PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Pursuant to Section 19.84 Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Public Safety Committee** was held on Wednesday, June 3, 2015 at the Brown County Sheriff's Office, 2684 Development Drive, Green Bay, WI

Present: Chair Buckley, Supervisor La Violette, Supervisor Clancy, Supervisor Nicholson, Supervisor Zima
Also Present: Supervisors Jamir and Kaye, Cullen Peltier, Chad Weininger, Sheriff Gossage, Jeff Jansen, Dave Lasee, Don Hein, Todd Delain, Warren Kraft

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I. **Call meeting to order.**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Patrick Buckley at 11:00 am.

II. **Approve/Modify Agenda.**

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

III. **Approve/Modify Minutes of April 1, 2015.**

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

After the minutes were approved, it was noted that the minutes reflect that Supervisor Zima arrived to the April 1, 2015 meeting at 11:25 am, however, the minutes should read that Supervisor Nicholson arrived at 11:25 am.

Comments from the Public. None.

1. Review minutes of:

a. Local Emergency Planning Committee – LEPC (March 10, 2015).

Motion made by Supervisor Clancy, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Public Safety Communications Advisory Board (July 31, 2013).

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Communications

2. Communication from Supervisor Nicholson re: Requesting that Brown County Corporation Counsel draft a resolution to the State of Wisconsin in support of drug testing individuals who receive public assistance. *Referred from May County Board.*

Supervisor Nicholson said he brought this forward because there is a bill at the State level that will be decided at budget time and he felt that the Brown County Board should pass a resolution in support of the bill. Nicholson continued that he feels that if the public is receiving tax payers' dollars such as public assistance, unemployment, etc., they should have a clean bill of health and not be utilizing finances for illegal drug activities or to fulfill their needs as users. He continued that he would like to see Corporation Counsel draft a resolution in support of this bill and have the County Board support it at the next meeting as he felt it was very important at this time.

Supervisor La Violette felt this idea sounds so appealing to so many people, but she questioned if anyone has done any sort of cost benefit study as to how much it will cost to do drug testing and what kind of procedures will be put in place for people who do not pass the drug test and how those procedures will be funded.

Supervisor Clancy asked if there is any information as to the percentage of people who are receiving benefits that are on drugs or abusing the system in any other way. He felt that if this was a big problem, it should be pursued, but if the problem is not widespread, it gets back to the cost of it and he would like to wait to see if he can get more enlightenment. Nicholson responded that that is a crutch that can be relied on, but he is not going to rely on that to defend or be against this issue. Nicholson continued that this is currently at the State level and he is asking the Board to support the idea as the bill is in process. He noted that the bill may not even pass, but felt that a resolution from the County would be a good start to support the idea of drug testing of those receiving public assistance. Nicholson felt there will be a lot of questions when the bill is debated at the State level and he felt that the County should support this and let the State bring out all of the information as to cost and finances as well as the numbers of individuals receiving help. He did not think it was the County's job to find out the numbers of how many people are involved with public assistance and all that he is asking for is a resolution stating that the County supports this.

Supervisor Zima arrived at 11:07 am.

La Violette stated that she will be abstaining from voting on this because she does not feel like she has enough information at this time. She also has a concern as to how taxpayer dollars are spent. La Violette continued that there are so many serious issues that need to be funded and she is not going to support this without more information.

Buckley commented that he is totally against anyone on public assistance using drugs. He does not know how widespread this is and felt that this may open the door to find out what is going on. He noted that he recently had a conversation with a friend who was drug tested to get a job and he felt that people who are receiving assistance should not be exempt from drug testing.

Supervisor Zima stated that he supports this and something similar to this was implemented in another state and it was found that the numbers of people using drugs and receiving public assistance was less than what was expected. He continued that this may also help people clean up their acts and he would hope that drug testing could be used as a tool to get people enrolled in drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs. He continued that the argument against this would be that it is the families who suffer. He stated that in New Jersey it is common practice that when the welfare checks come out the drug dealers are on the corners waiting for the customers. He felt there are people that abuse the system and others that do not and this is not an easy situation but felt that anything that creates a deterrent or makes people think twice would be beneficial, especially if in order to regain benefits a person would have to enroll in a rehabilitation program.

Buckley felt there were plenty of opportunities for people to get help if they do have a drug problem, but felt that something like this may address the casual user issues. Zima stated that the system is definitely broken and he feels that anyone receiving assistance should have to do something to get it so they are busy and doing something productive, but these ideas seem to be passé and are resulting in increasing problems.

Clancy felt that if someone is down and out, it is bad enough to go fill out the forms and ask for help, and having to go get checked to see if you are on drugs may result in preventing people from asking for help they need as it is another hurdle to clear. Clancy said he will support this at this time, but with reservations. Buckley commented that a lot of the people who are getting welfare have no problem going to ask for it.

