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, March 4, 2020 at the Brown County Sheriff's Office, 2684 Development Drive, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Present: Chair Buckley, Supervisor Schadewald, Supervisor Borchardt
Excused: Supervisor Gruszynski, Supervisor Nicholson
Also Present: Supervisor Deneys, Supervisor Tran, Supervisor Hoyer, Supervisor Brusky, Emergency Management Director Lauri Maki, Technology Services Director August Neverman, Sheriff Todd Delain, Chief Deputy Brad Brodbeck, Deputy Executive Jeff Flynt, Public Safety Communications Director Cullen Peltier, Office Manager Michele Andresen, District Attorney David Lasee, Corporation Counsel David Hemery, Jail Captain Heidi Michel, Director of Administration Chad Weininger, Assistant District Attorney Kevin Greene, Medical Examiner Director of Operations Barry Irmen, Director of Public Works Paul Fontecchio and other interested parties.

I. **Call meeting to order.**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pat Buckley at 5:30 pm.

II. **Approve/Modify Agenda.**

Motion made by Supervisor Schadewald, seconded by Supervisor Borchardt to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

III. **Approve/Modify Minutes of January 8. 2020.**

Motion made by Supervisor Borchardt, seconded by Supervisor Schadewald to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Comments from the Public.

-Corrie Campbell, 2674 Violet Lane, Ashwaubenon, WI
Campbell informed she is a former Supervisor of District 21 and is currently a candidate for District 22. She is here to talk about a violent sex offender who is being released to a home on Liberty Street in the neighborhood she grew up in. Campbell has concerns as a constituent as well as for people she knows that still live in that neighborhood and also her potential constituents. The offender is from Milwaukee and his crimes were committed in Milwaukee. Violating a 14 year old is among the many crimes committed by this offender. It is a great concern to Campbell that Brown County will become a potential dumping ground for violent sex offenders from other counties. She would like to find out how this happened and how it can be addressed. As the county to which this offender has been released, she feels we need to address that. Secondly, Campbell would like one of the Supervisors currently serving to submit a communication for consideration to have a County Board Supervisor placed on the core group that decides the level of notification to the county and city as to violent sex offenders being released. One of the problems is that Supervisors were not notified and at the meeting she attended regarding the release of this offender into the neighborhood, it appeared that citizens felt politically impotent and not able to have a voice in the matter and this disgusted her.

At this time Director of Administration Chad Weininger asked Corporation Counsel David Hemery to speak as a citizen under public comments. Hemery said alternatively a motion could be made to suspend the rules to allow him to speak.

Motion made by Supervisor Borchardt to suspend the rules to allow Corporation Counsel to comment. *No second; motion withdrawn.*

-David Hemery, 305 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, WI

Hemery informed he had received some texts from Campbell expressing her concern with the placement of a sex offender in our community. The brunt of the communications indicated that Fond du Lac County had recently stopped an individual from being placed in Fond du Lac County by another county and that Brown County should be doing the same. Hemery agrees that whenever possible Brown County should oppose the placement of sex offenders from other counties in our county.

As background, Hemery reported the old law, prior to a 2017 act that passed, allowed judges in one county to place offenders that are being provided supervised release in another county. Many counties were unhappy with that and there was a lot of in-fighting among counties. The new law passed says when it comes time for an offender to be released, the offender gets released in their own county. This new law applied to the Fond du Lac County case because at the time the new law was passed, the petition was pending and therefore the new law controlled and the other county could not place the resident in Fond du Lac County.

The case we are talking about tonight has an entirely different set of facts. The petition for release on the individual being placed by Milwaukee County in Brown County was finalized in 2015. Brown County cannot intervene in the case and argue that a petition that was finalized five years ago is still an active petition and the law should apply to it. If we could do that, we would. Hemery reviewed his records when the Fond du Lac County case came out and researched the case and applied the case to any cases Brown County has. By December 2019 it was determined that the Fond du Lac ruling does not apply to any of our cases. The individual being placed on Liberty Street falls under the old law because his petition was final five years ago. He is not being placed here as a result of a petition for supervised release that was granted long ago; he is here as the result of an alternative revocation.

