

JUDICIARY AND LAW COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 8, 2010
Administrative Center – Room 3220
2:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vicki Burke, Joe Bilskemper, Maureen Freedland, Tammy Gamroth, Brad Konkel

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Ray Ebert, Bridget Flood

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF & GUESTS: Steve Helgeson, Michael Horstman, Tim Gruenke, Margaret Norden

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MAY 11, 2010

MOTION by Bilskemper/Freedland to approve the Committee Minutes of May 11, 2010.

Motion carried unanimously. Ebert, Flood excused.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Bilskemper/Freedland to receive and file the following consent agenda items: Criminal Justice Management Council Minutes of March 17, 2010. **Motion carried**

unanimously. Ebert, Flood excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORT

None reported.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY ANNUAL REPORT

The Chair took the agenda item out of order. Tim Gruenke reported on number of cases, referral sources, and types of crimes. He stated that this year's numbers are close to where they were last year. He stated they are seeing a reduction in crime overall, but an increase in serious crimes, such as bank robberies, armed robberies, arson, and sexual assault. He stated they are expanding their use of electronic files, and getting their own criminal histories via computer rather than getting paper printouts from Dispatch. They are also connected with the Clerk of Courts, and can file criminal complaints electronically. Their attorney staff has remained stable with eight attorneys. They are making good use of college and law school interns, particularly in the Victim-Witness program. He spoke about the challenges of meeting state mandates without funding, and said that reimbursement for Victim-Witness has been steadily decreasing.

RESOLUTION RE: AGE OF JUVENILE COURT JURISDICTION

The Resolution calls for returning the adult jurisdiction age to 18 years old, and retaining 17 year old criminal defendants in the juvenile court system. It also calls for full funding to counties to offset the costs of serving 17 year olds. The Resolution will be shared with the Wisconsin Counties Association, Wisconsin Human Services Association, and the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. The Resolution was approved by the County Health and Human Services Board and the Legislative Committee. Supervisor Freedland asked about a revision regarding funding, and Steve O'Malley suggested she speak with Supervisor Medinger to coordinate changes he suggested, and to introduce the proposed changes on the County Board floor. **MOTION** by Freedland/Bilskemper to approve the Resolution Re: Age of Juvenile Court Jurisdiction. **Motion carried unanimously.** Ebert, Flood excused.

RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SHERIFF TO PURCHASE FINGER PRINT MACHINE AND TO TRANSFER FUNDING FROM IT AND JAIL ASSESSMENTS UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE

The Resolution states that two vendor proposals were reviewed by a team from the Jail, Purchasing, and Information Technology. The team chose VisionAir as the vendor. The Resolution calls for transfer of \$27,840.00 from the Jail Assessment Undesignated Fund Balance. The IT Department can contribute \$9,000 due to its integration with the VisionAir software. The total purchase cost would be \$36,840.00. Steve Helgeson reported that digital scans are accepted by the State Department of Justice, which then sends to the FBI; ink fingerprints are no longer accepted. The software on the existing machine is out of date, and the maintenance agreement expires in June, 2010. **MOTION** by Bilskemper/Konkel to approve the Resolution Re: Authorization for the Sheriff to purchase finger print machine and to transfer funding from IT and Jail Assessments Undesignated Fund Balance. **Motion carried unanimously.** Ebert, Flood excused.

APPROVE 2010 JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG)

Michael Horstman gave an update on the JAG grant, which was part of the 2010 budget process. It is shared with the City of La Crosse Police Department with \$15,888 for each department for a total of \$31,776. It enables purchase or upgrade of equipment. The Sheriff's Department will purchase three additional mobile radios, one new portable radio, and extra batteries for the existing portable radios. The grant will also pay for installation.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None requested.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING – JULY 6, 2010, AT 2:30 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Bilskemper/Konkel to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** Ebert, Flood excused. The meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

Approved, July 6, 2010, Margaret Norden, Recorder