

JUDICIARY AND LAW COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 9, 2010
Administrative Center – Room 3220
2:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vicki Burke, Joe Bilskemper, Bridget Flood, Maureen Freedland, Tara Johnson

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Ray Ebert

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Veenstra

STAFF & GUESTS: Margaret Norden, Jay Loeffler, Steve Helgeson, Steve Anderson, Keith Butler, Jeff Wolf

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

Chair Vicki Burke called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

APPROVE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 8, 2009

MOTION by Johnson/Flood to approve the Committee Minutes of December 8, 2009.

Motion carried unanimously. Ebert excused; Veenstra absent.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Bilskemper/Flood to receive and file the following consent agenda items:

- a. LEC Construction Committee Minutes of December 8, 2009, and January 12, 2010;
- b. Criminal Justice Management Council Minutes of December 16, 2009.

Motion carried unanimously. Ebert excused; Veenstra absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORT

None reported.

EMERGENCY DISPATCH REPORT

Jay Loeffler provided statistics on the number of dispatches. He stated that emergency calls in 2009 were at an average of 77 per day, which was down 3% from 2008. All calls (emergency, non-emergency, and outgoing) averaged 823 per day, down 5% from 2008. He provided statistics on 9-1-1 Answer Performance that showed 95.11% of calls were answered within 10 seconds, 99.38% within 20 seconds, and 99.93% within 40 seconds. He took a random 2.5 minutes of dispatch center activity, which included a multi-vehicle MVA, to show how response times can lag when all operators are engaged, and how difficult it is to predict staffing. He reported that extra time is needed to establish location when the caller is using a cell phone. He stated that cell phones now outnumber land line phones, and wireless calls account for 65% of 9-1-1 calls. Keith Butler also reported on the La Crosse Area Radio Group, which was formed with representatives from each municipality in response to the FCC mandate to use narrow band technology. He spoke about the differences between the Wisconsin (WISCOM) and Minnesota (ARMER) systems. He will return to the Committee regarding the system they will recommend joining. Loeffler also spoke about the obsolete equipment that is used to record 9-1-1 calls. Requests from attorneys, judges, and law enforcement for recordings totaled 306 in 2009. A Request for Proposals for upgrades or replacement will be issued, and he will return with a recommendation.

EMS COMMISSION UPDATE

Jay Loeffler reported that the EMS Commission is currently reviewing an ambulance provider contract, and looking at response times and zones, quality assurance, and clinical quality

oversight. Supervisor Johnson, who serves on the Commission, added that there is a lot of education involved for members to get a common understanding.

APPROVE ANNUAL RADIO SERVICE CONTRACT

The Radio Service Contract from January 20, 2008, through December 31, 2010, was billed at \$77,450.92, less a 5% savings of \$3,872.55 for early payment, for a total of \$73,578.37.

MOTION by Johnson/Bilskemper to approve the annual Radio Service Contract. **Motion carried unanimously.** Ebert excused; Veenstra absent.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS ANNUAL JAIL INSPECTION REPORT

Steve Helgeson reported that the jail inspection was completed on October 28, 2009. The progress summary noted the following:

- The Jail Transition Team is fully operational;
- An electronic bonds system was implemented;
- A nurse practitioner position was added;
- An employment skills program and advanced Bible study were added;
- A National Commission on Correctional Healthcare consultant completed a review;
- The Transition from Jail to Community project and Victim Information Notification Everyday system were initiated;
- Five jailer positions were added in 2009.

The physical environment, health care, objective jail classification, food service, and security all met criteria. There were no citations for any unmet criteria. The Committee congratulated Sheriff Helgeson and the jail staff for a good report.

LEC TRANSITION TEAM UPDATE

Steve Helgeson reported that three jailers volunteered for the Transition Team, and consulted with the National Institute of Corrections about preparing for the transition. They have been working full-time, and have written about 100 pages of documents on policy, procedure, training, and placement of furniture and equipment. The written documentation will also be helpful in training new staff.

RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) GRANT FOR THE DRUG TASK FORCE

Jeff Wolf, who is the project director, reported that the grant, in the amount of \$322,011, is for three years and will fund a full-time drug investigator to assist and coordinate investigations for 17 law enforcement agencies in the five-county Drug Task Force. The grant also covers a half time position for training, implementation and data entry of drug intelligence. The focus will be on pharmaceutical drug crimes and education. They will have to go online with the State drug program. **MOTION** by Freedland/Bilskemper to approve the Resolution Re: Approval of Acceptance of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Grant for the Drug Task Force. **Motion carried unanimously.** Ebert excused; Veenstra absent.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Bear Cat use

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING – FEBRUARY 9, 2010, AT 2:30 P.M.

LEC CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE MEETING – FEBRUARY 9, 2010, AT 4:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Flood/Freedland to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** Ebert excused; Veenstra absent. The meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Approved, March 9, 2010, Margaret Norden, Recorder