La Violette believes that anyone who can work should work in order to get welfare benefits, but she has seen people at the jail and the mental health center who would have a very difficult time finding a job. She felt it was easy to say that everyone on welfare should work, but she does not think this is reality. Zima added that some people are not hirable to a certain extent, but that does not mean that there should not be some sort of public work available for them until they are able to transition back into an employable state.

Supervisor Jamir stated that a resolution would simply be supporting what the State is thinking of doing. We are not implementing policy or anything else. He felt that the County should support what is happening at the State, and if it passes at the State level, the County can then decide what the next step should be.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Zima to have a resolution drafted by Corporation Counsel in support of drug testing individuals who receive public assistance. Ayes: Buckley, Zima, Nicholson, Clancy Abstain: La Violette. MOTION CARRIED

3. Communication from Supervisor Buckley re: To have administration work with Door and Oconto County to negotiate a contract with a county that currently has medical forensic pathologists that have the ability to bring on Brown County and its partners. *Referred from May County Board.*

Director of Administration Chad Weininger suggested taking this Item along with Items 11 and 22 following Item 21.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to take Items 3, 11 and 22 following Item 21. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Communication from Vice Chair Lund re: Open Session: Discussion and possible action regarding consideration of personnel issues and investigation of problems which have arisen in the Medical Examiner's Department. *Referred from May County Board.*

Weininger stated that this should be discussed in closed session. Buckley stated that the Executive Committee dealt with this issue and he thought this was sent back to Public Safety to buy time for a closed session to be held at the next County Board meeting.

Motion made by Supervisor La Violette, seconded by Supervisor Nicholson to refer to the June County Board meeting. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Safety Communications

5. Budget Status Financial Report for March & April, 2015 (unaudited).

Public Safety Communications Director Cullen Peltier stated that the department is tracking well. The only area of concern is the turnover reduction number under personnel expenses. It is high this year and he does not know if they will have the turnover to meet the budget. He noted that they had the same issue last year and were able to work around it by finding savings to offset it and they will continue to do that this year.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Budget Adjustment Request (15-36): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue.

This Hazmat budget adjustment is to appropriate funding from Kewaunee County and the State of Wisconsin for Hazmat services at the Kewaunee Nuclear plant. These funds will be used for repairs and maintenance on air monitoring and calibration kits for response to the nuclear plant. They are not budgeted because receiving these funds was not anticipated.

Motion made by Supervisor Clancy, seconded by Supervisor Nicholson to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Director's Report.

Peltier noted that his department is currently one position down and they have four people in training. They will hold off on hiring until there is a second position open, but they are continually maintaining eligibility lists to avoid getting into a bind. With regard to the phone project, Peltier stated that they had a very productive meeting and he felt that the contract should be signed in the next several days. They will then move on to finalizing the CAD project. Peltier continued that with regard to the Green Bay radio report, there were 51 system busies out of roughly 750,000 transmissions. There were 16 radio complaints, a number of which were from squad cars. Peltier will continue to monitor this and keep the Committee advised. Buckley asked if there were problems in certain areas

and Peltier said he tracks every complaint, but they coincide with high problem and high traffic areas such as the St. Mary's Hospital/Shawano Avenue area.

Clancy asked if there are other cities similar in size to Green Bay that has similar problems. Peltier said that a good comparable is the Sheriff's Department who has roughly the same number of calls in a broader coverage area. Peltier noted that they have not seen any problems with the Sheriff's Department. He continued that Appleton and Oshkosh have the same platform as Green Bay. Clancy wanted to make sure that there is not anything not being done to hinder the process. Peltier stated it boils down to if there is a coverage issue and that is still something that is unable to be proven with the data they have at this time but he is continuing to monitor this and collect data.

Peltier concluded his report by indicating that they will be holding interviews for the Emergency Manager position on June 10. There are seven candidates; three from out of the area and four from within the area. He is confident that they have a good list of candidates and will get a good director.

With regard to the radio coverage issues, Supervisor Kaye asked if this has been addressed with the new towers. Peltier responded that all of the coverage testing shows that there is coverage in those areas, but they are being told that the bonks are related to coverage and that is what Peltier is trying to prove or disprove. He continued that by the standards and by the coverage tests that have been run, everything is being met. Peltier's opinion at this point is that it is hard to say it is coverage. He stated that they have been tracking this since February. Buckley felt a few more months of data should be gathered and then a meeting held with the City of Green Bay to see what the options are.

Motion made by Supervisor La Violette, seconded by Supervisor Nicholson to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Emergency Management

8. Budget Status Financial Report for April, 2015 (unaudited).

Peltier reported that Emergency Management is slightly below budget at this point.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Medical Examiner

9. 2015 Medical Examiner Activity Spreadsheet.