With regard to Campbell's concern of Brown County becoming a dumping ground for violent sex offenders, Hemery reiterated the law changed in 2017 and it is now codified in statutes that counties have to place sex offenders back into the counties they came from. Becoming a dumping ground is not realistic, but every now and then there may be old cases that linger, although those will be few and far between. As far as the county's role in these cases, we do not make or recommend places. The county is obligated under statutes to provide a report identifying any building in the county that meets certain criteria when the court orders DHS to find placement

-Guy Zima, 1121 12th Avenue, Green Bay, WI

Zima personally asked Chair Buckley to do a few things with regard to this matter as the Chair of the Public Safety Committee and member of the Executive Committee. He would like Buckley to work on getting a system in place whereby people are notified sooner of the placement of sex offenders in our community. This problem is not something that is just facing Green Bay and Brown County; it is all over the state and Zima feels we need to get our state legislators involved. He feels we have to find a way to place violent offenders somewhere other than in neighborhoods. He noted there has been talk about some prisons closing and said perhaps those could be remodeled to house these people where they can be observed. Another alternative would be to create some sort of gated community where offenders could live with more freedom than being incarcerated, but not freedom at the expense of the rest of the community. There is a high percentage of repeat offenders and Zima said the spark has to start somewhere. He feels the way to do this is contact the legislators to come up with something that will allow violent sex offenders to be placed somewhere less restrictive than prison, but more restrictive than placing these offenders in our neighborhoods. This is disturbing the peace of our citizens and is a public safety issue. He wants to see this kept alive and some action taken to try to make a change.

-Janet Angus, 1403 Shirley Street, Green Bay, WI

Angus informed she owns properties in the area of Liberty Street. She noted the house the violent sex offender is being placed in is very close to the stadium district and having a violent sex offender in an area where there are women coming out of bars inebriated is troubling. Specifically looking at this case, the new law went into effect in March 2018. The offender who is coming in from Milwaukee was put back in Sands for violating the qualifiers of his release in August 2018. When she asked DOC about this at the meeting held earlier in the week, she was informed the petition may have still been out there but the plan was not complete and therefore it was considered pending. Her limited interpretation after reading the facts of the Fond du Lac County case is that the county should intervene and have him go back to Milwaukee. Why does this offender have to be living in Brown County in her neighborhood? That is her question for the DA's Office, Corporation Counsel, the County Executive, Mayor and City Attorney. They all had notice in October 2019 that this was going to happen and she questioned why neighbors were not notified so they could make their concerns known. There is a sex offender living right across the street from Holy Family School which is also concerning to her. She does not know if the county knows where all these people are living.

-Kevin Greene, 300 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, WI

Greene is an Assistant District Attorney in Brown County and as such has been assigned to the Chapter 980 (sexually violent person) cases for the last 19 years. He provided the following general information as to the law. Mr. Brown's case was not his; it was handled by the Milwaukee County DA's office. From Greene's review of public access records from the courts, it appears that Mr. Brown was placed out in the community in Jefferson County in 2015. A revocation petition was filed thereafter but he was never fully revoked; an alternative to revocation was issued instead which in essence is a sanction, but not a full revocation. The court therefore ruled it an alternative revocation which did not restart the timeline and therefore the case falls under the old law as Hemery indicated. Because this case falls under old law, the court would be allowed to place the offender out of county.

Greene understands there are concerns with things like this continuing, and although the law has changed, the effect has been somewhat delayed because there are so many cases already in the system awaiting placement. Before the change in the law, placements often took more than a year and the reason for the change was to speed the process up. Because the case we are talking about here falls under the old law, it would have been the DHS agent who was looking for residences for the offender. Greene is aware of only one more case that falls under the old law and information provided to him earlier in the day by DHS is that there should not be a great influx of these individuals based on the operation of the new law. He understands no one likes these placements but it is something that is a legal necessity.

With regard to notice, Greene understands people would like to have more notice, unfortunately this is somewhat limited by when the agencies are given notice and courts do not always have a lot of time. The agencies do attempt to get notice out when they can and when they are ready to do so, but it takes time to get all of the information they need.

Zima spoke again and said the concern is not about this one case that falls under the old law. Brown County has their own violent offenders and we do not want them in our neighborhoods. We want some alternative to give them the freedom the law requires, but also give the rest of the community the freedom of not living near these people.

1. Review Minutes of:

a. Local Emergency Planning Committee (January 14, 2020).

