

Public Safety Committee Minutes
May 8, 2012 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Peck; Supervisors Lawler, Wormuth, Lucia, Veitch, Southworth, Collyer, Grattidge and Barrett; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Paul Lent, Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; John DeMartino, Tom Salvadore, County Coroners; Jim Murphy, District Attorney;

Chairman Peck called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Lawler, seconded by Mr. Veitch the minutes of the April 10, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously.

Sheriff Bowen said the Sheriff's office has a contract renewal with the Village of Corinth that expires at the end of the month for \$298,800/yr. A request was made for a one year renewal.

A motion was made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Mrs. Wormuth to approve a one year renewal of a contract between the Sheriff and the Village of Corinth for police services at a cost of \$298,800/yr. Unanimous.

Mr. Murphy requested a resolution to contract with Martin Deposition Services for stenographic services in the Grand Jury Room for various criminal cases.

Mr. Lawler asked how much would be spent annually on these services. Mr. Murphy said their budget has always been approximately \$70,000 for stenographic services. Mr. Lawler asked how much is spent outside of the District Attorney's office for services. Mr. Dorsey said they do the Sewer District Public Hearing on Sewer rates and very little with depositions. He estimated costs at no more than \$5,000. Mr. Murphy said the towns use the same rates for preliminary hearings and Jury Trials as well.

Mr. Hellwig said this service is going to cost more money this year because the rates, even though they are discounted, are higher than what was previously paid for the services. As a result of that, he said it was absolutely time to visit whether or not we should be hiring a full time employee to do the work.

A motion was made by Mr. Lawler, seconded by Mr. Lucia to enter into a one year agreement with Martin Deposition Services to provide stenographic services. Unanimous.

Mr. Salvadore said Dr. Sikirica has requested to raise his fees for a death certificate without an autopsy signature from \$25 to \$50; external examination without an autopsy from \$250 to \$300; autopsy and death certificates from \$800 to \$900, retroactive from January 1, 2012. This year, to date, there have been 31 cases compared to the 75-76 of last year.

Mr. Lawler said no one is questioning the recommendation in terms of Dr. Sikirica's abilities and value to the county. It is the process that has raised questions, and as stewards of the taxpayer's money, it is uncomfortable to retroactively approve an increase in his fee. Normally, increases are approved before the price goes up.

Mrs. Wormuth suggested a 90 day pre-approval process for a price increase and a resolution from the Board before the county is billed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wormuth, seconded by Mr. Veitch to authorize an amendment to the agreement with Forensic Medical Services to increase contract fees for death certificates without autopsy, \$25-\$50; external examinations, \$250-\$300; and autopsies with death certificates \$800-\$900, retroactive from January 1, 2012. Unanimous.

Mr. Peck asked that Dr. Sikirica be notified for future proposals, that enough notice be given and where they are sending it to so that it gets to the proper place.

Mr. Lent distributed a copy of the Monthly Emergency Services Report to all committee members for their review.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wormuth, seconded by Mr. Lucia to move into Executive Session for the purpose of Contract Negotiations. Unanimous.

On a motion made by Mr. Lawler, seconded by Mr. Lucia the meeting returned to regular session. Unanimous.

No action was taken.

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mrs. Southworth the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom