

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE
Minutes for Tuesday Dec. 18, 2018
3rd Floor Bedford County Courthouse
Consecutive after Rules and Legislative Committee



Present: Chairman, Mayor Chad Graham; Commissioners: John Brown, Bill Anderson, Mark Thomas, Sylvia Pinson

Absent: None

Others Present: Mayor's Exec Asst, Liz Barnett; County Commissioners: Linda Yockey, Julie Sanders, Don Gallagher, Brent Smith, Chasity Gunn, Jeff Sweeney, Janice Brothers; BCSD Jail Director, Mary West; Times Gazette Reporter, John Carney; IT Director, Josh Carney; Probation Director, Joyce Reed; Juvenile Director, Cynthia West; BCFD, Brian Cantrell, e-911 Director, Phillip Noel; Asst Fire Chief, Brian Cantrell; Sheriff, Austin Swing; Workhouse, Ronnie Prince; Archives, Anna Frazier; Zoning Director, Chris White; Hwy Super, Stanley Smotherman; EMA Director, Scott Johnson; BCFD, Brian Cantrell; City Manager, Shanna Boyette, Kenny Parsons

1. **Call Meeting to Order** – Mayor Chad Graham, 6:14
2. **Prayer** – Commissioner Thomas
3. **Roll Call** – All present
4. **Approval of minutes of the Dec. 18, 2018, meeting of the Law Enforcement Committee** – Motion to approve, (Anderson, Pinson) unanimous
5. **Animal Control Reports** – Jack Cooper, nothing to add
6. **Sheriff/Jail/Workhouse Reports/Drug Task Force**
 - a. Drug Task Force: 44 drug investigations; crystal meth is now not only the choice drug in the 17th judicial but also in the state of TN & now the most submitted drug in the crime lab, TBI. Not good but on the rise.
 - b. November Courts: 1,141 cases on the docket; 1.361 in attendance
7. **EMA Reports** – Director Scott Johnson, nothing to add with regards to reports. However, with the Christmas season & colder weather he mentioned our faith-based community has 11 shelters that open their doors for homeless folks. Expressed appreciation.
8. **Juvenile Reports** – Director Cynthia West reports how education at the Detention Center has evolved since the State mandated an education program. Seven years ago when West came on board, their education materials mostly consisted of word searches & 4th grade reading level worksheets. This has been overhauled over the last ~18 months; teachers are very supportive & try not to let kids get behind. One young man has earned Algebra I and U.S. Gov't credits. The Center is the last resort for most; problems at school, problems at home, problems with peer association, etc. We're here to give them that last chance, the chance to correct their actions & hopefully not enter adult corrections. The State has a Title 1 education program & they want us to do more hours with each student per day. However, we're lacking in space. Currently we spend 2-3 hrs/student. If we had more space, we could spend ~6 hrs/student & accomplish more. The Board of Education has also been supportive of this education

revolve. A career coach comes in once/week & advises the students, helps them consider career options. Starting a new program in January with Centerstone which is funded by the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Grant. They will visit once/month with medically accurate information in attempt to prevent unplanned pregnancies.

Also in November, a young man was transferred from juvenile court to adult court. He was at our center for 171 days prior to transfer. If we had to detain him in Rutherford County, boarding alone would've cost \$29,925. We currently have a young man there now, day 172, boarding is currently over \$30,000. These [2] young men together, boarding only, would be over \$60,000. Early this month, we had 10 juveniles at our facility but only 9 beds. Nine were Bedford County residents. We had to turn down 5 paying customers just from Dec. 2-9. Pretty big loss if you factor in approximately 12 days at \$132/day.

The good news, we had a good inspection & are relicensed through 12/14/2019. Zero findings, zero corrections. With the Sheriff's Dept & the jail moving in the next year, we should consider expanding the Juvenile Center & consider other county buildings. Question asked about current square footage which is believed to be 3,600 but West will verify.

Mayor Graham added that the Property Committee will be studying vacated properties & what could be done with them. Soon to crank this up with the move to the Justice Complex. West commented that they could pay with bed space so the center would not be a tax burden.

9. Probation Reports – Director Joyce Reed

- a. No falsifications this month; only 2 refused; of the positive screens, 3 went to the lab, 14 signed admissions. Very positive & good on this. Of the 3 that went to the lab, 1 came back negative. It's \$50-\$75 to test per drug & most admit to more than one drug, so this is saving us money; the program is working. When given the option, they are willing to admit it & that saves us money.

10. Motion to Approve all Reports Submitted: (Anderson, Thomas) unanimous

11. Old Business – none

12. New Business – Mayor Graham mentioned the recent phone calls his office has been receiving in regards to the tractor-trailers missing the correct road/turn-off to the Wal-Mart Distribution Center. These large trucks take the wrong turn & end up with no room to turn around once they discover they are on a dead-end road. On occasion, they end up on neighborhood streets where commercial trucks are not allowed, or turn around on these very narrow roads & take out mailboxes & fences in the process. Oftentimes, their big tires are off the road's edge contributing to the damage/deterioration of these roads. Callers are being referred to the Sheriff's office.

13. Announcements – none

14. ADJOURN: (Anderson, Pinson) unanimous 6:25