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

District Attorney

2. District Attorney Report.

District Attorney David Lasee and Office Manager Michele Andresen addressed the committee. Lasee informed things are going well in his office. They are now set to be fully staffed and have one new lawyer starting on

March 16 and another starting on March 30th. The two investigator positions have also been filled and they are doing work and have been a big assistance. Lasee noted 2020 is going to be quite tight from a budget standpoint. He had hoped to have a carryover, but they had an employee take benefits who they had not anticipated taking the benefits which ended up putting his office over budget a little bit.

Buckley asked if department heads are made aware when there is a change in status in someone's insurance so they can budget appropriately. Supervisor Schadewald said someone changing their benefit status is not a rare occurrence. Sometimes good things happen with budgets and sometimes bad things happen and this is something that is not one of the good things. Buckley questioned the process as he does not feel it is fair to department heads to get a bill they were not expecting. Weininger explained the way health insurance is budgeted is they take the average which fluctuates throughout the organization. If someone is at single and leaves and the new person replacing them takes family, the department gets charged the full amount. The following year, the department gets made whole during the budget process, but for the one year they may be short. Most departments have the flexibility within their budget to make those funds up. Weininger continued that administration does not talk about benefit selections with department heads, but they do get financial reports every month that show the figures and they should notice when things are trending up. Buckley feels department heads should know when there is a change in benefits for their staff. Weininger said this ebbs and flows throughout the county, but on average the single and family rates negate each other become people are going on the plan and coming off the plan all the time. The way the budget is built, there is flexibility available for every situation. Lasee said he brought this up just to make the committee aware, not to complain. He noted that 2020 will be a tight year and informed they have a budget of $10,000 for expert witnesses and he has a homicide case coming up that will likely use up $7000 of that for the expert he needs. He will continue to provide updates on the budget as the year progresses.

Buckley asked Weininger to continue to look at notification of benefits with department heads.

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

Public Safety Communications

3. 2019 to 2020 Carryover Funds.

Director of Public Safety Communications Cullen Peltier informed this request relates to money received from Oneida Nation for use of the radio infrastructure. The plan was to use some of those dollars for the CAD training that will need to be done, but that training will not happen until this year and this request is to carryover those funds.

Motion made by Supervisor Borchardt, seconded by Supervisor Schadewald to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Budget Adjustment Request (20-016): Any allocation from a department's fund balance.

This budget adjustment is for partial use of the 2019 Securus settlement proceeds received to be used for server and CAD software maintenance. This will also eliminate the budgeted sales tax transfer to the CAD Capital Project Fund as the remainder of the Securus settlement proceeds will be used instead.

Motion made by Supervisor Schadewald, seconded by Supervisor Borchardt to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Director's Report.

Peltier reported work is continuing on the CAD implementation and they have met with fire and law enforcement personnel in this regard. Everything is going pretty well and at this point they are still on track to complete the project in November as planned. With regard to staffing, the department is currently down ½ a position but they

probably will not fill that right away because they have three people in training. February is usually a rough month in terms of absences, but so far things are within the norm.

Schadewald asked about the coronavirus and what the plans are in terms of the Public Safety Communications Department. Peltier responded that he has been working on this and he and his Assistant Director are coming up with a procedure to put in place once they exhaust their normal procedures. Right now they have a 10 step process that includes inversing people, forced overtime and calling people in on their day off. If they would need to go into emergency mode, they may add things like shortened turnaround times, going to 14 or 16 hour days and restricting visitors to the center. They will also be looking at things like defining the trigger points and restricting people coming in or going out for training. Peltier is hoping to have the draft of these policies completed next week. Buckley asked if there was anything set up with HR to be able to call in retired employees and Peltier responded that there are only a few that have retired recently enough to still be fully trained.

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

Emergency Management

6. Director's Report.

Emergency Management Director Lauri Maki thanked the committee for the approval of the contingency fund money and provided copies of the flier that has been put together with the FloodinginBC.com information, a copy of which is attached. He asked committee members do what they can to get these fliers out in the community. Emergency Management has mailed out about 3400 fliers to citizens in Brown County who live in a flood plain. The "am I in a floodplain" tool which was created by county GIS has been used over 4000 times already.

Maki said he is happy and proud to be working in Brown County on flood preparedness. He informed the flood response group was started in December 2019 and there has been representation by over 35 agencies including other county departments, police, fire, law enforcement, municipalities and other community organizations. There has been great collaboration and the flier and website were created through this group. They have also done a number of presentation as to what to expect, how the county is preparing and how the county can support the local municipalities. A 911 and EM family day was also recently held at the Communication Center to get family and friends of staff out to see what Emergency Management does from the inside.

