

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**

November 30, 2007

Sheriff's Department Training Room

**Call Meeting To Order:** Chair Sweda called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M.

**Members Present:** Sweda, Seidl, Parent, Werner

**Members Absent:** Lato

**Other Attendees:** Sheriff Bruce Daniels; Luke Klink, Star News; Ron Bohn and Kaaron Keene, Taylor County Ambulance stationed at Memorial Health Center; Gregg Olson, CEO at Memorial Health Center; County Clerk Bruce Strama; Supervisor Lester Lewis; Chief Deputy Larry Woebbeking; Deputy Lisa Kauffman; Betty Danen

**Approve Minutes of the October 24, 2007 meeting:** Parent moved to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2007 meeting; Seidl seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Approve Agenda:** Seidl moved to approve the agenda; Werner seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting Date:** Tentatively scheduled for Friday, January 11, 2008 at 10:00 AM

**Citizen Input:** Kaaron Keene of Memorial Health Center presented a gift certificate and her thanks to Ron Bohn in recognition of his twenty years of employment at Memorial Health Center.

**Ambulance Business:** Discuss/Act on MHC logo on ambulances – Kaaron Keene stated that Memorial Health Center's board would like to have their logo on the Taylor County ambulances due to their considerable involvement with the program. Their marketing department had prepared renderings of what the logo would look like on the ambulances, in various locations on the vehicle, and those were presented to the committee. Taylor County would still be the owner of the ambulances and there would be no additional costs for the county. Parent made a motion to adopt the logo; Werner seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried. Seidl mentioned that the logo should be on the ambulance box and not the truck as the truck would be replaced more frequently.

Introduction of MHC new CEO Gregg Olson – Kaaron Keene introduced Gregg Olson, CEO of Memorial Health Center.

Kaaron Keene, Gregg Olson, Ron Bohn, and Lester Lewis then left the meeting.

**Medical Examiner:** None

**Law Enforcement Business:** Discuss/Act on bids for squad car purchase for 2008 – Chief Deputy Woebbeking presented bids that he had received for new squad cars. Mertens Chrysler is, over all, the lowest cost for purchase of the marked squad cars. Mertens' bid for the Dodge Avenger, which does not meet squad car specifications and would be used for administrative purposes, is \$304.00 more than the next lowest bid, from Ewald; however, due to transport and pick up costs of the vehicle from Ewald, this minor savings would be used up in manpower hours. By purchasing two administrative vehicles versus vehicles that meet squad car specifications, the savings to the county will be approximately \$5,944.00. Chief Deputy Woebbeking recommended leasing all four vehicles from Mertens Chrysler. The delivery date would be specified in the contract. Seidl made a motion to lease four vehicles (2 squad and 2 administrative) from Mertens Chrysler; Werner seconded the motion. All ayes (Parent abstained due to potential conflict). Motion carried.

Discuss/Act on request for leave of absence by employee – Lisa Kauffman requested a leave of absence from January 4, 2008 through February 25, 2008 due to her pregnancy. She will then be off of work on Family Medical Leave until May 20, 2008. Seidl made a motion to approve Kauffman's leave of absence; Parent seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Lisa Kauffman left the meeting.

**Sheriff's Report:** Sheriff Daniels informed the committee that he has been in contact with a company that will pick up excess property and sell them on-line for us. Daniels is planning on selling a few things through the company at first to see how it goes. County Clerk Strama will check the county code to see if there is a conflict with this.

Daniels reported that the department will be purchasing video systems for some of the marked squad cars. Daniels reported that the approved program to equip Taylor County squads with video equipment is just about complete. He plans to begin a similar program to update radar equipment in the cars.

The recording and telephone system installation in the jail should be completed soon. It is expected that the costs will remain within the \$15,000 budgeted for these items.

The jail population is currently at 58; 35 inmates are county residents and 23 are out-of-county boarders.

The hiring process for the jailer/dispatcher and deputy sheriff are in the final stages.

Daniels reported that the department will be changing the badge number system in order to better track the trainings that personnel have received. Currently, the badge numbers have been carried over to a new person upon the previous person's retirement. In the future, the number will be retired along with the person in order to avoid confusion as to who actually received the training.

Seidl updated the committee on the weather siren installations. The final connections should be made this week. ATI is aligning antennas and they will provide a training next week. There is currently a squelch on the fire frequency, which is unacceptable and is being worked on. No payment has been made for the sirens and none will be made until the sirens meet specifications. The town of Hammel siren, by Lake Esadore, needed to have a 60' electric cable installed by Taylor Electric. Taylor Electric buried the cable and charged the county \$1,300.00. The money set aside for the siren purchases will cover this expense.

Seidl inquired as to whether or not an annual report will be done this year. Daniels informed the committee that the department is in the midst of preparing an annual report and it should be available in early 2008.

**Review and Approve Invoices:** After review, Seidl made a motion to approve the invoices from October, 2007; Parent seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** With no further business, Parent made a motion to adjourn; Seidl seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty Danen

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**

October 24, 2007

Sheriff's Department Conference Room

**Call Meeting To Order:** Parent called the meeting to order at 10:03 A.M.

**Members Present:** Seidl, Parent, Werner

**Members Absent:** Lato, Sweda

**Other Attendees:** Sheriff Bruce Daniels; Chief Deputy Larry Woebeking; Sergeant Kim Kasperek; Marie Koerner, Human Resources.

**Approve Minutes of the October 5, 2007 meeting:** Werner moved to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2007 meeting; Seidl seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Approve Agenda:** Werner moved to approve the agenda; Seidl seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting Date:** Refer to minutes from the October 5, 2007 meeting.

**Closed Session:** Motion by Seidl and second by Werner at 10:05 A.M. to go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(c) for approximately three and one-half (3.5) hours for the purpose of conducting oral interviews of applicants for the Sheriff's Deputy and Jailer/Dispatcher positions. Roll call vote: Werner – Aye; Parent – Aye; Seidl – Aye.

Motion by Seidl and second by Werner at 1:00 P.M. to return to open session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.83. Roll call vote: Seidl – Aye; Werner – Aye; Parent – Aye.

