

PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE COMMITTEE
Minutes – May 18, 2015

Call to Order. Chair Beaver called the meeting of the Public Safety and Justice Committee to order at 4:00 P.M. on May 18, 2015 in Conference Room N-1 Courthouse - East.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Beaver, Brill, Knudson, Wiedenfeld and Fell (at 4:25 P.M.).

Committee Members Excused: None.

Staff Members Present: Josh Smith, County Administrator; Randy Terronez, Assistant to the County Administrator; Jeff Kuglitsch, Corporation Counsel; Captain Jude Maurer, Deputy Krahn, Sheriff's Office; Kathy Sukus, 911 Communications Center Director; Rita Costrini-Norgal, Director of Mediation and Family Court Services.

Others Present: Supervisor Russ Podzilni; Tony Yuhas; Kate Yuhas; David Rezin; Jeff Hagemann; Craig Furseth; Geri McCluskey; Dave Wirth; John Zigler; Gordon Odegaard; Aaron Schoelzel; Douglas Jonuska; Tim Cullen; Rollie McClellen; Audrey McClellen; Dave Heinzen; Robert Korth; Lynn Gustafson; Tera Barnett; Bob Barnett; Don Cullen, Archie Henkelmann; Matt Pine; Curt Rankins; Traci Scherck; Sean McGinnis.

Adoption of Agenda. Chair Beaver said there is the addition of two Pre-approved Encumbrances for 911, one Pre-approved Encumbrance for the Sheriff's Office and a Transfer for the Sheriff's Office. Supervisor Knudson moved approval of the agenda with these additions, second by Supervisor Brill. ADOPTED.

Adoption of Minutes. Supervisor Brill moved approval of the minutes of May 4, 2015 as presented, second by Supervisor Knudson. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications, Announcement, Information. None.

Discussion on Citizen Request to Modify Slow-No-Wake Ordinance. Jeff Hagemann, NW River Rd., said he feels the ordinance is not a done deal and can be amended at any time. He asked Supervisor Knudson, during the tour the supervisors took a few years ago, if they got the names and addresses of the people opposed to raising the height. Supervisor Knudson said they had not. Mr. Hagemann asked Mr. Knudson where the tour occurred. Supervisor Knudson said it was in the area by Lake Koshkonong. Mr. Hagemann said he was in favor of raising the height to 7 feet.

Craig Furseth, Oakwood Park Drive, said there are 15 people in his neighborhood and the 8 people he spoke to were opposed to raising the height. He said there are more undeveloped property along the river than there is developed property and not all are riprapped. He said one of the people he talked to had their property surveyed and they found the stakes 15 feet into the water. Mr. Furseth said Mother Nature has played her part and the removal of the Fulton Dam 22 years ago also played a part.

Curt Rankins, W Oakwood Park, agreed and said he is also opposed. He said at 6.5 feet there are things floating in the river and at 7 feet there will be that much more floating. He added that in the last 10 years they have had more than their fair share of flooding, but that what is worse is when the water is high and the boats a going through it fast.

Traci Scherck, S. Edgewater, said at 7 feet the water goes into their boathouse and she is opposed to raising the height. She added that she had not seen a petition.

Douglas Jonuska, Oakwood Park Dr., said there are 150 homeowners between the 2 dams, 95 were contacted in 2012 when the level had been set. He asked if a study had been done on the damage done by the boats. Chair Beaver said the citizen had done investigations and information was obtained from NOAA.

Supervisor Brill said there were tours by several County Board members from the Newville Bridge to the dam and also the lower river to Beloit.

Mr. Hagemann said that does not include the areas they are requesting the height raised.

Supervisor Brill said that dams would be under the jurisdiction of the Department of Natural Resources or the Corp of Engineers.

Mr. Jonuska asked if there was any scientific data. Supervisor Brill said there was not.

Mr. Kuglitsch said the local leaders would make the decision on when to place the slow-no-wake on the river and when to remove it prior to the ordinance.

Mr. Jonuska said he felt an increase of 6 inches is a good compromise and that he is for it.

John Zigler, N. Parker Dr., said Mr. Archie Henkelmann was the person who made the determination on when to put the slow-no-wake on this part of the river and that was at 6.8 feet so they are really only asking for a few inches.

Archie Henkelmann, N. River Road, said when it rains the rainwater takes soil into the river in the unprotected areas. If you are worried about the shoreline you have to protect it or it will disappear.

Dave Rezin, N. River Road, said it has been a dry season and it was only 2 weeks ago that they were able to use the river. He said the area of the River he lives on is very narrow and he is in favor of raising the height. He said he would like the County to give them back the use of this resource. He added that the dam is at the crux of the matter. Chair Beaver said the County has no control over the dam. Mr. Rezin said Alliant use to have control over the dams and things ran pretty smoothly, but since they have been sold the different owners are just doing what makes them the most money and do not work together.