Maki continued that they are also still working on the airport exercise and they are now working at getting volunteers. He recalled this committee mentioning contacting the schools for volunteers and they will be doing that.

Maki also recalled Chair Buckley asked at a previous meeting if there was a central phone number that could be called in the event of emergencies and in that regard a VOAD (Volunteer Organization Active in Disaster) group has been created and Maki has been working with 211 and is hoping to have something in place going forward that can be activated in situations when help is needed.

Sandbagging is another thing Emergency Management has been working on. Public Works bought a sandbagging machine and has a stash of bags. They will be doing some presentations with the Army Corp of Engineers including demonstrations on how the machine works. Recently Maki started reaching out and doing some networking with Casa Alba to get the same mailer regarding flooding done in Spanish to give another avenue to get information and warnings out in vital times.

Schadewald asked if there are sandbags at the Sheriff's Department to protect the building. Fontecchio said he currently has about 5000 made. Schadewald asked what is in place at the Sheriff's Department to be used quickly to protect it. Maki said in the event of an actual emergency, Emergency Management's function is to work more in the Communication Center. The Department of Public Works would be working directly with Sheriff Delain regarding the Sheriff's Department and acquiring resources. Supervisor Borchardt asked if there are plans in place for other county buildings in the event of flooding. Maki said they have been working on that with other departments and in particular talking about continuity of government and operations, what are the essential services in the county and where backup facilities could be located. There is constant planning going on and the goal is to be better than last time and learn and improve so it gets better and better. Schadewald noted there are

millions of dollars of computers in the Sophie Beaumont Building and as Supervisors they need to ask the questions to be comfortable. Maki said as a department, Emergency Management does not specifically deal with internal county facilities; they help agencies that need help, but things like protecting the computers is handled more by Risk Management and Technology Services.

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

Circuit Courts, Commissioners, Probate

7. Director's Report.

No report; no action taken.

Clerk of Courts

8. Clerk of Courts Report.

No report; no action taken.

Medical Examiner

9. 2019 Medical Examiner Activity Spreadsheet.

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

10. 2020 Medical Examiner Activity Spreadsheet.

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

11. Medical Examiner's Report.

Medical Examiner Director of Operations Barry Irmen informed he will likely be bringing forward a budget adjustment in preparation of supplies needed regarding the coronavirus. CDC guidelines for first responders including medicolegal investigators require additional equipment they do not use at every scene and do not have and he noted that those items are getting extremely difficult to find.

Supervisor Tran asked what the procedure would be if someone in Brown County dies from the coronavirus. Irmen responded that it would not likely be any different than any other death; they would be released to the funeral home of the family's choice. The concern is not so much for the decedent at the scene but more for the people the decedent had come in contact with that could potentially be infected.

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

Sheriff

12. Update re: Jail Addition – *Standing Item.*

Sheriff Delain informed the jail addition project is moving forward as planned and there is a bid and award recommendation on this agenda.

Standing item; no action taken.

13. Project 2358 – Jail Expansion, ME Building, and CTC Addition – Bid Summary and Award Recommendation.

Director of Public Works Paul Fontecchio referenced the bid summary contained in the agenda packet and said his recommendation is to award to Miron for the base bid plus the project alternatives. Some things had been

stripped out not knowing how the base bids would come in knowing that if the base bids came in good they could be added back in. Fontecchio noted this bid also went to Human Services Committee where it was approved.

Schadewald asked about a finish date for the project. Fontecchio said Miron hopes to have the project done by the end of the year.

Motion made by Supervisor Schadewald, seconded by Supervisor Borchardt to approve Base Bid 1 and Alternate Bids by Miron Construction in the amount of $17,707,952 for Project #2358 – Jail Expansion, ME Building and CTC Addition. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. 2019 to 2020 Carryover Funds.

Delain explained this carryover is for a live scan booking station which is on order but cannot be paid for until it is received and that is why they are asking for these funds to be carried over.

Motion made by Supervisor Borchardt, seconded by Supervisor Schadewald to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15. Key Factor Report – Data through December 2019 (Unaudited).

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

16. Discussion re: Replacing laundry equipment at the jail.

Delain informed that most of the kitchen and laundry equipment in the jail has been there since the jail was built 20 years ago. The equipment is starting to show its age and some of it can be repaired as was the case with the belt on the dishwasher several years ago but some of the equipment cannot be repaired.

