

JUDICIARY AND LAW COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 12, 2010
Administrative Center – Room 3220
2:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vicki Burke, Joe Bilskemper (exc. 3:20), Ray Ebert, Bridget Flood (2:37), Maureen Freedland, Tammy Gamroth

MEMBERS EXCUSED: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brad Konkel

STAFF & GUESTS: Steve O'Malley, Steve Helgeson, Doris Daggett, Michael Horstman, Jeff Wolf, Margaret Norden, Jay Loeffler, Tim Gruenke, Sharon Hampson, Mary Powell, Mary Geske, Bryan Jostad, Samantha Marcus, Gary Ingvalson, Bill Shepherd

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

Chair Vicki Burke called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

APPROVE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF AUGUST 10, 2010

MOTION by Freedland/Bilskemper to approve the Committee Minutes of August 10, 2010.

Motion carried unanimously. Flood excused; Konkel absent.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Bilskemper/Freedland to receive and file the following consent agenda items: Criminal Justice Management Council Meeting Minutes June 16, 2010, and August 18, 2010; Law Enforcement Construction Committee Minutes of August 10, 2010. **Motion carried unanimously.** Flood excused; Konkel absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORT

Chair Burke reported that the Urban Institute will make a site visit on October 21-22, 2010. Supervisor Freedland reported on a Restorative Justice Task Force meeting that had a presentation on returning 17 year old offenders to the juvenile justice system.

ORDINANCE TO CREATE S.9.18 ENTITLED "SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID PROHIBITED" AND AMEND S.2504(4)(C) ENTITLED "SCHEDULE OF DEPOSITS" OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

The Ordinance seeks to ban the sale, possession or use of incense that is coated with synthetic marijuana. The substance is estimated to be 10 to 15 times stronger than marijuana. The Ordinance would impact only townships, not village or cities, within La Crosse County. Jeff Wolf and Tim Gruenke responded to questions regarding testing and enforcement, and reported that since testing is not available locally, it would be enforced the same as the cigarette ordinance. Supervisors Bilskemper and Freedland stated they would like to have more information regarding health aspects, impact on jail population, and enforcement.

MOTION by Bilskemper/Ebert to approve the Ordinance to Create S.9.18 Entitled "Synthetic Cannabinoid Prohibited" and Amend S.2504(4)(c) Entitled "Schedule of Deposits" of the General Code of La Crosse County, Wisconsin. **No action taken.**

MOTION by Bilskemper/Ebert to refer 60 days to the regular December meeting of the Judiciary and Law Committee. **Motion carried unanimously.** Konkel absent.

RESOLUTION RE: SUPPORT FOR BANNING SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS

The Resolution supports state legislation to ban synthetic cannabinoids that are already banned in eight states, with legislation pending in five other states. It explains that

synthetic cannabinoids are packaged as incense, which circumvents Food and Drug Administration testing. Steve O'Malley reported that the Resolution was referred 60 days by the Legislative Committee. **MOTION** by Flood/Bilskemper to refer 60 days. **Motion carried unanimously.** Konkel absent.

JAIL ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT

The report of the 2010 annual inspection of the La Crosse County Jail was provided to the committee. The report cited the following:

- A significant amount of in-house training
- The work with the Urban Institute and National Institute of Correction to enhance jail-to-community transitions
- Increased mental health services
- The work of the jail staff in transitioning to the new construction
- Implementation of live scan technology

The report concluded that jail operations were in substantial compliance with administrative code and statutory requirements, and commended Captain Daggett and staff. Discussion was held regarding ADA requirements, which are compliant in both the new addition and the 1997 building. Further discussion was held regarding staffing. Daggett explained that duties have been split between medical and management roles, with an LPN who is interested in the administrative role appointed as the new site manager, and an RN appointed to be medical director. They are interviewing a nurse practitioner. Daggett explained that there will be more documentation of searches in the jail, and jailers will sign off on a form.

APPROVE DIGITAL LOGGING SYSTEM

Bryan Jostad and Jay Loeffler provided scoring information for 10 vendors to provide a digital logging recorder system to replace the existing system. Vendors were scored by a team on the following criteria: Technical specifications (50 points); scope of work (50 points); technical support (30 points); qualifications and experience (10 points); cost of system (40 points); maintenance cost (20 points), interview and demonstration (100 points). Of the ten vendors, seven did not interview. The three remaining scored as follows:

Vendor	Score	Cost of System	Maintenance Cost after 1 st year
CenturyLink	262	\$30,000.00	\$5,223.00
VPI	225	\$25,402.00	\$3,996.00
CVDS	254	\$22,916.00	\$2,651.00

The team recommended CenturyLink based on local support, easy to add features and upgrades, functionality, and analytics. Discussion was held regarding maintenance response time, and Loeffler reported that CenturyLink provides prompt, local response, whereas the next nearest vendor could need at least four hours to respond. **MOTION** by Freedland/Bilskemper to approve CenturyLink to provide a digital logging recorder system. **Motion carried unanimously.** Konkel absent.

2011 BUDGET REVIEW FOR DEPARTMENTS THAT REPORT TO THIS COMMITTEE

Steve O'Malley provided an overview of department budgets. He reported that each department worked hard to hold the line as much as possible.

- Mediation: Budget is virtually identical to 2010, with a levy increase related to wages and benefits.
- Victim-Witness: There was a slight increase in levy. The budget includes Stepping Stones child advocacy that is under the general fund.
- District Attorney: There was a slight increase in levy representing a shift from single to family health insurance coverage.

- Emergency Services, Emergency Management, and HAZMAT: There were slight increases in Emergency Services and Emergency Management. HAZMAT remained almost identical to 2010.
- Sheriff: The department was challenged to keep close to 0% with 47 positions subject to step increases, raises, and changes in health coverage. Vehicle maintenance went down.
- Jail: There was a slight drop in net funding of levy. There was a decrease in the phone system due to inmates being issued phone cards. They continue to look for additional savings with Aramark food service.
- Clerk of Courts: There was a slight drop in levy. Juror costs remained similar to 2010.
- Family Court Commissioner: There was a slight decrease in total levy.

Discussion was held regarding staff suggestions for cost savings, and O'Malley replied that some suggestions had already been done in 2010, and there was a need to communicate that more effectively. A suggestion to look at staff/management ratios was done with the result of two management positions being phased out.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

HPL review – November

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

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Flood/Freedland to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** Bilskemper, Konkel excused. Meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Approved, November 2, 2010, Margaret Norden, Recorder