

POLICE SERVICES STEERING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 2, 2009

4:00pm – 5:30pm
705 North Zeeb Road

Members Present:

Jerry Clayton	County Sheriff
Jeff Irwin	County Commissioner
Pat Kelly	Dexter Township
Michael Moran	Ann Arbor Township
William McFarlane	Superior Township
Mark Ouimet	County Commissioner
Kenneth Schwartz	County Commissioner
Brenda Stumbo	Ypsilanti Township
Paul Bunten	Chief of Police Saline
Kenneth Unterbrink	Lima Township
Karen Lovejoy-Roe	Ypsilanti Township

Members Absent: Roland Sizemore (BOC Chair) and Patricia Vaillencourt (Manchester Village)

County Staff Present: SiRui Huang

Sheriff Leadership Present: Director Greg Dill, Commander Dieter Heren, Lt. Jim Anuszkiewicz, Lt. Troy Bevier, Lt. Brian Filipiak, Exec. Assist. Kathy Wyatt

Others Present: Kristin Judge (BOC), Courtney Nichells (Dexter), Wes Prater (BOC), Mike Radzik (Ypsilanti Township)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Facilitator Dill, 4:02 pm, at the Washtenaw County Western Service Center Building, 705 North Zeeb Road, MSU Conference Room.

2. Approval of Minutes

The July 8, 2009, *PSSC* meeting minutes were approved by Committee.

3. Citizen Participation

None.

4. Committee Check-In

None.

5. Discussion of the PSSC Financial Sub-Committee Presentation made July 8, 2009

- a. The Sheriff's Office provided copies of the Executive Summary and Police Services Methodology Documents that were part of the July 8, 2009 presentation.
- b. Director Greg Dill solicited questions on the documents. There were no questions. Dir. Dill said the Sheriff's Office would update the fleet component as more information came in. The Sheriff asked if there was anything else outstanding besides fleet. Mike Moran suggested an exploration of Plante Moran assumptions and calculations. Sheriff: 1) Fleet, and 2) CAP. Jeff Irwin suggested revisiting where deputies spend their time. Sheriff: we want to get away from accounting of hours and move toward service levels.

6. General Discussion Relating to Police Services Delivery

- a. Sheriff: As SO moves forward it will establish measurements as to service, how staff is deployed, how we continue to deliver services and keep costs down (the Financial Sub-committee can assist with this). There is a need to look at infrastructure as well-- explore costs per station (each station increases costs). Sheriff: we need to look at every possible option to keep costs down while still maintaining service levels. Sheriff: does not see costs for PS going down—must try to keep costs from going up at too fast a rate. Comm. Ouimet: if labor costs (hypothetically) were reduced, could it be reflected in charges back? Sheriff: believes it would go to offset County's contribution to PS, not be passed along. Could look at labor costs when new contracts are renegotiated. (JI) Current labor contract goes through 2012. (Brenda Stumbo) Pat Kelly asked if there was talk about renegotiating? Sheriff noted the County had approached all the unions about adjustments. Bill McFarlane asked how possible station consolidation would provide cost savings for Townships already funding sub-stations. Sheriff: possible cost savings re: fleet, staff, shifts, technology. Brenda Stumbo inquired about service impact. Sheriff: in any discussions around consolidation, service would be the primary consideration--no reductions in service. Sheriff: we should look at the difference between perceptions and reality—the perception is that somebody is there (at certain sub-stations, when nobody really is). Pat K. agrees about perceptions vs. reality, but still wonders about service impact. Sheriff: goal is great service to residents, in most efficient and cost effective manner. The Sheriff said the SO wants to partner with the PSSC and the Sub-Committee in this discussion. The SO feels an obligation to examine everything and weigh pros and cons. The Sheriff noted he understands the political risks, but feels must do what is best for residents of Washtenaw County (Sheriff expressed concern about the economy's impact on policing in the county/state). Pat Kelly: this group can assist with input on direction and policy.
- b. MM: Discussion in Financial Sub-Committee did not address figures we got for OH. MM: if OH were to become part of the contracts, then need to look at if there are flawed assumptions or figures, if not going that direction shouldn't waste the time. Sheriff agrees.
- c. Collaborations improve service --Superior, Ypsi Townships (Jim McFarlane, Pat Kelly) Sheriff agrees—discussions around service levels and collaborations are becoming more and more important—looking at economies of scale. So focusing on the stability of the organization and police services in short and long term (bleak economy for some time to come).
- d. MM raised issue of “deployment goal” numbers, problem a few jurisdictions have in meeting, use of general fund deputies, and possible role of PSSC in this issue.
- e. Sheriff: challenges moving forward--some jurisdictions want increased presence and additional deputies. This is a Board decision but may have to look at two tier system (everyone who has allocation of deputies keeps current system, but if wish to add may have to pay full cost). The PSSC should look at (Scio applied for COPS grant for more deputies, but didn't get it.) Pat Kelly: Paying full costs would be disincentive for underserved to add deputies. Pat Kelly noted success of collaborations—suggested jurisdictions might share deputies. Scio Township affects everybody (Ken U.) There is a disincentive to collaborate with jurisdictions that don't have enough deputies. Sheriff thinks there must be a balancing act—both Townships and BOC must have incentives. Sheriff: issue to think about. MSP lost 5 officers, may lose more, more townships may want to add deputies, County may not have ability to add deputies because of the increased financial impact. Karen L-R.: Suggested may need to look at what it costs to add a deputy. Mark O. maybe there is a threshold. Sheriff: SO has an obligation to anticipate—thinks there is the potential for additional requests for more deputies. McFarlane: without a tow-tier system, wouldn't there be an increased impact on those who already are contracted fully. Sheriff: because of PSSC interest, at some time in the future, this is something the PSSC and Financial Sub-Committee should look at. KJ expressed agreement. MM agreed Sub-Committee could help. Wes P. raised issue of fringe and benefit changes affecting deputy costs. Sheriff: if there were a significant change might need to be looked at. Pat Kelly raised issue of where deputies spend their time—Bill M. will fax her a copy of that information.

f. Sub-Committee Charge scope includes:

1. Fleet
2. Adding deputies
3. Station Consolidation (business plan)
4. Deployment statistics
5. CAP & OH if County approach changes

7. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by facilitator Greg Dill at 4:43 pm.

Next Meeting

October 7, 2009

4:00pm – 5:30pm

Washtenaw County Western Service Center

705 North Zeeb Road

Lower Level MSU Conference Room

Approved by Committee: November 16, 2009