The most significant piece of equipment in the laundry facility is a 235 pound capacity washing machine that is no longer operational. There is another washing machine that needs service as it is not operating to full capacity and this needs to be fixed very quickly. Delain continued that only 65% of the laundry done at the jail is actually for the jail. The other 35% of the laundry is done for other county organizations such as the CTC. If the machine currently being used breaks down, it may cause problems getting the laundry done in a timely manner. They are currently looking at either repairing the equipment or replacing it and they have bids coming in. Delain noted there are not many companies in the country that deal with washing machines the size the jail uses and they have a group coming in from a Wisconsin company that does work on them to look at it. The cost to replace the machine is estimated to be $55,000.

Buckley asked what the cost to operate the washer is and if it would be advantageous to see how much it would cost to contract the laundry out. Delain said they are in the process of gathering information on that right now along with getting replacement and repair estimates. Jail Captain Heidi Michel has done a lot of work on this to determine if it would make sense to have the laundry outsourced. Having the inmates do the laundry at the jail and paying them a minimal amount is by far the cheapest way to do this.

Delain said the issue is that the money for a new washer was not included in the budget. He is looking at long term plans for other items in the jail as all of the equipment is 20 years old. Schadewald mentioned the contingency fund and asked Weininger if this is the kind of thing that fund covers. He questioned if there is some overall plan to repair and replace equipment throughout the county so these things do not keep coming up. Weininger said generally most departments will look forward to items that may come up for repair or replacement and start to set money aside for them, but there are still surprises that come up. The contingency fund can cover some of these things or the last step would be to take funds from the general fund. Weininger will talk to Delain about this after the meeting to see how this can be addressed.

Schadewald said it should be taken into consideration that the machine is being used to do work for departments other than the jail. Delain agreed and said from a budget standpoint, this should be looked at more countywide. He understands the machine is in his jail and that he is paying to have inmates do the laundry, but reiterated that

35% of the laundry is done for departments outside of the jail. They need to have the washer. He continued that he has spent a lot of time going through the entire jail kitchen and they are getting estimates for some of that equipment. Fontecchio is looking at putting money into the Facilities budget for future improvements in the jail kitchen, but the operating budgets do not have a lot of room when talking about repairs of significant items such as this washer. Schadewald would like Delain and Weininger to explore having some of these larger items included in the construction costs of the new pod. Delain and Weininger both said they would look into this.

Buckley asked if chargebacks are done to the other departments that use the jail laundry. Delain said they are, but those charges do not cover equipment repair and it is not a huge amount; it is there to cover the costs. Ultimately the washer will need to be repaired with taxpayer dollars. He will continue to keep the committee updated on this situation. Buckley noted that if decisions need to be made before the next committee meeting a special meeting could be scheduled prior to the next County Board meeting.

No action taken.

17. **Budget Adjustment Request (20-010): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue.**

This 2020 budget adjustment is to increase grant revenue and related outlay expense to participate in a Homeland Security WEM ALERT SWAT Linear Assault Training grant (2019-HSW-02B-1181). The grant provides funds for a three day training session for SWAT team members.

Motion made by Supervisor Schadewald, seconded by Supervisor Borchardt to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

18. **Budget Adjustment Request (20-014): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue.**

This 2020 request is to increase expenses and grant revenues to participate in the Homeland Security WEM/ALERT SWAT Regional Ballistic Protection 2019 grant (2019-HSW-02A-11862). This grant provides funds to purchase ballistic protection equipment for Sheriff personnel.

Motion made by Supervisor Borchardt, seconded by Supervisor Schadewald to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

19. **Budget Adjustment Request (20-015): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue.**

This 2020 budget adjustment is to increase donation revenue and related supplies expense for a donation from the Vietnam Veterans Association's Vets Ride. Donation is earmarked to renovate the rollover simulator which is used at various public presentations to reinforce the importance of safety belts and demonstrate what can happen in a crash if belts are not used. The rollover simulator was donated by AAA many years ago and is in need of new crash dummies and cosmetic refurbishing.

Motion made by Supervisor Borchardt, seconded by Supervisor Schadewald to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

20. **Budget Adjustment Request (20-017): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue.**

This 2020 request is to increase expenses and grant revenues to participate in the Homeland Security WEM/HS ALERT Dive Remotely Operated Sonar 2019 grant (2019-HSW-02A-11903). This grant provides funds to purchase an underwater sonar device to search large areas in a short amount of time to locate victims and other items under water. This may be used in the bay, rivers, ponds and quarries where visibility is limited for divers. There is no local match for this grant.