Motion by Seidl to certify list of applicants; Second by Werner. All in favor; motion carried.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Werner to adjourn; Seidl seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty Danen

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**

October 5, 2007

Sheriff's Department Training Room

**Call Meeting To Order:** Chair Sweda called the meeting to order at 10:04 A.M.

**Members Present:** Sweda, Seidl, Parent, Werner

**Members Absent:** Lato

**Other Attendees:** Sheriff Bruce Daniels; Luke Klink, Star News; Ron Bohn and Kaaron Keene, Taylor County Ambulance stationed at Memorial Health Center; County Clerk Bruce Strama; Scott Perrin, Medical Examiner; Betty Danen

**Approve Minutes of the August 17, 2007 meeting:** Parent moved to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2007 meeting; Werner seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Approve Agenda:** Seidl moved to approve the agenda; Werner seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting Date:** Friday, November 9, 2007 at 10:00 AM

**Citizen Input:** None

**Ambulance Business:** Discuss/Act on Disposition of 1994 Medford Ambulance #3 – Ron Bohn of Taylor County Ambulance stationed at Memorial Health Center reported that the new Rib Lake ambulance has arrived. Rib Lake's old ambulance was brought to Medford to replace a 1994 model ambulance. Bohn proposed sending the 1994 model to the auction house in Ripon to be sold. The ambulance would be sold as is minus all of the equipment, which has been moved to the new ambulance. Seidl made a motion to sell the 1994 Medford Ambulance #3 at the auction house in Ripon; Parent seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discuss the Impact of the Dwindling Levels of EMT's in the County – Bohn stated that the hospital is having some problems with coverage, especially in the Rib Lake area during the day time. The 6:00 PM to 6:00 AM time period is also difficult to cover in both the Rib Lake and Gilman areas. They are supplementing the shortage of EMT's in those areas with Medford EMT's but that makes the response time very slow, due to distance. There are ten EMT's in the Gilman area, six of whom do 92% of the coverage. They average 53 hours per week. There are twelve EMT's in the Rib Lake area, nine of whom do 96% of the calls. They average 39 hours per week. Bohn will conduct some research to see how other counties/municipalities are handling these shortages and report back to the committee at the next meeting.

**Medical Examiner:** Discuss/Act on Renewal of Agreement between Taylor County and Medical Examiner – Medical Examiner Scott Perrin presented a Resolution to the committee with the only change from the prior Resolution being the dates of the contract. Seidl made a motion to accept the Resolution; Parent seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Emergency Management:** None. Sheriff Daniels advised that in the future this item will no longer be listed on the agenda as Emergency Management is part of the Sheriff's Department and, therefore, any Emergency Management business will be conducted under Law Enforcement Business.

**Law Enforcement Business:** Discuss/Act on Filling Two Vacant Sworn Officer Positions - There are two vacancies which need to be filled. Seidl made a motion to fill these two positions; Werner seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discuss/Act on Filling Vacant Female Jailer/Dispatcher Position – This item was approved at the June 15, 2007 meeting.

Discuss/Act on Date for Oral Interviews for Both Jailer/Dispatcher and Sworn Officer Positions – Sheriff Daniels would like to interview five applicants for the sworn officer opening and five applicants for the jailer/dispatcher opening. It was agreed that the interviews will be held on Wednesday, October 24, 2007 beginning at 10:00 A.M.

Discuss/Act on Beginning Squad Car Bids for 2008 Delivery – There are squads scheduled to be replaced in 2008. Sheriff Daniels would like to begin the bidding process now in order to obtain the cars as early as possible in 2008. The bids will include leasing and purchase prices. Seidl made a motion to obtain squad car bids; Werner seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discuss/Act on Purchase of Evidence Tracking Computer Software System – This system would assist in tracking evidence in and out of the evidence room. It would be a stand alone computer system which places bar codes on pieces of evidence and also has camera capabilities so that pictures of evidence could be sent electronically to the District Attorney's Office, thereby eliminating the need to take evidence out of the evidence room and up to the District Attorney's Office for viewing. The funds for this purchase (\$5,990.00) are part of the 2008 budget; however, there are sufficient funds in the 2007 budget for the purchase. Sheriff Daniels requested that the committee approve this purchase now. Werner made a motion to approve the purchase now provided that it does not run over budget; Parent seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discuss/Act on Jail Telephone and Audio/Visual Updates through Jail Improvement Funds – The telephone contract with Securus, from Dallas, Texas, has expired. The jail has continued to use their services on a month-by-month agreement. Securus provided prepaid telephone cards for the inmates. This was a revenue based telephone system for the jail as the county received a percentage of the amount sold. Sheriff Daniels advised that camera protection in the jail is poor. The current system uses VHS tapes and is mostly unusable for viewing incidents that occur in the jail. The Sheriff would like to update to DVR. Sheriff Daniels has been in contact with Reliance Telephone Systems, Inc., a company that could handle both issues for the county. They are willing to give us two DVR units if we purchase a third for \$4,000.00. They would also provide handsets for the lawyer/inmate visiting room and record jail visits. There are sufficient funds in the Jail Improvement Fund to cover these expenditures. Parent made a motion to approve the funds necessary to make these updates in the jail provided that it falls within \$15,000.00; Seidl seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discuss/Act on Retaining Emergency Government Van for Use in Carrying Newly Acquired Heavy Truck Scales – The Forestry Department recently purchased scales to weigh heavy trucks at a cost of \$30,000.00. Five deputies have been trained to operate the scales. The Emergency Government van was due to be replaced in 2008; however, the Sheriff is requesting that the van be kept to transport the scales. Seidl made a motion to keep the van for scale transport; Werner seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discuss/Act on County Board Resolution Honoring Meritorious Service of Citizen – An eighteen-year-old girl, Stefany Szemraj, climbed inside a burning vehicle to rescue two elderly people. Sheriff Daniels requested that the Committee approve a Resolution Honoring her for her heroic feat. Seidl made a motion to approve the Resolution; Parent seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discuss/Act on Establishing New Eligibility List for Sworn Officers – The existing eligibility list for sworn officer will be exhausted with the interviews scheduled for October 24, 2007.

Daniels requested authorization to start the testing process to establish a new eligibility list. Parent made a motion to begin the testing process in order to establish a new eligibility list; Werner seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Discuss/Act on Resolution Honoring Retiree Dave Malchow – Sheriff Daniels presented a Resolution honoring Malchow, who retired in July, 2007. Seidl made a motion to approve the Resolution; Werner seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Sheriff's Report:** Recent Award of Grant Money through Drug Enforcement Group for Radio Equipment – Sheriff Daniels reported that the department is eligible for a grant of \$9,600.00 for radio equipment through Nordec Drug Investigations. The department is currently using Motorola radios. Daniels indicated that in light of upcoming communications updates, he felt it would be prudent to use these grant funds to obtain some Kenwood radios so that the department can evaluate them. There will be no cost to the county for purchasing the radios but Taylor County will need to pay for installation, possibly as much as \$1,000.00 each for mobile radios.

Inmate count was 69 as of October 4, 2007. Average inmate population in 2006 was 73.3; the average in 2007 has been 72.8. Revenue from housing inmates in 2007 as of the end of August is \$330,000.00.

The Administrative expenses are running 7% under budget. The jail expenses are 1% under budget.

