

**DRAFT**

**Buffalo County Public Meeting Minutes**

**Committee/Board:** LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
COMMITTEE

**Date of Meeting:** May 15, 2018

**Electronic and Hardcopy Filing Date:** May 29, 2018

Meeting called to order by Mr. Kriesel, appointed by Board Chair McMillan Urell, at 3:03pm.

Members present: John Kriesel, Scott Smith, Bernie Brunkow, Mike Taylor, and Dennis Bork

Others present: Sheriff Schmidtknecht, Melissa Brunner, Chief Deputy Engfer, Sergeant Logan Olson, Lieutenant Mikelson, Investigator Mike Osmond, and Bruce Fuerbringer

Public: None

Mr. Kriesel opened the floor for nominations for Chair. Mr. Bork nominated Bernie Brunkow, second by Mr. Smith. Unanimous vote of all members, Mr. Brunkow nominated as Chair. Motion carried.

Mr. Brunkow asked for nominations for Vice Chair. Mr. Kriesel nominated Scott Smith, second by Mr. Bork. Unanimous vote of all members, Mr. Smith nominated as Vice Chair. Motion carried.

Mr. Kriesel made a motion to approve April minutes as presented, second by Mr. Taylor. Motion carried.

Review of April bills paid in May. Mr. Smith made a motion to accept bills as presented, second by Mr. Taylor. Motion carried.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht presented the current expenditures for the year. He reiterated that from time to time an unexpected purchase is made but it's been his understanding that the main concern is the bottom line figure at the end of the year.

Discussion of the 2017 year-end budget. Mr. Bork wondered why not hire another deputy if the overall budget was under by a significant amount? It was clarified that if a new position was being hired, it would have to go through a procedure and brought in front of the full county board, even if an office/department is under budget.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht discussed that the linear jail has capacity for 26 beds, however, the jail is considered full at 80% capacity. Lieutenant Mikelson discussed segregation within the jail and its importance. Some inmates should not be housed together due to restraining orders situations, males/females, and administrative reasons.

Chief Deputy Engfer presented his April report. There were 614 Calls for Services made. There were 12 over-time hours for the spring Flood Run, due to unforeseen circumstances. There are many rival gangs that come in to the area so having visual law enforcement presence aids in keeping the peace. 36 hours will be reimbursed due to Fountain City patrol coverage. In addition, there was over-time for special events such as the OWI-mock crash which was held in

April at the CFC school. There was discussion as to which squads will be replaced with the lease vehicles arriving in July.

Lieutenant Mikelson presented her report. Year to date, there has been 184 bookings. Discussion was held regarding convicted/non-convicted and probation holds bookings. The Pepin County contract was renewed monthly and revised from a 6 to 8 bed contract.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht presented his report. To date there are 14 males and 3 females in custody. The office staffing transitions have been going okay; a few hiccups. The agency is looking at the possibilities of having the Naloxone antidote available for non-public use only at this time, however, the vaccine is very heat/cold sensitive and could not be kept in their squads. There are many factors to look into i.e. associated costs

Mr. Fuerbringer presented the committee his report. He has been working on the POW (Plan of Work) for the county emergency management and has been completed. The FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant project is still a work in progress; anticipated completion of June 30, 2018. He has been working with Emergency Response agencies in Buffalo County, Winona, and Wabasha to streamline the communication issues as Buffalo County uses VHF radio frequency and Minnesota uses 800MH. He is also working with other county departments to replace the current "red" fire/address signs. Local emergency services have been working with other county departments to setup a safety/educational booth at the Buffalo County Fair this year.

Emergency Management is looking to re-create the train derailment from the 1990's as an exercise to be held in Fountain City; Winona County would like to be part of the reenactment as well.

June meeting is currently set for June 22, 2018 at 9:00am.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Smith.

Meeting adjourned at 4:44pm.

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Melissa L. Brunner, Secretary