Don Cullen, Parker Drive, said the problem is we are using the gauge 2 dams below us to make determinations and feels there should be a gauge put in in this area.

Supervisor Fell arrived at 4:25 P.M.

Mr. Cullen said until we get a gauge we are just guessing what it should be. He said it seems we are looking at a short term gain for a long term problem. He asked what the area will look like in 50 years if we raise it.

Geri McCluskey, Oakwood Park Drive, said she feels there are a great many people who do not know this is being discussed. She said she feels the DNR should be doing a study.

Dave Heinzen, S. River Road, said they would like to use and enjoy the River and feels a 6 inch increase is a small compromise.

Lynn Gustafson, N. Springhill Drive, said they live on the River so they can boat and ski and that she does not feel the information gathered at this time show reason not to raise the height

Aaron Schoelzel, N River Road, said he lives on the River to be able to use the water and is in favor of raising the height.

Tony Yuhas, Springhill Drive, asked if anyone had contacted the DNR on why the River is higher. Mr. Hagemann said that he had and the DNR told him it was caused by the beaver activity.

Mr. Rezin said he called the DNR on the management of the dam and they told him that the dams fall under the proprietorship of the dam. He added that when Alliant owned the dams they had a plan and now that they have been sold the property owners pay the price as they live on a narrow area of the River.

Supervisor Brill said the only control the County has is through the Sheriff's Office and have no control of the dams.

Tim Cullen, N. Parker Drive, said he is President of the Rock Agua Jays and they are exempt, but that he feels the 6.5 feet is too low. He said he does not know what the correct height is; that he does not want to have to go someplace else to boat or ski and spend economic money outside Rock County; and that he is in favor of raising the height of the River.

Matt Pine, Ontario Drive, said in 2011 this was first proposed at one height, Beloit made a change, this would make 4 different levels, and how can this be regulated.

Gordon Odegaard, N. River Road, said he does not see an erosion problem in his area and is in favor of raising the height.

Mr. Rankins said he has seen many changes to the river and feels raising the height over the 6.5 feet is only for the "me" people.

Robert Korth, Ritch Circle, said he would like to see control of the height back under local control and to let the property owners in charge of their own properties.

Mr. Yuhas said he has put about \$20,000 in riprap and feels raising the height will not affect his property but some of his neighbors are not able to do this and so their properties may be affected.

Mr. Hagemann said 7 feet is not that high and feels they should have a gauge in Janesville. He said he does not feel they are causing any erosion damage.

Mr. Pine said the slow-no-wake is not to go against having fun but to protect the land.

Bob Barnett, N. River Road, said he is in favor of the increase.

Captain Maurer and Deputy Krahn showed a map of the river, where the gauges are, explained the 3 zones, and what the current ordinance is. They said the Sheriff's Office will enforce what the County Board sets.

Mr. Don Cullen said he does not feel the current gauges make sense.

Supervisor Brill said he does not see what the County can do as it seems to be a problem with the dams and the County has no jurisdiction there.

Chair Beaver called for any motions from the Committee.

Chair Beaver said since there were no motions the ordinance would remain the same.

Consent Calendar.

Transfers and Appropriations.

Sheriff's Office

FROM

Account #

19-1922-0000-62420
Contingency Fund

Amount

\$4,475

TO

Account #

21-2500-0000-67161
Capital Assets \$5,000+

Amount

\$4,475

Bills/Encumbrances

Sheriff
HIDTA Grant
RECAP Operations
Sheriff's Vehicles
Correctional Facility
Level B Hazmat Team
Circuit Courts
Clerk of Courts
911 Project Operations

\$ 18,188.31
395.00
83.45
511.01
1,880.66
31,303.82
4,000.00
64.46
256.18

District Attorney	5,407.21
Deferred Prosecution/Domestic Violence	40.00
Victim Witness	50.00
Medical Examiner	2,987.72
Child Support	420.70

Pre-Approved Encumbrance Amendments.

Sheriff's Office

JP Morgan Chase Bank NA	\$	500.00
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911 Communications Center

Dr. Michael Kaye PhD	\$	1,500.00
Markley Investigations Inc.		1,500.00

Supervisor Fell moved approval of the above Transfers and Appropriations, Bills and Encumbrances and Pre-Approved Encumbrance Amendments for the Public Safety & Justice Committee, second by Supervisor Knudson. ADOPTED.

Resolutions.

Proclaiming May 2015 Drug Court Month

“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this ____ day of _____, 2015, does hereby declare that a “Drug Court Month” be established during the month of May 2015.”

Supervisor Knudson moved approval of the above resolution, second by Supervisor Fell. ADOPTED.

Committee Requests and Motions. None.

Adjournment. Supervisor Wiedenfeld moved adjournment at 4:54 P.M., second by Supervisor Brill. ADOPTED.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Bondehagen
Confidential Administrative Assistant

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.