Motion made by Supervisor Borchardt, seconded by Supervisor Schadewald to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

21. **Resolution in Support of Participating in the 2020 County - Tribal Law Enforcement Grant.**

Delain explained this is related to the joint county-tribal law enforcement grant that the county does every year. There is no impact to the levy.

Motion made by Supervisor Borchardt, seconded by Supervisor Schadewald to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

22. **Sheriff's Report.**

Delain informed the 2019 budget is almost wrapped up and he has reported all last year that the Sheriff's Department was razor thin. In conversations with the accountant and administration, right now they are about $57,000 in the red, however, they pay the casual payout which is budgeted at about $189,000. This means the Sheriff's Department will come out even when the casual day payout is transferred. Delain monitored salary and personnel costs closely and that would have been over by close to $700,000 but some other things including shipping inmates out and an increase in the number of federal inmates offset that expense. The good news is the year will not end in the red.

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

Communications

23. **Communication from Supervisor Tran re: Establish a master plan for the future of the downtown jail.** *Referred from January County Board.*

Supervisor Tran said she understands there may be a plan with regard to the very outdated downtown jail facility and she would like to see that documented somewhere because she does not feel a plan is a plan if it is not written out and documented with an execution date. She noted the facility is very outdated and the conditions are not very good. Buckley agreed but said there currently is no plan because the focus has been getting the pod built on Curry Lane. If he had his way, he would have had a second pod built at the same time so the downtown jail could be shut down, but it was hard enough to get one. What would have been ideal in his opinion was to do this all at once including the courthouse security project. Ideally it would be nice to use any leftover sales tax money from other projects or sale of land towards this. Delain agreed that at this time there is no plan in place. They have looked at this and have worked with Fontecchio on this and what is needed is a comprehensive approach including a consultant study as to what the facility will look like in the future. He noted there are offices located in the facility that would need to be considered and they would also have to look at the needs for housing inmates while they are waiting for court. Delain said without hiring a professional, we would likely be guessing at what exactly is needed, what it would look like and what the cost would be. He feels the best approach would be to get a professional to examine what the needs are and what this would look like down the road. He can provide all the information about the jail and space needs, but he is not an architect.

Schadewald feels the County Board should realistically be getting plans in place and he feels there will be a push for that. He feels the County Board is starting to see a transformation when it comes at looking at long range needs of the county and its facilities. There is no doubt the downtown jail is deficient and it would behoove the next County Board to continue to look at that. Tran had hoped the downtown jail would have been taken into consideration at the time the one pod was decided on and she would have been in favor of having another pod built if that is what would have been needed. She is very concerned about the downtown jail not being up to standards and she does not want to see issues down the road that could result in lawsuits. Schadewald said although there is not a formal written plan for the downtown jail, it has been something that has been talked about over the years.

Delain said if the downtown jail were to be shut down right now there would have to be space for about 130 lock up inmates and another 60 – 70 huber inmates and this would likely require another pod and a half, with an estimated cost of $17 - $19 million dollars with inflation. Fontecchio added that adding to the current project is not possible as it is too late to make changes. An operational perspective in terms of inmate population and the future of the new facility and what would need to be built out there is way more than can be done in-house. Fontecchio agreed we would need to have a professional come in and look at at the factors to give

recommendations as to what is needed and what a cost may be, similar to what was done with the courthouse security project. He feels rolling the downtown jail in with the courthouse security project would result in some cost savings.

Supervisor Deneys said the future of the downtown jail interests him and he feels we need to look at the jail and the courthouse security project as well as utilization of some other downtown buildings and see what the needs are and what the options are. He also feels we should look at opportunities to reduce square footage with things like work at home opportunities which would cut down on needed space and save money. He agreed with Schadewald in that we cannot keep pushing this down the road.

Tran suggested that money be set aside in the 2021 budget to bring in outside architectural firms to look at this. Buckley suggested that this be referred to staff to come back with an idea of what kind of consultant we need with a rough estimate of what that would cost.

Tran concluded by saying that Supervisor Deneys will sign on to this communication when she is done with her term on the Board.

