Rusk County Sheriff’s Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, March 11, 2009  
County Board Meeting Room

Members present: Golat, Lieffring, Skogen  
Others present: Sheriff Kaminski, Chief Deputy Hahn & Coroner Annette Grotzinger

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Skogen at 9:00 A.M.
2. Golat/Lieffring motion to approve February 11, 2009 meeting minutes, motion carried.
3. Lieffring/Golat motion to approve agenda, motion carried.
4. Rusk County Coroner presentation
   a. Monthly report – Coroner Grotzinger presented her report for this meeting. There were five natural deaths, and three cremations. Van mileage was at 91,179 for the month and the last oil change was October of 2008.
   b. Bills – One bill from February and one bill for an upcoming forensic training seminar in Dearborn, MI during April 2009. Coroner Grotzinger requested permission to attend the training in Dearborn and for the committee to approve the $475 registration fee plus three nights for hotel fees (estimated at $140/night.) Grotzinger further advised that she had a sponsor willing to pay for any other mileage/travel expenses.

Golat/Lieffring motion to approve coroner’s monthly report and bills, motion carried.

5. Old Business
   a. Personnel updates – The female D/J position has been offered to one of the applicants and results from that individual’s psyche test should be available in two weeks. After the test results are received then the background check and physical exam will take place. The new male Patrol Deputy - Fenstermacher - should be working on his own by the end of this month and the PT Patrol Deputy position will remain unfilled due to current budget/grant situations.
   b. K-9 update – The current K-9 (Fasco) is being retired due to his developing a degenerative eye disease that is causing him to go blind. The majority of funds to acquire a new K-9 for the department ($8,500) are currently being raised through community/business donations. To date the department has already received $3,225 just for this purpose since the beginning of March. An additional voucher for $4,250 (1/2 paid in advance) has been submitted with this month’s bills for potential approval to pick up the new K-9 at the beginning of April.

6. New Business
   a. Monthly report – Sheriff Kaminski presented the February 2009 monthly report. The average daily inmate population was 46 while the EMP average was one.

Sheriff Kaminski attended the following meetings during February: TRIAD, Highway Safety, Department Training, Radio Program, Time-Out Board, Sex Offender Release Notification Committee, Finance Committee, County Board and a meeting in Wausau with one of Dave Obey’s representatives.

February’s calls for service maintained at just about the same level as January’s and were only down by seven total calls. Inmate housing billed was $11,200 which is the WBSO contract minimum rate for February (at 28 days).

2. Bills submitted totaled $44,263.42. The original Voucher Requisition Summary Report only shows a total of $39,998.42, but with the addition of two other bills (1/2 the cost of a replacement K-9 = $4,250 and Deputy Zielke’s mandatory ATV/Snowmobile Patrol training registration fee = $15) the total amount of bills submitted at this month’s meeting came to $44,263.42. Lieffring/Golat motion to approve the bills and monthly report, motion carried.

b. Creating a warrant execution fee – Sheriff Kaminski advised he is still gathering and comparing information on this from various other counties. It is speculated that the current court system won’t want to charge this fee through their departments so it will probably be assessed as a type of jail fee while the individuals are incarcerated. On average, there have been about 450 warrants served during the year.

c. $4,000 Highway Safety equipment grant – Sheriff Kaminski is still waiting to receive the official grant paperwork from the state on this. The grant has been awarded to the Sheriff’s Office but actual spending will not commence until the definitive paperwork is on hand.

d. Squad cars – Chief Deputy Hahn handed out information regarding vehicle bids from three different dealers (Ewald, Link and Toycens) and advised that there is $82,945 in the department’s budget for vehicles. Of that amount $38,045 is already ear-marked for existing leased vehicles, and another $10,000 is estimated to potentially equip four new squads so that would leave $34,900 available toward the first years’ leases on four new squads. Three vehicles would be replacement squads for patrol deputies and the fourth vehicle would be an unmarked squad for one of the investigators. Chief Deputy Hahn advised that he would recommend purchasing one Crown Vic (patrol deputy), one Impala (investigator) and two Explorers (patrol deputies). Skogen asked that Chief Deputy Hahn check if Toycens can provide any additional/better pricing so as to keep the potential squad purchases local and that this issue can then be formalized with a motion at the April 2009 Sheriff’s Committee meeting.

7. The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 8, 2009 at 9:00 A.M.