**Review and Approve Invoices:** After review, Seidl made a motion to approve the invoices from August and September, 2007; Werner seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** With no further business, Seidl made a motion to adjourn; Werner seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty Danen

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**

August 17, 2007

Sheriff's Department Training Room

**Call Meeting To Order:** Chair Sweda called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

**Members Present:** Sweda, Seidl, Parent, Lato, Werner

**Members Absent:** None.

**Other Attendees:** Sheriff Bruce Daniels; Luke Klink, Star News; Ron Bohn and Kaaron Keene, Taylor County Ambulance stationed at Memorial Health Center; County Clerk Bruce Strama; Betty Danen

**Approve Minutes of the June 15, 2007 meeting:** Parent moved to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2007 meeting; Werner seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Approve Agenda:** Parent moved to approve the agenda; Seidl seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting Date:** Friday, September 7, 2007 at 10:00 AM

**Citizen Input:** None

**Ambulance Business:** Discuss/Act on the 2008 Ambulance Budget – Committee members were presented with the proposed 2008 ambulance budget. There is a 1.1% increase over 2007. Parent moved to approve the budget; Lato seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Medical Examiner:** None

**Emergency Management:** Discuss/Act on the 2008 Budget – The proposed budget was reviewed by committee members. There is no change in the proposed dollar amount from 2007. Lato made a motion to approve the budget; Seidl seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discuss/Act on Resolution Authorizing the Purchase and Installation of Additional Warning Sirens – Seidl informed the committee that there was money left over from Resolution No. 56, which authorized the purchase of seven warning sirens. When this became known to the public, some communities asked if they could have a siren purchased for their communities with the excess money. There is enough money to purchase three more sirens. Seidl had prepared a resolution authorizing the purchase of as many additional emergency warning sirens as can be acquired within the original authorization of \$140,000 and that such additional sirens be installed at the locations in the county where population densities are determined to be the greatest, provided the municipality in which the siren is proposed for installation agrees to accept responsibility for its upkeep and maintenance. Parent made a motion to accept the Resolution; Werner seconded. All ayes. Motion carried. The Resolution must still be approved by the Finance Committee and the County Board.

**Law Enforcement Business:** Discuss/Act on the 2008 Budget – Sheriff Daniels presented the proposed 2008 budget to the committee. The budget is .7% lower overall than the 2007 budget. (Administration expenses down .8% and jail expenses down .5%) This proposed budget does not include wages and benefits. Lato made a motion to approve the 2008 budget; Seidl seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Sheriff's Report:** Sheriff Daniels reported that the newly purchased recording device in the jail/dispatch area is installed and is working fine.

**Review and Approve Invoices:** After review, Seidl made a motion to approve the invoices from June and July; Parent seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** With no further business, Parent made a motion to adjourn; Werner seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty Danen



## **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**

June 15, 2007

Sheriff's Department Training Room

**Call Meeting To Order:** Chair Sweda called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

**Members Present:** Sweda, Seidl, Parent, Lato, Werner

**Members Absent:** None.

**Other Attendees:** Sheriff Bruce Daniels; Luke Klink, Star News; Ron Bohn, Taylor County Ambulance stationed at Memorial Health Center; Betty Danen

**Approve Minutes of the May 25, 2007 meeting:** Parent moved to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2007 meeting; Seidl seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Approve Agenda:** Lato moved to approve the agenda; Werner seconded. All Ayes.

**Next Meeting Date:** Friday, July 13, 2007

**Citizen Input:** None

**Ambulance Business:** Discuss/Act on Purchase of New Radio and Cot for Rib Lake Ambulance - Ron Bohn of Taylor County Ambulance stationed at Memorial Health Center presented a request to purchase a radio and a cot for the new Rib Lake ambulance, which will be received in September. The cost of these items is not included in the budget but would be added onto the cost of the ambulance, which is in the budget. The cost of the radio is \$5,382.00 if the manufacturer installs it. This is only an increase of \$45.00 from the last radio purchased two years ago. The cost would be depreciated over seven years. This purchase would not need to be made until September when the ambulance would be received. Bohn would like to purchase the cot, at a cost of \$3,495.00, immediately. This cost has not increased since the last cot purchase. Parent made a motion to approve the purchases; Seidl seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Update on New Price for Rib Lake Ambulance - Bohn updated the committee on the purchase of the new Rib Lake ambulance. It will be a Road Rescue 2006 model. Bohn was able to negotiate \$4,900.00 off of the initial asking price (purchasing a demo model lowered it by \$1,500.00 alone).

**Medical Examiner:** None

**Emergency Management:** None

**Law Enforcement Business:** Discuss/Act on Resolution Honoring Retired Officer – Daniels presented and read to the committee a proposed Resolution honoring Jack Kay for his many years of dedicated service to the citizens of Taylor County. Lato made a motion to approve the resolution and send it on to the County Board; Werner seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discuss/Act on Acquiring Dress Uniforms – Daniels would like the Department to purchase four sets of dress uniforms for occasions such as funerals where the officers are representing the department and county. This would present a much more professional image to the public. The cost of the uniforms has not been received from the supplier at this time. At this time, Daniels is providing this information to the committee as only a report, not a request, and will bring the issue back before the committee after costs are known. Daniels indicated that he does not anticipate requesting additional funds and will make this purchase either out of currently allocated funds or locate an alternate funding source.

Discuss/Act on Resignation from Jail and Beginning Process to Fill Vacancies – There will be two vacancies (one male and one female) soon as Corey Dassow has been hired as a deputy and Holly Draeger will be quitting full-time work as she is going back to school. These positions will need to be filled. Werner made a motion to begin the hiring process to fill these positions; Seidl seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discuss/Act on Sheriff's Recommendation Related to Jail Kitchen and Commissary Vendor Contracts - Currently, the County contracts with two different vendors – one for the jail meals and another for the commissary. Aramark, who is the vendor for the jail meals, wanted to do both; however, at this time, Daniels does not feel that they are ready to provide commissary services. Daniels distributed a letter from Aramark in which they presented different options for serving Taylor County. Option 3 would provide an incentive in the form of an up-front grant payment to Taylor County to be used at the County's discretion. For a five year contract, the grant amount would be \$50,000.00. Daniels indicated that he would like to use these funds much as the county has done with Power Line funds. He indicated that there are several necessary updates within the Sheriff's Department. He advised that these funds could be deposited and drawn on at his request upon review and approval of the Committee. Daniels requested that the Committee accept Aramark's Option 3, based on Corporation Counsel review and approval, and approve a five year contract with Aramark for the jail meals. Daniels also asked the Committee to extend Swanson's contract for commissary services for another two years. Seidl made a motion to approve a five year contract with Aramark for the jail meals, provided the Corporation Counsel approves of Option 3, and a two year extension on the contract with Swanson for the commissary; Werner seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discuss/Act on Telephone Recording Device Update – Daniels reported that a new recording device is needed in dispatch. This would be covered by the Computer Hardware and Software Fund. Kim Kasperek has been researching the purchase of a new recording device. Higher Ground has a unit that would cost \$16,990.00 for the recording equipment only. Avox has one that is \$700.00 less expensive but is web-based so the computers would need to be up and running in order for it to work. Daniels requested that the committee approve the purchase of the unit from Higher Ground and also that a caller ID update be included, at a cost of \$2,300.00. Parent made a motion to approve the purchase of MacTech System, with caller ID, for a cost not to exceed \$20,500.00; Werner seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Sheriff's Report:** Update to Computer Assigned to Detective Schwartz – Schwartz and Bowers are assigned to computer based crime investigations. Detective Schwartz's computer was obsolete, according to Melissa Weinke in Information Services, and she recommended purchase of a new tower. This purchase was completed at a cost of \$796.00. This expense was funded by the Computer Hardware budget.

