

# Law Enforcement Committee

## Meeting Minutes

**December 2, 2021 – 7:00 P.M. – Trowsdale County Courthouse – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

Present: Gary Walsh, Mary Ann Baker, Shane Burton, Rick Davis, Steve Whittaker, Dwight Jewell, Sheriff Ray Russell and Chief Deputy Wayland Cothron.

Absent: Beverly Atwood and Rachel Jones.

Others Present: Chris Gregory and Honorable Branden Bellar.

Chairman Dwight Jewell called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

### Approval of Minutes

Rick Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2021, seconded by Steve Whittaker.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### Elect Officers

Gary Walsh nominated Rick Davis for Chairman seconded by Shane Burton, No other nominations.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Shane Burton nominated Gary Walsh for Vice Chairman seconded by Steve Whittaker. No other Nominations.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Shane Burton nominated Mary Ann Baker for Secretary seconded by Gary Walsh, No other Nominations.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### Discussion Items

A. *Title 11 Municipal Offenses* – Mayor Chambers advised that after the last Law Enforcement committee meeting a subcommittee had met and reviewed the Title 11 offenses and noted the following proposed changes.

- Deleting Chapter 2 (Fortune Telling, ETC)
- Removing Section 11-101 (Drinking beer, etc.) since it is covered under State Law.
- Removing Section 11-301 (Assault and Battery) since it is covered under State Law.
- Removing subsection (f) Blowing Whistles under Offenses Against the Peace and Quiet. As there are no steam whistles used anymore. As well as using building official instead of building inspector as that is in the current building code.
- Removing section 11-105 Escape from custody or confinement. This is also covered under state law. Also, in that Chapter to change police officer to law enforcement officer. To change municipality to County and to use non gender specific language.
- Firearms, Weapons and Missiles. Change municipality to Urban Services District. Although section 11-602 was proposed to be removed as it falls under State Law, Chief Deputy Cothron advised that this has been used successfully as a deterrent for young people having bottle rocket or roman candle fireworks fights. The subjects could be cited and released instead of being taken to the jail and booked and charged with a State Law violation. Rick Davis made a motion to keep 11-602, Seconded by Gary Walsh.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- Removing 11-702 (Malicious Mischief) in Trespassing, Malicious Mischief and Interference with Traffic as it is covered in State Law.
- Adding 11-805 Exceptions to Curfew for minors.
- Adding A public Health Emergency as an exemption for Wearing Masks under 11-806 and removing (5) Any person having a special permit issued by the town clerk to wear a traditional holiday costume.
- Dwight Jewell asked if we should have something regarding drones and if the committee could review that as well.

The committee agreed to further review the Title 11 before it is forwarded to the full County Commission.

B. *Title 10 Vicious Animals* – Mayor Chambers advised that when the county passed the Ordinance 169-2018-15 the current make-up of the Animal Shelter it repealed prior Title 10 and states that vicious dogs will not be accepted at the Shelter and are to be reported to the Sheriff’s Department. However, there is no policy on how those dogs are be handled. The current policy also states that Animal Shelter staff would not be responsible for picking up dogs.

Sheriff Russell advised that he had spoken to the new Director and would be willing to work with her as occasionally court will order dogs to be held. Mayor Chambers advised they will be working on a proposal moving forward.

Members asked how other counties handled this issue.

C. *Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Engineering Services – Justice Center* – Mayor Chambers advised that the Needs Assessment conducted by Jim Hart of (CTAS) had been received and reviewed but in order to move forward we need questions answered like where it will be and what type of facility which only an engineering firm could answer. Gary Walsh made a motion to recommend to the full County Commission for the Mayor issue requests (RFQ) for the new Justice Center. Seconded by Mary Ann Baker.

**MOTION CARRIED**

D. *ARPA Premium Pay* – Sheriff Russell advised that several other counties had received money from the Federal Government due to COVID. He had spoken to the other Emergency Services around Trosdale County and they had given their employees anywhere from \$2,000 to \$4,000 for working thru COVID and he is requesting the same for the Employees of Hartsville/Trosdale County. Mayor Chambers advised the Sheriff that this is already being looked at however, it can’t be done as a bonus you would need to decide how much per hour for a specific amount of time. He also noted that there are several other actors involved. Dwight Jewell noted that he had been in conversations with the Mayor and if there was anyone with the state that could give an answer on how to get it done? Mayor Chambers advised that we will be able to do it but the details on how to do it are what he is working on it.

### **Public Comments**

None

### **Adjourn**

Gary Walsh made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rick Davis and the meeting was adjourned.