Interim Medical Examiner Jeff Jansen stated that the budget is starting to come back in line with where it has been in recent years. He noted that things have picked up in May and they are quite busy. Overall investigations are up by about 20. Autopsies are up slightly and suicides are down by nearly 50% and he noted that the suicide prevention coalition is doing a good job. There are two homicides this year compared to three last year and motor vehicle accidents are up slightly. There are no undetermined deaths for 2015. Jansen noted that numbers fluctuate on a monthly basis but usually average out for the end of the year.

Motion made by Supervisor La Violette, seconded by Supervisor Nicholson to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. Budget Status Financial Report for April, 2015.

Jansen reported that the Medical Examiner's office is currently at 31% of budget. He noted that their revenues are down a little bit but are trending back upwards. He felt that revenues and expenditures will be right where they are supposed to be by the end of May.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Discussion and possible action pertaining to setting of rates for 2016.

Although shown in the proper format here, this Item was taken during the closed session portion of the meeting.

Motion made by Supervisor Zima, seconded by Supervisor Clancy for the Director of Administration to draft a resolution for the County Board for rate changes for the Medical Examiner fees. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Clerk of Courts

12. Budget Status Financial Report for April, 2015.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Zima to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. Standing Item per motion at April meeting– Request for representation from the Clerk of Courts and Courts to attend each meeting through the end of 2015 to provide monthly updates including various reports as requested by this Committee. *Motion at May meeting: To refer to the Clerk of Courts office to meet with Corporation Counsel and come back with a recommendation as to at what point GAL bills should be converted to a civil judgment.*

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to hold Items 13 and 14 for one month. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. Clerk of Court's Report.

See action at Item 13 above.

Circuit Courts, Commissioners, Probate

15. Budget Status Financial Report for April, 2015.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Sheriff

16. Budget Status Financial Report for April, 2015.

Sheriff Gossage reported that expenses are currently running at 32% of budget while revenues are at 33% of budget. He continued that phone revenues are significantly lower than previous years, but revenue from federal inmates is more than projected.

Zima asked how revenue is received from phone service. Gossage explained that the Jail contracts with a service that charges the inmate per phone call and once the phone call is paid for by the recipient, the County gets a return. What is happening now, through is that the federal government is regulating this saying that the Sheriff' Offices or prisons are monopolizing what they are paying and they want to bring that rate down which will affect the operations. Zima stated that through personal experience he finds the phone system to be the most punitive system he has seen in his life. He stated that it is the rip off of rip offs. He asked if the same company that handles the phone contract also handles putting money into an inmate's account and Gossage responded that it was. Zima explained that if you put money in an account for someone in the jail, there is a fee of $3.25 for the transaction, no matter how much is put in the account. The $3.25 fee is charged every time a deposit is made into the account. Zima felt that in this day and age things could be handled differently and in a less punitive manner.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

17. Budget Adjustment Request (15-31): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue.

This request is to increase overtime and fringe benefits to reflect participation in a multi-jurisdictional OWI grant from the Wis. DOT BOTS Office. This grant is administered by the Green Bay Police Department and runs through September 2015. Increased expenses are offset by grant revenue. This is an annual grant program that has been provided to the City and other jurisdictions in prior years however, it was not included in the 2015 budget because the amount had not been determined when the budget was created. This adjustment is for only the calendar year 2015 portion, estimated to be $23,000. Increased revenues of $23,000 will be offset by increase in expenses of $23,000. There is no tax levy effect.

Motion made by Supervisor La Violette, seconded by Supervisor Nicholson to approve. Motion withdrawn.

Motion made by Supervisor Zima, seconded by Supervisor Nicholson to approve Items 17 - 20. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

18. Budget Adjustment Request (15-32): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue.

This request is to increase overtime and fringe benefits to reflect participation in a Wis. DOT BOTS alcohol enforcement grant. This grant runs June 1 – August 31, 2015 only. Increased expenses are offset by grant revenue. This grant was not included in the 2015 budget because it had not been determined if it would be funded until recently. Increased revenues of $19,850 will be offset by increased expenses of $19,850. There is no tax levy effect.

See action at Item 17 above.

19. Budget Adjustment Request (15-33): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue.

This budget adjustment increases revenues and expenses for participation in a 2015 training grant passed through Wisconsin Emergency Management for NTOA SWAT Team Leader Development. The grant funds the cost of attending a national conference. There is no match requirement and no cost to the County. Travel/training expenses will be increased by $1,500 and will be offset by increase in grant revenue of $1,500. There is no levy impact.

See action at Item 17 above.