Summary of 2005-2006 Comparison NCIC Statistics - Daniels had previously dispensed copies of these crime statistics to the committee members. There was no discussion on the statistics.

Daniels mentioned that the Department was required to call in the Marathon County bomb squad on two occasions lately, in a mutual aid request. For one trip, the county was billed \$409.00 for the disposal of 21 practice land mines. The bill was paid by the county but the landowner was subsequently billed and was not pleased with this. The second time, the landowner was told ahead of time that he would need to pay for the cost of the bomb squad and will be billed. Werner mentioned that he thought it appropriate that the landowner was billed.

Daniels provided an update on the changes to the recording room in the jail. Fencing was purchased at a cost of \$820.00.

Daniels reported that the current inmate population is 70, with 26 being out of county boarders. Revenue so far this year from boarding inmates was \$172,430 at the end of April.

Daniels reported on the budget. As of the end of April, which is 33% of the year, Sheriff's Administration expenses were 28% of the budgeted yearly amount and jail expenses were 34% of the yearly budget. The jail expenses are a bit skewed as medical expenses to HPL in the amount of \$39,000 were paid up front in January for the entire year.

**Review and Approve Invoices:** After review, Seidl made a motion to approve the invoices from May; Werner seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** With no further business, Lato made a motion to adjourn; Parent seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty Danen

**Taylor County Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee  
Meeting Minutes for May 25, 2007**

**Present:** Chairman Joe Sweda, Jim Seidl, John Werner, and Fred Parent. Others in attendance were Sheriff Bruce Daniels, Sergeant Dave Bender, Marie Koerner, and Betty Danen. Wayne Lato was unable to attend.

This special meeting of the Taylor County Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee was called to order by Chairman Sweda at 10:02 A.M. on May 25, 2007 in the Taylor County Sheriff's Department Training Room at the Taylor County Courthouse.

**APPROVE MINUTES:** Seidl made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2007 meeting. Parent seconded that motion. All in favor; motion carried.

The next regular meeting was scheduled for Friday, June 15, 2007 at 10:00 A.M.

**CITIZEN INPUT:** None

**AMBULANCE BUSINESS:** None

**MEDICAL EXAMINER:** None

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

**LAW ENFORCEMENT BUSINESS:** Discussion was held in regards to two positions becoming vacant in the near future – one through resignation and the other through retirement. Dave Malchow, the court officer, will be retiring in October, 2007. His replacement will need to be trained in the courtroom prior to Malchow actually retiring, which will leave the department one officer short on coverage elsewhere.

There is still one vacancy in the department due to an earlier retirement, leaving three vacancies in all which need to be filled. Sheriff Daniels requested the authority to go ahead and make the employment decisions necessary to fill these three slots. He requested that these slots be filled with the individuals that are being interviewed today, if they are acceptable, even though one of the positions will not actually be vacant until October. There is money in the budget to cover the salary expense.

Werner made a motion to fill all of the vacancies now; Parent seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** Sheriff Daniels introduced Sergeant Dave Bender to the members of the committee. Sergeant Bender was recently hired to fill the sergeant position. Sergeant Bender was hired in October, 2004. He will be relocating to the Medford area soon. Sheriff Daniels gave an update on the necessary changes to the recording room in the jail. Sergeant Kasperek has been researching this project. It is believed that the segregation of this room will be able to be accomplished for under \$1,000.00. A mesh cage will be constructed, which will not interfere with fire sprinklers. The money for this project is in the jail budget.

Sheriff Daniels asked the committee if they had any objections to the Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee meetings being held in the Sheriff's Department training room in the future. Werner stated that he had no objections as long as the meetings would be open to the public. Daniels stated that they would be open to the public. There were no objections to moving future meetings to the training room.

Parent brought up a concern regarding the call-in and response system currently in place for the jailer dispatchers. He would like them to work a whole shift or not at all when called in. Sheriff Daniels and Marie Koerner stated that the policy on this has been changed and that the employee will now need to accept what is offered or not work at all.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE INVOICES:** None.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Motion by Parent and Second by Seidl at 10:11 A.M. to go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(c) for approximately two hours for the purpose of conducting oral interviews of applicants for the Deputy Sheriff positions. Roll call vote: Werner – Aye; Parent – Aye; Seidl – Aye; Sweda – Aye.

At 11:35 A.M. motion by Seidl and Second by Parent to return to open session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.83. Roll call vote: Seidl – Aye; Werner – Aye; Parent – Aye; Sweda – Aye.

Motion by Werner to certify list of applicants; Second by Seidl. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion by Seidl and Second by Parent to adjourn. All in favor; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:35 A.M.

## **Taylor County Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee Meeting Minutes for May 11, 2007**

**Present:** Chairman Joe Sweda, Fred Parent, Jim Seidl and John Werner. Others in attendance were Bruce Daniels, Bill Breneman, and Ron Bohn. Supervisor Lato was unable to attend.

**Visitors:** Paul McDonough from Road Rescue Emergency Vehicles, Duncan Kasukonis from American Signal Corporation, Tom Hynes from Northway Communications and Tom Cypert from ATI Systems.

**Press:** Luke Klink from the Star News.

The regular meeting of the Taylor County Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee was called to order at 10:00 A.M. on May 11, 2007 in the Taylor County Board Room at the Taylor County Courthouse.

**APPROVE MINUTES:** Motion by Parent and Second by Seidl to approve the April 11, 2007 Law Enforcement Services and Emergency Services Committee as submitted. All in favor; motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 25, 2007 at which time oral interviews will be conducted for Deputy Sheriff.

**CITIZEN INPUT:** None

**AMBULANCE BUSINESS:** Ron Bohn advised that the Ambulance Service had received only one bid for the replacement ambulance. He advised that this is primarily due to the fact that the chassis for this type of vehicle is not available or being constructed right now. The bid from Road Rescue out of St. Paul, Minnesota was opened at the meeting. The committee inquired as to whether the money was available for this purchase. Bohn indicated the money is available through the Ambulance Replacement Fund.

Right now the plan is to take the Medford Ambulance #3 out of service and dispose of it through auction. This is a 1994 model. The current Rib Lake ambulance, a 1996, will be transferred to Medford and the Rib Lake station will get the new unit.

