

**Minutes of the Judiciary & Law Enforcement Committee  
Friday, March 11, 2022**

Chair Wolff called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Present:** Supervisors Peter Wolff, Mike Crowley, Jacob LaFontain, and Larry Nelson. **Absent:** Christine Howard, Tyler Foti, and Darlene Johnson.

**Also Present:** Legislative Policy Advisor Alex Ignatowski, Chief of Staff Sarah Spaeth, Administrative Specialist Mary Pedersen, Financial Analyst Cathy Kienast, Inspector Jim Gumm, Deputy Inspector Patrick Esser, Business Manager Josh Joost, Senior Financial Analyst Alex Klosterman, Citizen Julie Valadez, Senior Human Resources Analyst Jane Barwick, and Human Resources Manager Renee Gage.

**Approve Minutes of February 11**

MOTION: Crowley moved, second by Nelson to approve the minutes of February 11. Motion carried 4-0.

**Next Meeting Date**

- April 1

**Executive Committee Report of February 14**

Wolff said the Executive Committee approved two ordinances and the scope and timeline for the Register of Deeds audit and heard a report on the Wisconsin Counties Association Legislative Exchange.

**Ordinance 176-O-123 Authorize the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department to Amend the 2019-2023 Police Patrol Services Contract with the Village of Sussex, Create an additional 2.00 FTE Deputy Sheriff's Positions for the Contract Beginning July 1, 2022, and Amend the 2022 Sheriff's Department Budget Accordingly**

Gumm discussed this ordinance which modifies the existing municipal police patrol services contract with the Village of Sussex, and creates two regular, full-time (2.00 FTE) deputy sheriff positions (salary range \$60,091 - \$78,520). These positions and related costs would be funded entirely by the Village of Sussex. The positions would be authorized to begin on July 1, 2022 and the term of the existing contract ends on December 31, 2023. If the Village of Sussex chooses not to continue funding these positions in future, the positions will sunset.

This ordinance modifies the 2022 Sheriff's Department budget by increasing expenditure authority and revenue by \$158,675 to cover the costs associated with this contract amendment for the last six months of 2022. This ordinance is funded with municipal contract revenue and does not result in a direct levy impact.

MOTION: Crowley moved, second by LaFontain to approve Ordinance 176-O-123. Motion carried 4-0.

**Presentation on Regional Law Enforcement Pay Comparison**

Gumm noted that the County's Administration director, Human Resources manager and the County Executive are supportive of this issue. Gumm said deputies in the Sheriff's department are paid about \$4-\$5 less an hour than officers paid in other county law enforcement agencies which equals about \$1,000 less per month. He discussed the high number of deputy vacancies/turnover which result in overtime. This negatively affects their budget and officers are quitting due to too much required overtime. It also takes deputies the longest to reach the top pay scale than other agencies even though this timeframe was recently shortened. These issues negatively impact the applicant pool. He noted that because the demand for officers is high, they can choose where they want to work.

At LaFontain's request, Gumm agreed to make comparative pay information available in writing. In addition, Wolff asked for more information on vacant positions and how these figures compare to years/decades past. Crowley said he would support a 10% pay increase and that these issues need to be addressed.

**Motion to Allow Secretary Michael Crowley to Approve the Final Set(s) of Committee Minutes on Behalf of the Committee**

MOTION: Crowley moved, second by Nelson to allow Secretary Crowley to approve the final set(s) of committee minutes on behalf of the committee. Motion carried 4-0.

**Legislative Update**

Ignatowski gave an update on redistricting, a staffing request by the District Attorney's Office, a report on road and GTA funding options, and the newly proposed Milwaukee Juvenile facility. He noted the legislature is out of session. The EV charger bill is dead but the legislature did pass a bill to increase workers compensation payments.

MOTION LaFontain moved, second by Nelson to adjourn at 9:15 a.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

*Michael A. Crowley*

Michael A. Crowley  
Secretary