



Minutes - December 5, 2022

Call to Order: Chair Beaver called the Public Safety & Justice Committee meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. in Conference Room N1.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Beaver, Zoril, Whitledge, and Bomkamp.

Committee Members Absent: Supervisor Knudson.

Staff Members Present: David O'Leary, District Attorney; Fredd Carr, Interim Communications Center Director; Captain Litsheim; Chief Deputy Strouse; Commander Chellevoid; Randy Terronez, Assistant to the Administrator; Sheriff Knudson; Josh Smith, County Administrator; Melissa Wittwer, Child Support Director; Brent Sutherland, Facilities Management Director; Captain Fell.

Others Present: Rich Harper, League of Women Voters.

Approve Agenda: Supervisor Whitledge moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Supervisor Bomkamp. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: No public comment submitted.

Supervisor Zoril stated that he has heard about the carpet being changed out in the District Attorney's Office after it was installed. He requested additional information.

Approval of Minutes:

October 25, 2022 Minutes: Supervisor Bomkamp moved approval of the October 25, 2022 minutes, second by Supervisor Whitledge. ADOPTED.

November 2, 2022 Minutes: Supervisor Whitledge moved approval of the November 2, 2022 minutes, second by Supervisor Bomkamp. ADOPTED.

Consent Calendar:

Approval of Transfers: Supervisor Bomkamp moved approval of the transfer, second by Supervisor Whitledge. ADOPTED.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

FROM Account #	Amount	TO Account #	Amount
Source of Funds 24-1610-0000-62400 Repair & Maintenance Current Balance : \$1,247	\$1,200	Use of Funds 24-1610-0000-63100 Office Supplies & Misc Expense	\$1,200
Source of Funds 24-1610-0000-63300 Travel Current Balance: \$3,984	\$3,000	Use of Funds 24-1610-0000-63100 Office Supplies & Misc Expense	\$3,000
Source of Funds 24-1610-0000-64200 Training Expenses Current Balance: \$4,390	\$3,500	Use of Funds 24-1610-0000-63100 Office Supplies & Misc Expense	\$3,500
Source of Funds 24-1610-0000-63200 Publications/Subscriptions/Dues Current Balance: \$1,532	\$1,500	Use of Funds 24-1610-0000-63100 Office Supplies & Misc Expense	\$1,500

Review of Payments: The committee reviewed the payments. Staff answered questions posed by Supervisors.

Review and Approval of Resolutions:

Authorizing Acceptance of the Wisconsin Department of Justice Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) Grant Funds, Amending the 2023 Budget, and Creating One Human Services Professional II Position in the District Attorney's Office:

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this _____ day of _____, 2022, does hereby accept the Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Grant funds in the amount of \$366,667 including \$275,000 in state aid and a \$91,667 cash and in-kind services match.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board approves the creation of the grant-funded 1.0 FTE Human Services Professional II position and authorizes the District Attorney's Office to fill this position.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2023 Rock County budget be amended as follows:

..."

Supervisor Bomkamp moved approval of the above resolution, second by Supervisor Whitledge.

Since 2006, the county has received this grant from the State to support the Drug Court operations.

These are additional funds that would be used to fund this position.

ADOPTED.

Authorizing Acceptance of a Monetary Donation and Amending the Sheriff's Office 2022

Budget: "NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Rock County Board of Supervisors assembled this ____ day of _____ 2022, that the Rock County Sheriff Office is authorized to accept the monetary donation of \$8,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sheriff's Office 2022 budget be amended as follows:

..."

Supervisor Whitledge moved approval of the above resolution, second by Supervisor Bomkamp.
ADOPTED.

Authorizing Acceptance of the 2023 Highway Safety Grant: "NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Rock County Board of Supervisors assembled this ____ day of _____, 2022, that the Rock County Sheriff is authorized to accept funds under the Highway Safety Grant and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2022 budget be amended as follows:

..."

Supervisor Bomkamp moved approval of the above resolution, second by Supervisor Whitledge. The Sheriff's Department answered questions about the uses of this grant.

ADOPTED.

Authorizing the Sheriff's Office Purchase of Motorola Video-as-a-Service: "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this ____ day of _____, 2022 to authorize the initiation of the purchase agreement with Motorola in the amount of \$906,561.53 and authorizing the prepayment of the Year 1 Subscription Fee of \$197,217.53, listed in the Sheriff's Office approved 2023 budget."

Supervisor Bomkamp moved approval of the above resolution, second by Supervisor Whitledge.

Josh Smith and Craig Strouse discussed the importance of this service.

Supervisor Zoril moved to table this resolution until the end of the meeting, second by Supervisor Bomkamp. ADOPTED.

The committee revisited this item at the end of the agenda.

Curt Fell let the committee know that this would cost about the same as to keep it in-house minus the cost of staff time.

Original motion to approve:

YES - Supervisors Beaver, Bomkamp, Whitledge, and Zoril.

NO - None.

Absent - Supervisor Knudson.

ADOPTED.

Recognizing Correctional Officer Rory L. Ruble: "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this _____ day of _____, 2022, does hereby recognize Correctional Officer Rory L. Ruble for his over 31 years of faithful service and recommends that a sincere expression of appreciation be given to Correctional Officer Rory L. Ruble along with best wishes for the future."

Supervisor Whitledge moved approval of the above resolution, second by Supervisor Bomkamp.

The committee thanked Rory for his many years of service to Rock County.