Motion by Parent and Second by Werner to accept the bid from Road Rescue Emergency Vehicles in the amount of \$120,568. All in favor; motion carried.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:** Bill Breneman briefed the Committee on the four bids received from interested vendors for the weather siren updates. He also prepared and disseminated a bid summary report articulating the bids, amounts and whether or not the bids matched the specifications advertised by the County. A copy of the bid summary is available through the Sheriff's Department Data Records Manager.

Four vendors offered a bid in the following amounts:

- 1) Acoustic Technology, Inc. (ATI) \$82,629 including two way communication and \$70,356 without.
- 2) Air Communications \$106,494 only has one way communication available.
- 3) American Signal \$97,070.92 including two way communication and \$90,252.53 without.
- 4) Federal Warning Systems \$100,725 including two way communication and \$92,220 without.

After Breneman completed his briefing, Supervisor Seidl asked the vendors that were present if they felt that the bids they had submitted had been accurately presented. All vendors present indicated there were no changes.

Also discussed was the fact that some of the Villages would like to move the new siren to something other than the current location. Breneman advised that some had indicated an interest in mounting this equipment to a building or other structure also but that it is necessary for the equipment to be mounted to the pole to increase the functionality of the two way system.

The committee was advised that most of the bids indicated an approximate time frame of 4-6 weeks once the order was placed. This is important as the Gilman siren is currently out of service.

There was significant discussion related to re-locating the old sirens to a different area in the County. Daniels indicated that he was concerned and was hopeful the Committee would move with caution in this area. Although he is supportive of notifying as many citizens as possible in an emergency, Daniels also indicated that he was concerned with putting the dispatchers in a situation where we are adding steps to the process of activating emergency systems. The representative from ATI indicated that the old sirens can be added to the console of the equipment specified in his bid but that the County needed to understand that the old sirens would not have two way communication with the dispatch center.

Jim Seidl asked the ATI representative how many sirens they have out in Wisconsin. The representative indicated that they did provide a list of references with their bid. He indicated they had just finished a new install in Eagle River and that they do a lot of work with the military.

There was significant discussion related to the two consoles in dispatch and whether or not the system could be activated from either. The representative from ATI indicated that the bid submitted was a stand alone system but that it could be interfaced with the current console configuration with some minimal expense.

Jim Seidl made a motion to accept the bid submitted by ATI as presented but with the stipulation that Taylor County reserves the right to negotiate further for any other items deemed necessary by the County. The motion was seconded by Mr. Werner. A roll call vote was taken: Seidl-Aye, Parent-Aye, Werner-Aye and Sweda-Aye. Majority in favor; motion carried.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT BUSINESS:** None

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** Daniels advised that it has recently come to his attention that the Medford Fire Department will be required to update their paging system and that as a result the Taylor County Dispatch Center will need a \$300 update. He advised the money is in the budget for this communications center upgrade.

Daniels reported that there is no further information to pass along at this time related to the three person fatality crash that happened on May 4<sup>th</sup> but did indicate that the Wisconsin State Patrol did provide a reconstruction team who is assisting with the investigation.

Daniels advised the committee that Rebecca Wilson, sister to Brian Wilson, provided instruction on dealing with identification of human remains to 45 officers from 17 different agencies this past week. The training was very well received and appreciated by the students.

The interviews for Sergeant with the Sheriff's Department will be held on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Human Resource Manager Koerner will be sitting in along with a Sergeant from the State Patrol, a Chief of Police and a Chief Deputy.

Daniels also informed the committee that he and Breneman will be attending an incident command school in Alabama in the later part of June. This program including travel to Atlanta, GA, is paid for by the Federal Government.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE INVOICES:** Motion by Parent; second by Seidl to approve the invoices submitted for approval. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion by Parent; second by Seidl to adjourn. All in favor; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 A.M.



**Taylor County Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee  
Meeting Minutes for April 11, 2007**

**Present:** Chairman Joe Sweda, Wayne Lato, Jim Seidl, John Werner, and Fred Parent. Others in attendance were Sheriff Bruce Daniels, County Board Chairman Jim Metz, and Betty Danen.

**Visitors:** Lester Lewis, District 13 Supervisor; Mike Frey from the Medford Electric Utility; and Don Prince from Air Communications.

**Press:** Luke Klink of the Star News,

The regular meeting of the Taylor County Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee was called to order by Chairman Sweda at 10:01 A.M. on April 11, 2007 in the Taylor County Boardroom at the Taylor County Courthouse.

**APPROVE MINUTES:** Seidl requested that the minutes be amended to indicate that the committee was approving the purchase of seven weather alert sirens instead of eleven as was indicated in the minutes. Motion by Lato, second by Werner to approve the amended minutes from the March 23, 2007 regular meeting. All in favor; motion carried.

The next regular meeting was scheduled for Friday, May 11, 2007 at 10:00 A.M.

**CITIZEN INPUT:** None

**AMBULANCE BUSINESS:** None

**MEDICAL EXAMINER:** None

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

**Discuss/act on status of Emergency Government position:** Daniels advised that he had received word from Taylor County Corporation Counsel that the Office of Special Counsel has changed its position related to the appointment of a Sheriff's Department employee to Emergency Management due to the fact that the current appointment is time removed from when the position became vacant and the fact that there had been a competitive process for the position. Daniels reported that Bill Breneman and two other Deputy Sheriffs expressed interest in the position. Daniels indicated that he felt that Bill Breneman was the most qualified and prepared to provide Taylor County services through this office and requested that the Committee confirm his appointment to the position. Motion by Seidl and Second by Werner to confirm Bill Breneman's appointment to Emergency Management. All in favor; motion carried.

**Discuss/Act on Replacement of Weather Alert Sirens:** Seidl reported that since the proposed siren purchase would exceed \$25,000 it would be necessary to solicit quotations and publish a Class I notice in the paper that bids were being solicited.

The county will be purchasing seven sirens; however, one will be for the city for which they are not required to solicit bids. The county's bid request will specify six sirens, but if the city specifications are the same as the county their siren will be included in the purchase in an attempt to secure better prices.

Mike Frey, Medford Electric Utility, was present and reported that the city presently has five sirens and they propose replacing three smaller ones with two larger, one of which will be

purchased by the city and the second by the county, at a cost not to exceed \$20,000, which limit applies to all sirens being purchased.

Seidl had developed a list of proposed specifications that he presented to the committee for their approval, or other recommendation. The list included:

- Siren type to be electro/mechanical rotating with beam spread of 60 degrees, 360-degree coverage, and rotation speed not less than 3RPM.
- Siren to be rated at a minimum of 128 dB at 100 feet.
- Signals shall be three distinct types to include steady and one speed wail as a minimum.
- Siren control to be AC powered at base station, DC powered at remote site, programmable, both one-way and two-way communication to be quoted so price difference can be determined.
- Power to be 48VDC primary with 120VAC backup for battery charging.
- Batteries to be specified by type, number, size and rating.
- Battery cabinet to be metal and to be specified whether with heating unit or not.
- Mounting hardware to be included in quotation with description.
- Mounting pole requirements are to be described as to type and height, whether included in bid or not with deduct specified if municipality provides pole.
- Maintenance requirements are to be described.
- Maintenance Agreement: To be specified whether one is available with a description of service to be provided and cost per unit/year.
- Total cost per unit and total cost for six or seven units.

