

Martin County Board of Commissioners
Work Session
January 26, 2016

The meeting was called order by Chairman Belgard a 3:30pm. Those present were Schmidtke, Smith, Flohrs, and Mahoney. Staff present were James Forshee, A/T, Jeff Markquart, Sheriff, Corey Klanderud, Captain, Kevin Peyman, County Engineer, Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant, Kay Wrucke, County Recorder, Desiree Diaz, Sentinel Reporter and Rod Halverson, KFMC/KSUM.

Motion by Flohrs, seconded by Schmidtke to approve the agenda with the following additions, Discuss the Status of the Kinship Agreement. Carried unanimously.

There were no minutes (first Board work session).

Klanderud stated informed the board of the need to for three new squad video system, one of which is an existing unit which is need of an upgrade. It is estimated that the cost would be between \$15,000-\$22,000 to fix or replace the three units. The software running on the current units is XP and this is no longer supported by Microsoft.

Klanderud went on to note that the cost for the upgrade of the in squad video systems were no included in the CY2016 budget. We would like to upgrade all of the in squad video systems, which would be 11 units, at an estimated cost of \$75,000. The higher top of the line systems could run \$85,000-\$90,000. This would include body cameras for the officers. Regarding the body cameras, this issue is being addressed by the Legislature on determining on how the video data is to be handled and retained for record retention purposes.

Sheriff Markquart stated that it would be his recommendation to move forward with the project.

Belgard inquired if body cameras are mandated.

Sheriff Markquart stated no.

Sheriff Markquart stated that the bigger issue is storage.

Klanderud stated that currently video is being stored on hard drives, discs, etc. We have had discussions with Steve McDonald, MIS Director for Martin County, he is recommending storing the video on a separate server due to the expected large amount of video data.

Klanderud further stated that there may funding available for law enforcement video systems.

Klanderud went on to state that another issue is download of the data to main server. There is technology available in using Wi-Fi. As the squad comes in vicinity of LEC, the video data stored in the squad video system will automatically upload via Wi-Fi to the server.

Mahoney inquired how soon will you need to do the upgrade.

Klanderud stated that we are taking it slowly to gather as much information as we can about the video systems and don't have a timeline set.

Higgins inquired of the cost of the body cameras. Klanderud stated that it is estimated at \$1,000/officer for approximate total cost of \$11,000.

Belgard stated that we don't have to buy everything at one time.

Markquart stated that as the board may be aware there are coverage issues (receiving radio signals) with ARMER radio system in various buildings and neighborhoods Markquart stated that there are different ways to address this issue, which include installation of amplifiers at the each business where the signals does not reach into the buildings or place an antennae system on one of the City/s water towers. It would best be to place an antennae system on the water tower to increase coverage throughout the city vs installing individual amplifier in the businesses. The estimated cost for placing the required equipment on the city tower is approximately \$500,000.

Schmidtke inquired what the amplifiers would cost.

Klanderud responded approximately \$25,000 for each unit depending on the size of the unit needed. Klanderud went on to note, that there is a possibility of grant dollars to help pay for the upgrade through the Regional Radio Board. However, there is a 50% match required for the grant.

Klanderud stated in an emergency we do have mobile to mobile radio coverage, but not portable to portable radio coverage within certain buildings.

Schmidtke inquired of the need for coverage throughout the res" t of the county.

Klanderud responded by stating that the Sheriff's Office has identified other areas in the county (i.e. Trimont) depending on which tower the communication is coming off from. However, we have "work arounds" for all areas, which helps the needed coverage.

Belgard stated that it is still possible to spend the money to get the best equipment and you could still run into areas with lack of adequate coverage.

Flohrs stated that he believed the City of Fairmont would need to come up with the majority of the money for the needed radio equipment.

Schmidtke stated the need to have a meeting with the City of Fairmont officials to review and discuss the issue.

Higgins stated that he would set up the meeting for the board.

Mahoney inquired of the Chief of Police input on this issue.

Klanderud stated that have been emailed on the possibilities for improvement and that would be interested in a 50/50 split in shared cost.

Belgard stated once the City and County officials have met, we can determined the next steps.

Forshee stated that there is a family living in tax forfeited property, the value of the property is \$10,000 and have special assessment of \$16,000 on the property. It has come to my attending that the city is having trouble collecting for payment of utilities being used from the household. Forshee stated that the best course of action by the board would be to have the family evicted from the property. The county is not set up to rent such property and there are concerns from a liability standpoint.

Forshee also recommended that the payment of bills go from once per month to twice per month. This would provide increased timeliness in payment of bills and help spread the workload over two payment versus one payment per month.

Mahoney inquired if twice a month billing cycle would increase the work load.

Forshee stated that others in the office could share the responsibility.

Kay Wrucke, County Recorder explained the purposes of the Recorders Compliance Fund and Recorders Technology Fund and the types of eligible expenditures from each fund.

Wrucke stated that the Recorders Technology fund is to be used for updates to systems and software (i.e. conversion of paper document to electronic docs.), it can be used for related technology conferences, and digitizing of records and other online type services (i.e. Loreda). The Recorders Compliance Fund is used for technology compliance issues and equipment throughout the county government. We pay for the county's GIS system out of this fund. There is a fee charged of \$11 that for each recorded document that goes into this fund.

Peyman gave an update on the status of the Cedar Hanson Park restroom and bath facility. As the board is aware, the cost of the facility is over \$400,000. The Park Fund does not have the reserves to pay for the building all at once. Therefore, the financing of the facility was discussed in 2014, the board allowed for the General Fund to loan the Park Fund money to pay for the initial cost of construction and installation over a period of approximately five years.

We hope to have the building installed this spring. The project has taken longer than we anticipated.

Peyman also brought up the matter of installing GPS units on all Road and Bridge vehicles. This is due to increase safety and other issues that may come from the public. Peyman stated that he just wanted to inform the board of the possibility of have GPS tracking units installed on the trucks, pickup, and graders, and other equipment deemed to be necessary and will come back to the board at a later date once more information and comprehensive plan is in place.

Schmidtke stated that this is a good safety thing.

Mahoney reviewed the Fairmont Convention Visitors Bureau (CVB) and the involvement it takes and found that the EDA had contributed funds the CVB.

Higgins responded that the EDA took action to partnership with the CVB, to assist in tourism, which is strategic priority area for the EDA and to tourism, which is strategic priority area for the EDA and to help the EDA in a countywide marketing and tourism campaign.

Belgard stated his concerns of the time it is taking for the development of the agreement between Martin County and Kinship for mentoring services. Belgard stated his concern for the mentors and mentees and continuity of the program. Higgins acknowledged the delay and stated that it is expected that there will be a draft ready for the first board meeting in February.

Higgins stated that he talked with Jorae (Admin. Assistant to Judge Trushenski) and let her know that the board is open to meeting with the Judge to discuss court security issues and other related matters.

The following were business items discussed by the board to include with future work board work sessions: Development and planning of a Trail systems in county.

With no further business to wit,

Chair adjourned the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 5:41pm.