Motion made by Supervisor Schadewald, seconded by Supervisor Borchardt to refer to staff for consideration of funding study monies in the 2021 budget and bring back in June. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24. **Communication from Supervisor Deneys re: Move to take $5,500 dollars from the contingency fund and transfer to Emergency Management to be used for dealing with education and notification of Brown County Citizens of pending spring flooding.** ***Referred from January County Board. Action at February Admin meeting: To approve.***

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

25. **Communication from Supervisor Hoyer: To have a discussion with possible action for support services or consideration of relief or waive the cremation licensing fee beyond WFCAP (Wisconsin Funeral and Cemetery Aids Program).** *Referred from February County Board.*

Supervisor Hoyer informed that under normal circumstances Brown County distributes permits and every year during the budget process the Board approves the costs of the permits for cremation. Certain people are eligible for the WFCAP program and part of the program includes the waiver of that fee. Hoyer was approached by a funeral director who informed there is sometimes a gap. They will do funerals for individuals who are not quite eligible for WFCAP, but also not fully solvent to pay for the funerals. In those situations, the funeral director ends up on the hook and has to pay. In the past when Brown County was under a coroner system, there was a little flexibility and the coroner would waive that fee on occasion.

Hoyer has done some research on this and found that many times funerals are pre-paid so this situation is not a huge issue and only happens a few times a year. He questions if there is any flexibility when it comes to someone who is not eligible for WFCAP but still not able to afford the full funeral costs so these costs do not fall on the funeral director.

Irmen provided the history on this. He informed that several years ago the state took these funds away from the individual counties to run the WFCAP program and set up guidelines by statute and they have a department that reviews the applications. There is certain criteria that has to be met to get the aid and the statute then says the coroner or medical examiner will waive the death certification signing fee and the cremation permit fee. Hoyer is correct that in the past the lay medical examiner waived some of those fees at his discretion. The problem is that there is no ordinance authority to do that. The other problem is who is going to check to be sure that the the loved one who is asking for the waiver of the fees really does not have the wherewithal or the assets to pay. That is where the catch for the county is. It would take a forensic accountant to look at the person's financial situation - do they own property, do they have a retirement fund, do they have a car that could be sold, etc. WFCAP sets limits so funeral homes gets $3500 and the family can put in a small percentage more, but if they put in too much, they void their WFCAP funding. The fact that the state took this away from the counties is unfortunate.

Irmen does not know how the credibility of the request could be tracked. He also noted that Brown County sets the fees for two other counties which would also have to be considered and he does not know how mechanically all this would work. Irmen does not have any authority to waive the fees so he does not. He said he had a lengthy conversation with the funeral director who contacted Hoyer on this and he does understand his position, but he just does not see any way to accomplish what Hoyer is asking for.

Schadewald said this would have a double impact on the county as the county would have to track the requests and then also lose the money for the waivers. Irmen agreed and reiterated he cannot think of a way to make this fair across the board and he feels trying to do so would be a potential problem for the county.

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

26. Late Communication from Chair Buckley re: Question the use of County funds and personnel to provide software and TS support to municipalities.

Buckley informed this is regarding certain municipalities getting services from the county and other municipalities not and some communities paying for their own software and others the county is paying for. He asked Supervisor Deneys to provide the history on this. Buckley said right now the city pays for their own, but other municipalities do not and Buckley does not feel this is fair and equitable.

Supervisor Deneys said this goes back to 2000 and largely has to do with the consolidation that took place at that time. During the consolidation there was grant money and specific software that had to be purchased. They went with Motorola and with that they got a jail product, a CAD product and a records management product. As part of the whole thing and to get everyone to come together and because we were getting all these products from Motorola they gave access to them to the municipalities because they wanted uniformity across the system. Green Bay originally took the records management system but were dissatisfied with it and the Chief then realized they had a resource in-house who was able to create their own system and that is when Green Bay diverted.

When Deneys became Captain in 2010 the Motorola product was still being used and the budget was set to bring in a new records management system, Pro Phoenix, which is still being used. Part of the CAD was that data had to get out to the cars and that was all done over a mobile radio system that transferred the information. When they started looking at Pro Phoenix there were discussions about whether the county would still provide the records management system to the other municipalities that wanted it. It was offered to the municipalities, including Green Bay who stayed on their own, but the others came in and were offered the records management system. It was decided that the Sheriff would continue to offer the records management system from that level. As the transition came through and they moved onto the different system, the data was too large for the radio modems so some of the data had to come over a cellular data system. The Sheriff's Office has a TS person who specialized in that area so they started providing the assistance to make sure the systems were functioning. There was mention at that time about a way to equitably do this and how to go about billing and when to bill and things of that nature. Deneys said the best way to describe it is a political football that kept getting pushed down the road.