Seidl reported that he had corresponded with each of the municipalities scheduled to receive a new siren in an attempt to gain their reactions to the proposal but had received responses from only three at this time. Lublin and Rib Lake will need a new pole. Jump River will provide a pole.

A discussion centered around several issues; one being whether an outside maintenance agreement should be purchased and the second was a recommendation by Sheriff Daniels that two-way communication units be purchased because it offers the opportunity for central dispatch to monitor whether sirens are working properly at the time they are tested without the dispatcher having to call separately to each municipality to determine this information.

Don Prince, Air Communications, offered some advice on the request for quotations. He indicated that it should be noted as to whether a bucket truck would be available in the municipality to hoist the 300-400# siren units to the top of the mounting poles. A considerable savings could be realized if a truck were available locally because leasing by the installer would be quite costly. It is believed that only the city of Medford and village of Lublin have bucket trucks available.

Seidl noted that he had assumed the responsibility of the siren project although it was beyond his authority as chairman of the LEPC, but had done so because there has been no Emergency Management director assigned. The project will now be turned over to the newly appointed Emergency Management director.

Following discussion, Lato moved to approve the specifications and proceed with the bidding process. This motion was seconded by Parent and carried unanimously.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT BUSINESS:** None

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** Sheriff Daniels stated that County Ordinance requires that the filling of the Emergency Management position be confirmed by the Board. It was agreed that the position was to be filled by appointment by the Sheriff and that Board approval had already been granted.

Daniels reported on the status of filling the vacant Sergeant position. A written test will be given to applicants during the week of April 23<sup>rd</sup>. There is no clear language in the Code regarding the filling of this position. It was agreed that it could be filled in-house and Daniels will report the results to the committee. Daniels was instructed to proceed with the hiring process.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE INVOICES:** Motion by Seidl; second by Parent to approve the invoices submitted for approval. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion by Parent and Second by Werner to adjourn. All in favor; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 A.M.

**Taylor County Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee  
Meeting Minutes for March 23, 2007**

**Present:** Chairman Joe Sweda, Jim Seidl, John Werner, Fred Parent, Sheriff Bruce Daniels, Bruce Strama, and Kaaron Keene and Ron Bohn of Memorial Health Center. Wayne Lato was unable to attend.

**Visitors:** Dan Gossman and Matthew Sommerfeldt of Federal Warning Systems, Inc., Rochester, Minnesota.

**Press:** Luke Klink of the Star News, and Paula Liske from WIGM.

The regular meeting of the Taylor County Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee was called to order by Chairman Sweda at 10:02 A.M. on March 23, 2007 in the Taylor County Boardroom at the Taylor County Courthouse.

Motion by Seidl, second by Werner to approve the minutes from the February 26, 2007 regular meeting. All in favor; motion carried.

The next regular meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, 2007 at 10:00 A.M.

**CITIZEN INPUT:** None

**AMBULANCE BUSINESS:**

**Discuss/Act on replacement bids for Rib Lake ambulance:** Ron Bohn requested permission to start the bidding process by placing an ad in newspapers for a two week period of time. He should receive the bids in time for the regular May meeting. This will give him time to have the vendors bring in ambulances for him to look at. This expense is not in the budget; however, Larry Brandl will be able to shift funds in order to make the money available. Fred Parent made a motion to publish bids in the newspapers; John Werner seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

**Discuss/act on replacement of defibrillator pads:** These units are used by Sheriff's Department personnel, having been placed in squad cars and in the jail. The defibrillator pads expire every two years and cost \$50.00 per set to replace. It is necessary to replace twelve (12) sets per year. In the past, Ron Bohn has ordered them and then the Sheriff's Department reimbursed the hospital. Ron Bohn is proposing that the hospital monitor when the pads are in need of replacement, purchase them, and run the cost through the county's ambulance budget. Werner made a motion to do as Bohn suggests; Jim Seidl seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

**Discuss/act on expenditure of Fund Assistance Program funds:** The Fund Assistance Program is State revenue that is provided for ambulance service. The amount received is based on a formula (area covered, number of ambulance calls per year, etc.). There is currently \$18,600.00 in the account. Ron Bohn would like to use this money for capital equipment purchases. He would like to purchase:

Three (3) Evac-U-Splint mattresses at \$592.49 each for a total of \$1,777.47. These are mattresses that fill with air and form around the body when a person is placed upon it. Fractures are held tight, which would be especially helpful with geriatric hip fractures and cervical and spinal fractures. He would like to have one of these in Rib Lake, Gilman, and Medford. Medford does have one now; he would like another one as a back-up;

One (1) Sager Traction Splint for \$238.25. The hospital did have one of these but it was used on a patient that was sent to another hospital and it wasn't returned. They have taken measures to ensure that this does not happen again. The device will be engraved and tagged;

And three (3) EZ-Glide stair chair w/ track for \$2,600.00 each for a total of \$7,800.00. They have a twenty-year-old EZ-Glide stair chair that does not have the track, which necessitates lifting the device up stairs. The EZ-Glide with the track would eliminate this and would also prevent further distress to someone with a back injury.

Jim Seidl made a motion to approve the purchase of the above mentioned equipment; Fred Parent seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**MEDICAL EXAMINER:** None

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

**Discuss/act on status of Emergency Government:** This position is now vacant. William Breneman, who previously served in this assignment, is not eligible, based on direction from the Office of Special Counsel, due to complications with the Hatch Act. Taylor County could be subject to sanctions if Breneman were posted back to this position. Seidl made a motion to post the position according to union protocol; Parent seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

**Discuss/act on replacement of weather alert sirens:** The warning sirens in the county are 30-50 years old. This issue had been brought up at a previous meeting, at which time Seidl was requested to draft a resolution to be presented to the county board, which he presented to the LEES committee this date. The resolution states that the county will pay for replacement of up to eleven (11) sirens throughout the county (five in Medford, and one each in Lublin, Stetsonville, Westboro, Rib Lake, Gilman, and Jump River). Environmental Impact Funds will be used to pay for new sirens. The county, not the individual cities/villages/towns will decide which sirens to buy as the county is paying for them. Seidl made a motion to approve the resolution; Werner seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Dan Gossman and Matthew Sommerfeldt from Federal Warning Systems, Inc, Rochester, Minnesota, were present at the meeting. Gossman is the sales manager; Sommerfeldt is a service technician and would perform routine maintenance on the sirens. Gossman presented information on different types of sirens available. He recommended at least 128 decibels (preferably 130). He stated that most of their sales are for AC/DC sirens (with a battery backup). The batteries would last three to four years and cost \$85.00 each to replace. Sirens are either one-way or two-way. With the two-way sirens, the sirens would be connected to a computer in the Taylor County Sheriff's Department dispatch (software would need to be purchased) and then dispatch would know if each siren went off, if their batteries are low, etc. The two-way is wide and narrow band. The two-way sirens cost about \$900.00-\$1,000.00 more per siren than the one-way. An AC siren could be placed next to a fire hall, well or somewhere else where there is a back-up generator so that they will still work when the power is out. Gossman recommended that the county not skimp on coverage as a smaller siren cannot be heard that far when it is raining and windy. It would take about 30 days from the time of ordering for receipt of the sirens. Coordination would need to be done with the local electric utilities for installation.

