he is pleased to be working with him.

Schmidt states he has a big announcement! The Sheriff's Office received \$5,000 from Countryside Motors for the Canine Unit and an additional \$3,000 from the Drug Task Force. A new canine will be purchased with these funds; one will be selected next week Wednesday from three German Shepherds available. Schmidt also announced that Taylor Nehls will be the new handler. The cost for a canine is in the \$15,000 range; approximately \$12,000 of the money goes to the dog and training; about \$3,000 is to equip the squad car. Training will start the end of June and they believe they will be ready by the end of July / early August. This will be a dual purpose dog in that it will also be trained in handler protection.

Schmidt notes that they have selected Dustin Waas as a new Drug Recognition Expert (DRE); currently there are only 3 DRE's in Dodge County. In August, Waas will begin his 5 week training as a DRE. Schmidt notes that he himself is a DRE and that this training was the most intense training he has ever had. Judge Bauer notes that Waas is very good in the courtroom; very professional.

Schmidt reports that they are still struggling to hire people in the Jail partially due to retirements and resignations. He notes that they lost 5 or 6 people last year because they had other offers that were better. This is very frustrating. By the end of the month they hope to have 6 people in training. Currently the Sheriff's Department is full with the exception of one dispatcher. There may be 2 detectives retiring this year. In 2018/2019 the Sheriff is expecting to lose 6 to 7 people to retirements.

Regarding the Jail Facilities proposal, Schmidt notes that they are looking into options for expansion of the Jail and closing J Pod. J Pod's life is limited and updating it would cost over \$1 million; they cannot afford to continue maintaining this building. They are looking into hiring Potter Lawson to start evaluating and developing plans for Jail expansion. Schmidt states that the cost for the proposal is \$24,000 and he wants to budget that amount for next year. They are also looking into the demolition of the J Pod building and are thinking of replacing it with

underground parking and a training facility. Potentially they are looking at the architectural costs for next year.

Chairperson Miller asks the Sheriff what would happen if they lost the ICE people. Schmidt states that he wants to make sure that the new Jail expansion could be converted into juvenile housing; there is a huge need for juvenile housing and right now only Washington and Fond du Lac Counties have facilities. This could be another revenue source. Schmidt notes that it would be easy to shut down a Pod if needed; right now if they shut down J Pod, it would not be re-opened because of all the issues there. The juveniles that could potentially be housed would be from ages 10-16 years old. Klomberg states that there is a push to return 17 year olds to the juvenile system. Schmidt notes that they would need to have a separate intake for juveniles. He wants to plan for now and for the future. Barrington states that transportation costs now are high because they have to go to the other facilities to get the juveniles and bring them here for hearings.

Mielke indicates that the initial feedback, as he understands it, is that they want the study done by September of 2017; the Building Committee discussed this and is on board; they are hoping to get a ballpark number for the project for 2018. They would like to interview architectural firms and get design costs in 2019 and move forward in 2020. From a budgetary standpoint, this would flow through as a Capital Project and would not inflate the Sheriff or the Maintenance budgets. Schmidt states that then he will move forward with the \$24,000 proposal next week!

Regarding the Jail population, Schmidt notes that it was ramped down a little because of the pipe project but now they are starting to add again. The Jail numbers are doing fine – 250 to 270/280.

Intra-departmental transfer of budgeted funds: Scott Smith asks to move fuel costs from BU2021 to BU2001; apparently some credit card purchases went to the wrong line item. Regarding the ALPR (auto license plate reader) payment, there was a clerical mix-up with the last payment.

Budgeted Capital Purchase Info: Smith informs that they are finishing up the radio equipment project and have scheduled the replacement of radars in five patrol squads.

The last change in the pipe project is for \$6,000, which is well within the funds allocated. The Contractor needs to go through and sign off. Smith informs that a piece of equipment did go down and will need to be replaced, but it is still under warranty. The Security Electronics project is also going well.

Sheriff Schmidt shares a “feel-good” story. Schmidt recalls that back in September of 2015 he gave a letter of commendation to a young man for helping save a woman. The young man was also given a bicycle at that time. Yesterday Schmidt ran into the young man and inquired as to how he liked the bike. The young man said that the day after he received the bike it was stolen from him at school. Schmidt stopped at Wal-Mart in Beaver Dam and spoke to the store manager and the manager gladly agreed to help out with a new bike and bike lock. Schmidt took the bike to the young man’s house and gave it to him. The young man was smiles from ear to ear. Schmidt expressed how impressed he is with this young man and believes he will do well in the future. Schmidt wants to say a big *Thank You* to Wal-Mart for the bike donation

**Other business:** Miller notes that the Memorial Service held on May 17th was very nice. She asks the Committee Members to put it on their calendars for next year.

**Next Meeting:** Friday, July 7, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. at the Dodge County Justice Facility.

The Committee recessed in order to tour the Huber Facility. Larry Schraufnagel was excused at the time of the recess.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned by Miller at 9:40 a.m.

**Disclaimer:** The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.

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Larry Schraufnagel, Secretary

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Lynn Steger, Recording Secretary