

Green County Law Enforcement Committee

Meeting Minutes from June 13, 2023

Members Present:

Richard Thoman, Chairperson
Joe Snow, Vice-Chairperson
Mark Gundlach
David Tschudy
Isaiah Carlson

Non-members Present:

Dana Weber, Recording Secretary
Sheriff Jeffrey Skatrud
Chief Deputy Thomas Moczynski
EMG Director Gary Ziegler

1. Verified that door is unlocked-Social distancing exercised.
2. Meeting called to order @ 5:45 p.m. by Chairman Richard Thoman.
3. **Approve minutes of previous regular meeting:** Motion to approve minutes of the previous meeting by Mark Gundlach; 2nd by Joe Snow. Motion carried.
4. **Review Emergency Management updates:** Emergency Management Director Gary Ziegler updated the committee that the county has received the 2022 EMPG and EPCRA grant monies that we were waiting for. EMG Director Ziegler gave an overview on the Emergency Management activities, training and upcoming grants. EMG Director Ziegler advised that a new part-time program assistant started on May 30.
5. **Review and possible approval of WPPA Patrol/Jail and dispatch wage increases in comparison to other county agencies:** Sheriff Jeffrey Skatrud advised the committee that they approved wage increases last month for the patrol, detectives, lieutenants and the chief deputy. Sheriff Skatrud indicated that in order to recruit jailer and dispatchers, he would like to increase their wages by \$1.00 and increase the wages for patrol and detectives by \$2.00 effective on July 9th. Sheriff Skatrud went over with the committee the wages for jailers, dispatchers and deputies and what the pay is in other counties and at agencies in our own county. Sheriff Skatrud advised that this will also help with moral and hopefully, recruiting. Sheriff Skatrud advised that our county has lost 5 patrol deputies recently to other agencies, basically due to wages. Sheriff Skatrud asked the committee to look at adopting an updated wage scale to help stay competitive with other counties and to help with retention. Sheriff Skatrud advised that we are losing good employees that have had a lot of training and knowledge to help the new recruits. The committee discussed in detail the wages for each department for this year and for the future to stay competitive. The committee looked at an updated wage scale to start on July 9 of this year for the Patrol Deputies, Jailers, Dispatchers, Detectives, Lieutenants and Chief Deputy to help with retention.
Sheriff Skatrud advised that the WPPA would have to approve the wage scale for the jailers, patrol deputies and detectives as they are under a union contract through the end of 2024. Sheriff Skatrud advised that the department has been short in patrol, jail and dispatch and had budgeted for retired/resigned deputies, which will help cover the increases. Sheriff Skatrud indicated that there are other budgeted items that the department can use to help cover the increases.
Joe Snow made a motion to approve the updated wage scales for Patrol Deputies, Detectives, Lieutenants, Jailers, Dispatchers and the Chief Deputy and forward to Personnel and Salary to help retain staff and to be competitive with other counties; 2nd by Mark Gundlach. Motion carried.
6. **Training requests:** Sheriff Jeffrey Skatrud and Chief Deputy Moczynski had the following training request:
 - 1) The department K-9 deputy to attend K-9 Maintenance Training in Humboldt, IA on July 31-August 1 with one overnight and the registration is free;
 - 2) A lieutenant to attend the National Tactical Officer's Association (NTOA) Law Enforcement

Operations Conference in Aurora, CO, on August 27-September 1, with 5 overnights and registration fee of \$489.00;

3) Lead Dispatcher to attend the 2023 Annual National Council of Negotiation Associations (NCNA) training conference in Des Moines, IA from September 17-21 with four overnights and there is no cost for hotel and registration;

4) Sheriff Skatrud requested to attend the Badger State Sheriff Association Conference on August 1-3 in Warrens, WI with 2 overnights and a registration cost of \$100.00.

Isaiah Carlson made a motion to approve the trainings; 2nd by David Tschudy. Motion carried.

7. Review jail population and jail medical issues: The jail housed an average on 39 inmates in May, with 40 in the jail today. Sheriff Skatrud advised that the department had 66 bookings in May, with 68 releases. Sheriff Skatrud advised that we are still short jailers and hopefully, will have those positions filled soon.

8. Review and possible action regarding an official agreement reference 911 Dispatch services for the City of Brodhead: Sheriff Skatrud advised that this topic will be discussed for several months. Sheriff Skatrud indicated that the department met with the Chief of Police for Brodhead yesterday and the department will be taking over all dispatching services for them effective January 1. Sheriff Skatrud told the committee that we are currently dispatching for the City of Brodhead and the financial part needs to be looked at. Effective July 1 the BEEMS Alert will be going away for Brodhead. Sheriff Skatrud indicated that our department workload needs to be looked at, along with our staffing and how the calls are coming in. Sheriff Skatrud advised that hopefully, we will have an agreement by August. Sheriff Skatrud said that the department has handled 95 cases for Brodhead since the first of the year.

9. Review and approve public safety and department updates: Sheriff Jeffrey Skatrud updated the committee that the department has handled 323 cases for other agencies in the county since the first of the year and the department workload is increasing. Sheriff Skatrud advised that the department had 178 pocket/misdialed calls just for May.

10. Review monthly budget: Sheriff Jeffrey Skatrud advised that the department has spent about 41% of the budget thus far this year and the department is currently on track.

11. Audit bills: The department bills were reviewed and signed. A motion was made by David Tschudy and seconded by Joe Snow to approve the bills. Motion carried.

12. Next Meeting: Next meeting date is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, July 11 at 5:45 p.m. Joe Snow moved to adjourn and Mark Gundlach seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m. by Chairman Thoman.

Submitted by Dana Weber