It was decided that the committee would have a special meeting to decide how many (possibly seven) and what type of sirens are needed and then it will be put out for bids.

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT BUSINESS:**

**Discuss/act on request for leave of absence for Larry Woebbeking:** Daniels requested a leave of absence for Larry Woebbeking from his Sergeant rank as has been done in the past for other positions. Motion by Parent to grant the request; second by Werner. All in favor; motion carried.

**Discuss/act on posting and filling vacant sergeant position:** The sergeant position previously held by Larry Woebbeking is vacant. It was decided to fill the position. Seidl made a motion to post the sergeant position; Werner seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**Discuss/act on filling vacant Deputy Sheriff position:** There is a vacancy in the Sheriff's Department due to Jack Kay retiring. Daniels requested that this position be filled in order to bring the number of employees up to the authorized amount. An eligibility list can be created using applications received prior to mid-January, 2007. If the Chief Deputy would have been hired from the outside, this position would not be available; as the position was filled by a promotion from within, this leaves the Department one employee short. Parent made a motion to fill this position; Werner seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**Discuss/act on purchase of dispatch recording device:** The county currently has a TEAC recording device which records radio traffic, 911 calls, etc. which is approximately eleven years old and has not been working properly. Recently, eleven hours were missing from the recordings. There was \$41,000.00 budgeted for the Enforcer Group software. The agreement between Taylor County and Enforcer has been terminated so the funds budgeted for that will not be needed in 2007. Daniels requested that this money be used to buy a new recording device. Werner made a motion to use this money to purchase a new recording device for dispatch; Parent seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**Discuss/act on recording room changes in jail:** Daniels presented information in regards to creating an interview room out of a storage room across from the holding cell in the jail. This interview room would be utilized to record interviews conducted after an arrest and to administer Intoxalyzer tests. Sheriff Daniels has spoken with Maintenance about doing the work. Jail Improvement funds would be utilized. Daniels was bringing the matter before the committee to inform them of the necessary changes so the Department would be in compliance with State law. He will obtain more information and then present that information to the committee.

**Discuss/act on placement of squad car in Gilman:** Daniels indicated that there are currently two sworn officers living in the Gilman area. He would like to assign a second take home car to that area. This issue was brought to the committee as the County Ordinance indicates that the committee and Sheriff should agree on placement of the cars. Daniels indicated that he did not believe that this discussion was mandatory by statute but that he preferred to be in compliance with the ordinance. There is no proposal to increase the size of the fleet of vehicles operated by the Sheriff's Department, just a relocation of assignment of the cars. There was no disagreement from the committee to this change.

## **SHERIFF'S REPORT:**

**Jail service contract renewals:** Three jail contracts are up for renewal. All the information needed on this has not been obtained. This matter will be brought back at the next meeting.

Daniels informed the committee of the need to get a disc copier that can create multiple discs at one time. The Department is requested, at times, to make several copies of

interviews. The current copier can only create one at a time and, so, it takes a considerable amount of time to make the copies. The disc copier that the Department would like to purchase costs \$450.00. The Medford Police Department is willing to pay half of this cost. It was decided that this purchase could be made out of day-to-day operation monies.

Daniels also informed the committee that Jump River is going to be updating their radio communications/repeater system. They would like the county to continue to provide maintenance through our contract with Northway Communications. It will be essential that Jump River buys a system that will work with the county system.

Daniels presented to the committee a framed picture of Arras, Taylor County's first K-9 unit, who recently died. He was 13 years old. The picture will be hung in the hallway by the TASO offices.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE INVOICES:** None

Motion by Parent and Second by Werner to adjourn. All in favor; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:15 A.M.

**Taylor County Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee  
Meeting Minutes for February 26, 2007**

Present: Chairman Joe Sweda, Jim Seidl, John Werner, Bruce Daniels, Marie Koerner. Fred Parent and Wayne Lato were unable to attend.

Visitors: None

Press: Luke Klink of the Star News

The regular monthly meeting of the Taylor County Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee was called to order by Chairman Sweda at 9:35 A.M. on February 26, 2007 in the training room adjacent to the Sheriff's Department. An error in the posting of the agenda indicating this meeting was to be held in the County Board Room was corrected by posting a note on the door of the Board Room at approximately 9:30 A.M. to advise interested parties of the correct location.

Motion by Werner, second by Seidl to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2007 regular meeting. All in favor motion carried.

The next regular meeting was tentatively set for March 09, 2007.

**CITIZEN INPUT:** None

**AMBULANCE BUSINESS:**

**Discuss/Act on funding for traffic light pre-emption device grant:** Daniels disseminated a copy of a memo written by Ginny Brost, Clerk from the City of Medford, related to a traffic light pre-emption device grant. This is a 90 % grant which will require a 10 % match from local entities. At this point the City of Medford Police Department, Medford Fire Department, Medford Ambulance Service and Taylor County Sheriff's Department are discussing a cooperative effort to take advantage of this grant. Each participant would contribute \$750 to reach the goal of the match funds. Daniels indicated that although Ron Bohn could not be present he had indicated that the Ambulance Service does have the funds for this program available in that budget. Daniels advised that he was concerned that the Sheriff's Department budget may not support this expenditure as this is not an item that had been budgeted for. He also advised that he felt that this is a very worthwhile program and that the Sheriff's Department would be well served as would the public by the Sheriff's Department being involved in this project. Daniels indicated that it is not reasonable to believe that all squad cars would be equipped with the necessary equipment in the near future as that will require approximately an additional \$800 per unit. Motion by Seidl, Second by Werner to grant both the request of the Medford Ambulance Service and Taylor County Sheriff's Department to take advantage of this grant. All in favor motion carried.

**MEDICAL EXAMINER:** None

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:** None

**LAW ENFORCEMENT BUSINESS:**

**Discuss/Act on funding for traffic light pre-emption device grant:** Please refer to discussion and action under Ambulance Business.