Deneys continued that one of the key things is the net motion licensing that is needed for each squad to have a gateway into the network. Technology Services Director August Neverman added that when they went from the radio modems to the cellular network, the cellular network had routers, servers and a lot of new technology which the county paid for. That has continued to grow. The license itself is fairly inexpensive, in the area of $50 - $200 annually per seat. Consideration also has to be given to all of the infrastructure that goes along with it, which increases the cost. Additionally, the device used to be really simple, but now there are cameras and computers in the vehicles and the complexity of the environment has gotten significantly higher.

Neverman said what he is looking for is to clarify who is responsible for what because TS gets service calls related to this. He wants to make sure the community is protected, but TS is caught in the gray area. Buckley said the reason this is an issue is because we are at a point where the records management system will be changing soon and the demand for the service is ever increasing. This also coincides with the 911 Communication Center and the changeover of the CAD system. The city picks up their own tab and has their own people working on it, but

other municipalities do not and Buckley noted that some municipalities do not even bring the units in to TS; TS has to drive out to the municipalities to do the service. Buckley's opinion is that the level of expectation has exceeded what the county should be responsible for and he would like to see department heads put together some ideas of where we should be and how to move forward so if there are changes they can be included in the 2021 budget. He feels now is the time to address this.

Deneys agreed with Buckley and said in 2000 there were grants and parameters that had to be met and there were some substantial cost savings to the municipalities over the years. He feels there is still an opportunity to work together with the municipalities for substantial cost savings. If the municipalities would have had to go out and buy their own records management systems for the last 20 years, it would have been a substantial hit on their tax dollars. Deneys feels it is time that this gets addressed.

Buckley would like to have an analysis on this and have a plan put together as to how the county should go forward with this. This is something that involves the the Sheriff's Office, TS, 911 Center and the administration. He would like this brought back with the best plan for the county and how the county and municipalities can all work together and still make it fair and equitable for all parties. Schadewald wanted to make sure this was done so that any necessary adjustments can be made in 2021 budgets. Buckley said there will also need to be service agreements if the county is going to work on the equipment.

Weininger informed the 911 Center is aware of this and are looking at a plan. He questioned why the county is doing work for the municipalities if there is no contract giving them authority to do the work. Neverman said when he questioned this when he first came to Brown County he was told that under the master agreement for the county when the consolidation occurred the county was responsible for everything under the agreement, but it just says "services". Weininger asked how long the contract was for and Schadewald noted that it was more of an agreement than a contract. Deneys reiterated that this has been a political football that has been kicked down the road way too long and it needs to be addressed. Schadewald agreed and said it is now time to be more realistic, especially with the new system coming in. Buckley said it would also be interesting to see the data as to how many units were being utilized 20 years ago versus now. Supervisor Borchardt added that if this has not been looked at for 20 years, maybe we should add something that we look at this every 5 to 10 years going forward.

Motion made by Supervisor Schadewald, seconded by Supervisor Borchardt to refer to staff for further study and proposals and bring back. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Other

27. Audit of bills.

Motion made by Supervisor Schadewald, seconded by Supervisor Borchardt to acknowledge receipt of the bills. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

28. Such other matters as authorized by law. None.

29. Adjourn.

Motion made by Supervisor Schadewald, seconded by Supervisor Borchardt to adjourn at 7:09 pm. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio
Administrative Specialist

Brown County Emergency Management
Flood Preparedness

Brown County Emergency Management wants everyone in Brown County to be ready for flooding by taking these actions to prepare:

- Consider Flood Insurance (Activation Takes 30+ Days)
- Have a Battery Back-Up for Sump Pumps
- Move Basement Items Now
- Check In on Neighbors, Especially the Elderly & Those with Special Needs
- Sign Up for CodeRED at FloodinginBC.com or Text BrownCountyWI to 99411
- Have an Evacuation Plan (Where Will You Go?)
- Have a Plan for Your Pets
- Have Your Medications, Clothes, Important Papers & Other Essentials Prepared to Take With You
- Create an Emergency Contact List

BE PREPARED. MAKE A PLAN. STAY INFORMED

Brown County Emergency Management

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