

DRAFT

Buffalo County Public Meeting Minutes

Committee/Board: LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: August 21, 2018

Electronic and Hardcopy Filing Date: September 11, 2018

Meeting called to order by Mr. Brunkow at 9:35am.

Members present pursuant to roll call: Bernie Brunkow, John Kriesel, Scott Smith, Mike Taylor-EXCUSED, and Dennis Bork

Others present: Sheriff Schmidtknecht, Melissa Brunner, Chief Deputy Engfer, Lieutenant Mikelson, and Bruce Fuerbringer-Entered at 10:40am

Minutes approved as mailed. Motion by Mr. Kriesel, second by Mr. Bork. Motion carried.

Due to Mr. Fuerbringer not being available at the start of the meeting, Emergency Management was moved further down the agenda.

#10-July bills paid in August: Mr. Kriesel made a motion to accept bills as presented, second by Mr. Bork. Motion carried.

#11-Fuel Management: Mr. Brunkow took the lead on this agenda item as it was an item he wanted added to the agenda. He discussed the option to have three separate cardrol locations for the larger departments to utilize (highway, health/human services, and law enforcement). Tanks are already present at the highway department but the equipment to run the cards would need to be purchased. Once the initial cost of the equipment is paid for the highway department calculated a .30¢ savings per gallon. Sheriff Schmidtknecht stated that if his office was going to be charged an administration fee from the highway department, he would not be on board with the purchase. It is still a discussion point at this time.

#12-Law Enforcement expenditures: No movement to present to committee as the county's financial system has been down for 3 weeks.

#13-Update to LE/Jail staffing: Sheriff Schmidtknecht discussed the struggle to finding applicants. The communications/corrections officer position closes this Friday, August 24th. He advised the committee that C/C applicants can be trained; they don't need to have a criminal justice degree. Ideally, he is hoping to get interns and groom them for either part-time or full-time employment.

#14-Resolution to Backfill One (1) Deputy Position Due to the Creation of Two (2) Sergeant Positions was discussed. The Human Resource Committee asked for the resolution to be brought back to the home committee to discuss further as they wanted to know where the funds were going to come from in 2019 to fund this position. Sheriff Schmidtknecht discussed the strategic planning for the deputy position and provided a handout to the committee. The additional deputy salary is a cost of (\$81,000). Sheriff suggested subtracting the 2018 remaining salary of the ½ Administrative Assistant position that was not used (-\$26,679), subtracting the 2019 salary for the ½ Administrative Assistant position not used (-\$33,637), and cut (-\$6,000) from the part-time line item, and would cut

(-\$10,000) from the over-time line item. Which would only add an additional cost of (+\$4,684) to the 2019 Patrol Budget. What are the county's priorities? Mr. Smith made a motion to reaffirm the resolution and plan of action for costs of position, and forwarded back to the Human Resource Committee for their September agenda, second Mr. Kriesel. Motion carried.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht then discussed the 2019 patrol budget, which currently doesn't include the strategic planning but includes all figures he can control, which doesn't include any salary/benefit increases/ or revisions. The strategic planning would include the addition of 1-patrol deputy, the addition of 1-3-dispatch chairs

Sheriff reiterated that the state jail inspector suggested the hiring of 5-communications/corrections officers but only 4 officers were hired, which is part of the strategic planning. Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the budget with the added strategic planning, which includes the patrol position and the added communications/corrections officer position, and 3-dispatch chairs, second by Mr. Kriesel. Motion carried to move budget forward with strategic planning amendments to finance.

#16-UPS Battery update: Lieutenant Mikelson is still waiting on a pending quote. She should have everything gathered by September's meeting.

#17-North tower control building repairs: Sheriff Schmidtknecht advised the committee that a tree limb had fallen on the building. Quotes were received by Risler Construction: \$650 to fix the roof with the use of a sealant; \$900 to fix with by installing a rubber roof. The plan is to repair the roof and split the costs with the highway department since they use the tower also. In addition, the door to the electrical equipment is in need of repair. Chief Deputy Engfer will check with Risler to see if that repair could be added into the \$650 quote. Mr. Bork made a motion to approve the \$650 repair, second by Mr. Smith pending quote on door repair.

Chief Deputy Engfer presented his monthly report. 763 calls for service for the month of July. 65 hours of over-time, 20 of those hours will be reimbursed. Average vehicle mileage is 1785. He wanted to recognize Sergeant Ryan Howell and Deputy Jake Laehn, who went above and beyond to attempt to save a life on July 2, 2018 at a fatal crash. The committee would like to recognize the two officers in September.

Lieutenant Mikelson reported that as of the end of July, there have been 302 bookings. Only 2 inmates with Huber privileges but neither are employed. ES Sanctions fees collected year to date is \$7,101.48. No jail assessment number to provide as the county's financial system is still inoperable.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht advised the committee of two major incidents that occurred within the county 1) stolen vehicle/robbery and 2) speed chase. Both incidents took extra manpower but both subjects were eventually caught.

#5-Emergency Management expenditures: Mr. Fuerbringer didn't have expenditures to present due to the county's financial system being down.

#6-Emergency Management written report: The FEMA mitigation grant project in Gilmanston has been completed. Mr. Fuerbringer is still working on a patch for the radio frequencies between Minnesota and Buffalo County. A grant source for the patch is being explored. The Buffalo County Fair was a success and planning how to improve presence for 2019. He was recently part of a couple

of large emergency exercises in Pepin County and Fountain City simulating the 1993 “butter fire” and a nuclear power plant release scenario.

Mr. Fuerbringer also discussed that the Next Gen-911 is underway and should be to Buffalo County within 2-3 years and would like to get together with the sheriff’s office to discuss. Mr. Smith made a motion to accept written report, second by Mr. Bork. Motion carried.

#8-#9-Emergency Management Budget for 2019 and LEPC 2019 strategic planning:

Mr. Fuerbringer advised the committee that he discovered that the county is potentially losing out on funding by not combining the LEPC and EM budgets so they are now combined. He advised that he is planning ahead and has budgeted \$35,000 for a new vehicle in the capital outlay line item. Mr. Fuerbringer believes that it would be a vehicle that could be used for any emergency event; it could even be used by law enforcement or highway. He is looking further into whether or not the vehicle purchase could be covered partially or whole by a grant. Mr. Kriesel made a motion to approve the budget as presented to finance, less the \$35,000 which could be purchased by grant monies, second by Mr. Bork. Motion carried.

September meeting is currently set for September 18th at 9:30am.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10pm.

Melissa L. Brunner, Secretary