**Discuss/Act on bids and purchase of four (4) squad cars:** Daniels indicated that the Sheriff's Department had received bids from four different dealerships for squad cars. Brickner Motors in Little Chicago, Ewald in Franklin, WI, Medford Motors and Mertens Garage both of Medford. Evaluation of the bids indicated that Ewald had provided the lowest bid for both the Ford Crown Victoria and the Dodge Charger. Daniels indicated that of the two local merchants the bid from Mertens Garage was approximately \$200 less than the other local bid. The committee discussed the advantages of purchasing local when considering service and the costs incurred for delivery of vehicles obtained from a dealer in the southern part of the State. Daniels indicated that he believed that the difference between obtaining the cars locally and from outside our area is approximately \$800 per vehicle over the term of the lease agreement. Motion by Seidl and Second by Werner to accept the bid submitted by Mertens Garage provided there was no other reason not to accept it. All in favor, motion carried.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** None

**REVIEW AND APPROVE INVOICES:** Motion by Seidl and Second by Werner to approve invoices after review. All in favor, motion carried.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Motion by Seidl and Second by Werner at 9:55 A.M. to go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(c) for approximately five (5) hours for the purpose of conducting oral interviews of applicants for the Chief Deputy position. Roll call vote: Seidl- Aye, Werner-Aye and Sweda-Aye.

The committee recessed from 12:20 P.M. to 12:50 P.M. for lunch during which time the annual inspection of jail meals was completed.

At 3:20 P.M. motion by Seidl and Second by Werner to return to open session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.83. Roll call vote: Seidl-Aye, Werner-Aye, and Sweda-Aye.

Motion by Seidl Second by Werner to certify Larry Woebbecking as the applicant selected for the Chief Deputy Sheriff position.

Motion by Werner and Second by Seidl to adjourn. All in favor motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:20 P.M.

**Taylor County Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee  
Meeting Minutes for January 12, 2007**

Present: Chairman Joe Sweda, Jim Seidl, John Werner, Fred Parent, Bruce Daniels, Ron Bohn, Karon Keene, and Bruce Strama.

Visitors: Tammy Ogle and guest, Lester Lewis.

Press: Luke Klink of the Star News

The regular monthly meeting of the Taylor County Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee was called to order by Chairman Joe Sweda on Friday, January 12, 2007 at 10:00 A.M. in the Taylor County Board Room.

Motion by Lato, second by Seidl to approve minutes of the November 15, 2006 regular meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

The next regular meeting was tentatively set for February 15, 2007.

**CITIZEN INPUT:** None

**AMBULANCE BUSINESS:**

**Discuss/act on ambulance subsidy request:** Copies of the 2006 Summary of Ambulance Service Revenue and Expenses were distributed to the committee along with a letter from Lori Peck. The letter requested payment of \$180,902 which is actually \$423 less than the budgeted County subsidy. Ron Bohn also pointed out that 537 hours or 5% of his staff's hours were transferred to Memorial Health Center.

**MEDICAL EXAMINER:** None

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

Fred Parent asked what the status of the Emergency Management position was and whether or not Bill Breneman was going to be assigned in that office. Daniels explained that he had recently communicated with Corporation Counsel to determine what parameters the County needs to follow with this assignment to assure there are no issues with the Office of Special Counsel related to the Hatch Act. Daniels said that he has made no assignments or promises related to this position pending guidance from Corporation Counsel. Jim Seidl indicated that there is some consideration being given to making this position its own department again as it had been handled in the past.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT BUSINESS:**

**Discuss/act on request for leave of absence by Bruce Daniels:** Daniels requested a leave of absence from the Deputy Sheriff ranks as has been the practice in years past. Seidl pointed out that Human Resources is also reviewing whether or not this approach should also be taken with other department heads that are elected officials. Motion by Werner second by Lato to grant Daniels' request for a leave of absence. All in favor, motion carried.

**Discuss/act on request to fill Chief Deputy position:** Daniels indicated that in order to be in compliance with Taylor County Code related to filling vacant positions he was

requesting the committee put this approval on the record. Motion by Seidl second by Werner to grant the request. An amendment was offered by Parent to include in the original motion setting a date for oral interviews. Chairman Sweda called for a vote to consider the amendment all in favor. The request to fill the position and set a date of February 15, 2007 for oral interviews passed unanimously by the Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee.

**Discuss/act on request to seek bids for squad cars:** Daniels requested to send requests for bids for squad cars to auto dealerships. Seidl indicated that he had been under the impression that two cars that had been totaled out last year would not be replaced. Daniels indicated that there had been one car totaled last year but the driver involved in that crash had been involved in another incident. Daniels indicated that the intention is not to increase the size of the fleet of squad cars. Motion by Lato second by Parent to allow the Sheriff's Department to seek bids for squad cars. All in favor, motion carried.

**Discuss/act on renewal of adult oriented establishment license for the Stardust Lounge:** Committee members asked if there has been any issue with this establishment in the last year. Daniels indicated there has not to his knowledge. Motion to approve by Seidl second by Werner. All in favor, motion carried.

### **SHERIFF'S REPORT:**

**Annual report for 2007:** Daniels reported that it is his intention that the Sheriff's Department will complete an annual report starting in 2007 and annually after that. Seidl pointed out that the last similar report was in 2001.

**Data Records Manager:** Daniels indicated that postings for the vacant position had been accepted and that Betty Danen who currently works in Child Support was offered and accepted the position. She will begin her duties on January 17, 2007.

**Upcoming training and implementation of portable scales:** Daniels reported that he had met with Highway Commissioner Tom Toepfer and Brad Ruesch from the Forestry Department regarding portable scales being purchased by Forestry to assist with heavy truck enforcement. While some of the logistics of this program are still being worked out it appears the scales can be put into use this spring. Committee members inquired about training to use this equipment. Daniels indicated that arrangements for training are being made.

**Report from My Pride Kennels:** Tammy Ogle was present to provide a report on animal control activities over the past seven months. She indicated that 196 animals have come through her kennel. 59 of those animals have had to be euthanized. 96 have been adopted and 41 of them have been recovered by their owner. Of those 41, 29 were not licensed when they come in. There was discussion related to rabies vaccinations and the steps that Ogle is taking to assure proper vaccinations are given to the animals that go through her facility. Jim Seidl indicated that the newly formed Humane Society is looking into negotiating a reduced rate for euthanasia and cremation. There was discussion about what requirements there are related to the equipment to do cremations. Lester Lewis indicated that there is no regulation. Ogle indicated that the biggest problem she sees is people not knowing where to call if their pet is missing. There was discussion about trying to get the word out to contact My Pride Kennel in the event your animal is missing. Ogle also discussed response times to animal at large complaints. Daniels indicated that he has had positive feed back from Sheriff's Department staff related to the services provided by Ogle and her staff.

**Jail population:** Daniels indicated that the population of the jail on January 12, 2007 is at 65 and that 25 of those are boarders from other counties.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE INVOICES:**

Motion by Seidl second by Werner to approve invoices after review. All in favor, motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Parent second by Seidl to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.