ADOPTED.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action:

Sheriff's Office Staffing Update: Sheriff Knudson spoke to the staffing situation at the jail. They are down 19 staff members currently. If staffing gets too low, inmates need to be moved out and we must contract with other agencies. This would cost about \$125,000 per month. Craig Strouse stated that this is a national trend. The Sheriff's Department and HR deployed various strategies to attract officers. Kim Litsheim provided a handout (attached) that summarizes the operational issues caused by the staffing shortage.

Supervisor Zoril suggested an annual bonus earned January through December and paid out in April.

Sheriff's Department staff discussed potential temporary fixes.

Update on Law Library Computer: Brent Sutherland let the committee know that the computer is operating. There is added signage.

Committee Requests and Motions: Supervisor Whitledge requested a tour of the 911 Center.

Next meeting date and time: December 19 at 5:00 P.M. at the 911 Center.

Adjournment: Supervisor Bomkamp moved to adjourn at 6:52 P.M., second by Supervisor Whiteledge. ADOPTED.

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Thompson
Office Coordinator

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.

Operational issues caused by the staffing shortage

Correctional Officers are the unsung heroes of Rock County. They save lives and put themselves in harm's way daily to protect the public and citizens of Rock County.

- 69 Correctional spots assigned to the jail

Shift	M-F	Weekend
First	12 Correctional Officers 2 Administrative Assistants	13 Correctional Officers
Second	12 Correctional Officers 2 Administrative Assistants	13 Correctional Officers
Third	8 Correctional Officers	8 Correctional Officers

- 16 correctional officer openings as of January 7th
 - 1 individual in training
 - If that individual completes the training program, I will have 54 correctional officers to run the facility not the 69 assigned
- Monday through Friday requires 32 correctional officers to work in a 24-hour period
- Weekends requires 34 officers

The position of Correctional Officer is emotionally and physically exhausting, they are dealing with those individuals deemed by the courts that for the safety of the community they need to be held in a facility. With the shortage in correctional officers, in order to maintain staffing levels overtime is required. We are starting to see excessive overtime with 8 hour turn arounds at times, this only adds to officer stress and at times complacency. Correctional Officers need to be ready at all times as working in a jail is an unpredictable environment.

In the last three years, I can name at least 10 officers that were assaulted while they worked their shift.

Officer's Assaulted

02/12/20-a female officer was punched in the face by a male inmate, requiring medical care

07/26/20-a male officer was bitten by a male inmate

08/31/20- a male officer was struck multiple times which required him to be transported to the hospital for his injuries which included abrasions to his neck and a contusion to the back of his head.

11/02/20-a male officer was spit in the face by a male inmate

12/29/20- a male officer was struck several times with enough force to cause him to see stars, feel lightheaded, and seek medical treatment.

09/19/22-a female had an unknown substance thrown at her by a male inmate

10/19/22-a male officer had urine thrown on him by a male inmate

11/23/22-a male officer had feces thrown on him by a male inmate

11/26/22-An officer was punched in the face three times requiring medical attention

11/29/22-An officer was spit on by an inmate

Problem Inmates

Female who recently gave birth that would rub bloody pads on the walls and window. She would also attach bloody maxi pads to the wall.

Male who assaulted several staff members broke 4 monitors (tv and computer). He urinates on the cell floor and smears feces on the wall. He has been charged with assault on an officer 4 times.

Female inmate out of control constant kicking of her door and screaming smeared menstrual blood on an officer's face.

At least two others have threatened to harm officer.

One specific inmate was a consistent problem in 2020 resulting in several charges

- 11/20/20 Battery against a correctional officer
- 11/18/20 Battery against a correctional officer
- 11/12/20 Battery against a correctional officer
- 10/28/20 Battery against a correctional officer
- 10/22/20 Battery against a correctional officer; Municipal citation for battery
- 10/04/20 Battery against a correctional officer; Arrested two counts of battery by prisoner
- 09/13/20 Battery against inmate; Referred Charges for Battery by Prisoner

Risk mitigation is something we at the Sheriff's Office consistently weigh into consideration. The Rock County Jail has seen an increase in drug overdoses as Fentanyl has pushed its way in our community. The Jail staff have successfully saved 9 inmates.

(heroism) Narcan usage

- On March 29th, 2022 at approximately 12:45pm, officers to respond to D-Unit for an overdose. Several staff members responded, and it was determined that a total of three people within the section were nonresponsive, all requiring life saving measures. It became evident this was an overdose situation and the employees were prepared, calling for AED's, oxygen and Narcan. Thankfully after several doses of Narcan and CPR all three were revived prior to EMS arrival. One patient required CPR for more than 10 minutes. Over 15 doses of Narcan were used.

- On April 8, 2022 Correctional Officers responded to an overdose in C-Unit. CPR and eight doses of Narcan were administered. The male became responsive prior to EMS arrival.
- On June 15th, 2022 Correctional Officers responded to an overdose in A-Unit. CPR and Narcan were administered, the male became responsive prior to EMS arrival. 4 single nasal doses and 2 syringe doses of Narcan were used.
- On July 23rd, 2022 Correctional Officer responded to an overdose in C-Unit. CPR and two doses of Narcan were administered, the male became responsive prior to EMS arrival.

The jail currently has 3 shifts with three color days working 24 hours a day. This is the projected standings with resignations and people in training assigned a location. Additionally, the Rock County Jail is experiencing minimal female applicants. The female staff are projected in the graph below and include the three female supervisors within the jail rank:

shift		1st			2nd			3rd	
color	Blue	Red	Green	Blue	Red	Green	Blue	Red	Green
filled	6	7	8	7	7	6	5	4	4
open	3	2	0	2	2	2	1	2	1
female	1	0	2	1	1	2	1	1	2