20. Budget Adjustment Request (15-39): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue.

This request is to increase federal asset forfeiture revenue by $10,000 and use that increase to develop a new records and informant management system for the Drug Task Force, similar to a system that is successfully being used at the Green Bay Police Department. This expense was authorized by the Drug Task Force and Violent Crime Oversight Board on 05/12/15. Federal forfeiture revenue is already $21,756 more than the amended budget amount and overall revenue for the fund is at 88% of the annual budget through April. There will be an increase in revenues of $10,000 which will be offset by an increase in expenses of $10,000. This budget adjustment does not affect tax levy dollars.

See action at Item 17 above.

21. Sheriff's Report.

Sheriff Gossage reported that the Sheriff's Department will be resurrecting the citizens academy which is a 10 week course that allows citizens to come in after they have completed a background check to see how the Sheriff's Department works. He felt that in light of the recent negativity with regard to law enforcement this is a good time to bring this program back to educate the public.

Gossage continued that the building is pretty much on track and the project should be completed next week. He thanked the Committee for their help in getting this done.

Gossage provided the Committee with a handout regarding the Jail inmate work program, a copy of which is attached. He apologized for providing this at the last minute, but stated that Fox 11 will be doing a story on the money that is saved from the inmate sentence reduction effort and he wanted the Committee to have the information. For the year end 2014, the inmates worked 20,191 hours which equated to 841 bed days. For every 24 hours an inmate works in the community, they get one day of good time. The judges have agreed to this and signed off. The savings to the tax payers in 2014 was $46,255. The handout also outlines the organizations that utilized inmate services and what their respective savings were. Total savings to the taxpayers using a base wage of $20 per hour was $449,095.

Gossage continued his report by indicating that three out of four of the police services contracts have been signed and he has been advised that the fourth contract will be going before the board on June 16. Gossage also showed a dashcam video of one of Brown County's officers saving someone from a burning vehicle. This got national attention and was on Good Morning America and is also up for application for the Dale Carnegie Heroism Awards. Gossage showed this to showcase some of the good things that happen in law enforcement. La Violette was very proud of Gossage and his officers and all of the good things that they do and she is tired of hearing criticism of law enforcement. She intends to put in a communication at the next County Board meeting praising law enforcement in Brown County. Buckley also complimented the Sheriff and his officers on the investigation that was done at Uncle Mike's Bakery.

Motion made by Supervisor Zima, seconded by Supervisor Nicholson to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

22. **Open Session: Discussion, information gathering and possible action regarding the options available to Brown County for Medical Examiner Services.**

a. **Closed Session: Notice is hereby given that the governmental body will adjourn into a closed session during the meeting for discussion as to contract strategies for the negotiation and bargaining as it relates to Medical Examiner Services pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section §19.85(1)(e) deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.**

Motion made by Supervisor La Violette, seconded by Supervisor Clancy to enter into closed session to discuss Items 22, 11 and 3 at 11:55 am. Roll Call Vote Taken: Buckley – Aye; Clancy – Aye, La Violette – Aye, Zima – Aye, Nicholson – Aye. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Supervisor Zima, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to return to open session at 12:46 am. Roll call vote taken: Buckley – Aye; Clancy – Aye, La Violette – Aye, Zima – Aye. (Supervisor Nicholson was excused during the closed session). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. **Reconvene in Open Session: Discussion and possible action as to options available to Brown County for Medical Examiner Services, and possibly contract negotiations and bargaining determinations.**

Motion made by Supervisor Zima, seconded by Supervisor Clancy to have the Director of Administration work with Door County and Oconto County to negotiate a contract for services with the Medical Examiner of Dane County. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

District Attorney – No agenda items.

Other

23. **Audit of bills.**

Motion made by Supervisor Zima, seconded by Supervisor Clancy to pay the bills. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24. **Such other matters as authorized by law.** None.

25. Adjourn.

Motion made by Supervisor La Violette, seconded by Supervisor Zima to adjourn at 12:50 pm. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio
Recording Secretary

BROWN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
JAIL DIVISION

Re:	2014 End of Year report – Jail Division
Date:	May, 6th, 2015

The Jail Division end of year report is from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. This report is focused on the highlights of the Jail Division for 2014.

Inmate Sentence Reduction Effort:

Total Hours worked: **20,191 hours**
This equates to **841 bed days** saved from this program.

This is a savings to the taxpayers of: **$46,255** (841 bed days X$55/day)

This program involves the following organizations:

Organization	Wages saved
• BC Lawn Service	$59,620.00
• Brown Public Works/Parks	$173,040.00
• Brown County Fair	$13,040.00
• Brown County Jail	$10,200.00
• City of Green Bay	$111,160.00
• March of Dimes	$33,040.00
• Green Bay Packer cleanup	$2,740.00

Total Payroll Savings: **$402,840.00**

Total Savings to Taxpayers: **$449,095.00**

The March of Dimes and the Green Bay Packer Cleanup are typically a volunteer type service, however to break this into a fiscal amount – we used the lowest base wages for County workers of $20/hour. We used a base wage of $20/hour for all other areas as well.