

MINUTES
Iowa County – Justice Committee
January 6, 2009

1. **The Justice Committee met in the Lower Level Meeting Room of the Sheriff's Department in the City of Dodgeville on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 at 6:15 p.m. and was called to order by Sup. Phil Mrozinski.**
2. **Roll call was taken.**
Committee members present: Sups. Gerald Dorscheid, Greg Parman, Larry Steffes Bob Bunker, Mark Masters, Dwayne Hiltbrand, Phil Mrozinski and Carol Anderson.
Excused/absent: Sup. Joe Thomas.

Also present: Sheriff Steve Michek, Chief Deputy Jon Pepper, Clerk of Court Carolyn Olson, Child Support Director Deb Rosenthal and Randy Terronez, County Administrator.
3. **Motion by Sup. Gerald Dorscheid, second by Sup. Larry Steffes to approve the certification of the meeting. Motion carried.**
5. **Motion by Sup. Larry Steffes, second by Sup. Gerald Dorscheid to approve the amended agenda for this January 6, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.**
6. **Motion by Sup. Carol Anderson, second by Sup. Gerald Dorscheid to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2008 meeting. Motion carried.**
7. **Open session – Comments from audience /Committee members:**
 1. **Sup. Carol Anderson commented that she was impressed by the content of discussions at the Attorney General JB Von Hollen Forum held at the House on the Rock Inn on Wednesday, December 17 and attended by a variety of Iowa County officials including Sheriff Steve Michek, Sups. Carol Anderson, Mark Masters, Dave Bauer, etc. Others commented on the quality of his staff that were present and spoke and the improved turnaround in DNA testing.**
8. **Old Business: None**
9. **New Business**

Child Support

Certificate of Excellence Award - 2008

Deb Rosenthal was present to review enclosure noting Iowa County has received this recognition every year since the award was established with the exception of 2006. The period covers October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008. Only 8 other counties in the state received this recognition. The County has received an additional allocation of incentive monies (approximately \$750). The Child

Support Office consists of the Director, Specialist and Department Assistant. The department was challenged again this year due to staff turnover and training of new staff.

Committee members congratulated Deb for her and her staff fine work and achievement. She will be giving a brief presentation at the January 20 County Board meeting.

Emergency Government

Office Relocation

Randy Terronez updated the Committee that the office would be relocated to the Health Department lease space as a result of the Commission on Aging ADRC staff additions.

Clerk of Court

Staffing Update

Carolyn Olson, Clerk of Court was present to review the staffing update with the Committee. A meeting was held this week to review the status of providing staff from other county offices to the Clerk of Court as the vacant part-time position is not currently being filled. Carolyn expressed concerns on not knowing who will be sent to her office, not being able to direct the assigned person (note – Dixie Edge expressed concern on utilizing her employee in the Court Room). Carolyn noted that the Register of Deeds employee wasn't able to spend the full amount of time in training. The Register of Deeds will be short-staffed next week and will result in staff from the Land Conservation Office performing the filing for the Clerk of Court. Other departments such as the County Treasurers Office may be utilized to provide staff back up.

Motion by Sup. Larry Steffes second by Sup. Gerald Dorscheid to approve the following components of the Clerk of Court part-time staff area:

1. Provide the Clerk of Court with staff resources from the Register of Deeds and back up from the Land Conservation Office for 17.5 hours/week with schedule to be established by the Clerk of Court.
2. While the employee is in the Clerk of Courts Office, the Clerk of Court will assign duties.
3. The primary staff resource will come from the Register of Deeds Office and when the Register of Deeds Office cannot provide the staff, the back up Department will be an employee from the Land Conservation Department.

Motion passed.

Marathon County Court Case

Carolyn updated Committee on a Marathon County Court case- trial that will be using Iowa County residents as the jury. Jury selection will be done in Iowa County from a pool of 80 potential jurors. Once the 18 people have been selected, they will have an hour or so to pack and will be bussed to Wausau for a 4-5 week trial. Several county employees have been called for this jury pool.

Carolyn explained the jury process to Committee members. Annually, the DOT sends her office approximately 4,000 Iowa County residents randomly selected from the DOT data base (drivers license and ID list). The Clerk of Court office then has their jury selection software identify a smaller

pool of prospective jurors. Each jury panel serves for 30 days and once they serve a trial, they are excused from being selected for four years.

Sheriff's Department

Towing Policy/Procedure

County Administrator Randy Terronez received a phone call from a towing company inquiring about the Sheriff's Department towing process and indicated they may want to appear before the Committee.

Sheriff Steve Michek provided background on the department's rotation of towing service in cases where the car owner does not request a specific towing service. In approximately 50% of the time the motorist does not specify a towing service. The department will generally rotate the contacting of towing companies. He reviewed the following data for the period of December 1-29 and included towing companies requested by motorists: Hasse – 8, Gaugers – 2, Prairie Land – 18, Ridge – 2, Randy's – 24, and Marklein -13.

Sheriff Steve Michek commented on a towing service that tends to charge a higher rate than others and results in motorist complaints.

The department is developing an impoundment policy and will incorporate major towing procedural areas. The policy will be forwarded to a future Committee meeting.

Jail Inmate Meals Update

Sheriff Steve Michek reviewed agenda enclosure and provided additional background information on the responsiveness of the current vendor Aramark to the County's concerns. A recent concern dealt with what appeared to be mold on a donut but was in fact a burn from the baking rack.

It was noted that Bloomfield Manor is providing meals to SUN's Dodgeville Senior Center.

Noise Ordinance Review

Chief Deputy Jon Pepper reviewed agenda enclosure. Committee members were requested to bring back revisions to the February Committee meeting.

Sheriff's Dept. Report including Employment Update

Sheriff Steve Michek gave the following report:

1. A patrol car was damaged after being hit by an SUV. The deputy suffered minor injuries and was off work for a few days. The patrol unit has 51,000 miles and is being repaired.
2. The vehicle replaced by the insurance company is being outfitted.
3. Attorney General JB Von Hollen's meeting was very productive. The Department will be participating in the state's internet predator program and will be assigning an officer to attend the training.
4. 2 employees are at the Madison Corrections Officers Training School for certification.
5. Training programs based in Dubuque and Minneapolis are being investigated for department staff.

Radio Communications Study Request for Proposal

The Sheriff's has been previously authorized to obtain proposals for a radio communications study. Sheriff Steve Michek distributed draft proposal and requested Committee feedback within 10 days (Friday, January 16).

Other

Randy Terronez distributed invitation to Leo Klosterman retirement event.

Randy Terronez informed Committee that the January 20 Board meeting will start at 6:00 p.m. with a series of economic development related presentations and the normal business scheduled for approximately 7:00 p.m.

Randy Terronez noted that the Governor's Office has requested county input on a federal stimulus project list and several Sheriff's Department projects will be submitted.

- 10. The next meeting date was set for Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at 6:15 p.m., at the Sheriff's Department Lower Level Conference Room. (Note – the agenda had an incorrect date.)**
- 11. Motion by Sup. Gerald Dorscheid, second by Sup. Larry Steffes to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Minutes by Randy Terronez, County Administrator