



BEDFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, January 21, 2020
Time: Consecutive After Rules and Legislative
Location: Third Floor Courtroom, Bedford County Courthouse

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

Absent: none

Others Present: County Commissioners: Chasity Gunn, Brian Farris, Julie Sanders, Sheriff: Austin Swing, Animal Control: Josie Lowery, EMA Director: Scott Johnson, Probation Director: Elizabeth Stejskal, Assistant to the Mayor: Anna Frazier, Times-Gazette Reporter: John Carney and others not identified

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** Chairman Mark Thomas, 5:53 PM
- 2. Prayer:** Commissioner John Brown
- 3. Roll Call:** All Present
- 4. Approval of December 17, 2019 Law Enforcement Committee minutes:** Motion made to approve, (Anderson, Pinson) unanimous
- 5. Animal Control Report:** Deputy Director Josie Lowery was in attendance to answer any questions from the committee. Deputy Director Lowery stated there has been an influx of animals surrendered by owners. Since the beginning of the calendar year, animal control has received 28 animals, 10 of which were surrendered by owners and 12 more are scheduled to come in before the end of the month. Commissioner Pinson asked why. Deputy Director Lowery said reasons vary; the animal isn't spayed or neutered, sick or very old. Commissioner Anderson asked if many of the surrenders are sick animals. Deputy Director Lowery said yes and that animal control is advising owners of very old or sick pets to speak to their veterinarians regarding options. If the animals aren't adoptable, animal control is not receiving them. Commissioner Anderson asked about animal swaps with other towns. Deputy Director Lowery said yes, but the animal must be in same condition as dog or cat animal control is swapping, i.e. spayed, neutered, vaccinations.
- 6. Sheriff/Jail/Workhouse Reports/Drug Task Force:** Sheriff Swing commented that the Drug Task Force had 10 investigations. On January 10th, jail inmates were moved to the new facility. The move was completed on the following day. Sheriff Swing said the move went very well. Sheriff Swing wished to thank the Shelbyville Police Department, who called in an extra shift and two canines. City police manned the intersections so the deputies wouldn't have to stop. Sheriff Swing thanked EMA staff and Director Scott Johnson, including the use of their canine and Coffee County Police Department who provided use of two vans. Sheriff Swing said the jail had the lowest prison count the day of the move since he has been in office and the weather was good that evening. Sheriff Swing thanked Josh Carney and his team for their assistance and wish to recognize them. Most of the Sheriff's office is



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still at the old office. TBI has not given the okay to completely move TBI equipment to the new jail. At this time, the Sheriff's Office is manning both buildings.

Commissioner Anderson asked Sheriff Swing if he has to book inmates at the old office and then move them to the new facility. Sheriff Swing said yes, that is correct.

Chairman Thomas said the hold up is not the Sheriff's Office, but TBI. Sheriff Swing said yes.

Commissioner Brown asked about future use for the old Sheriff's office and jail. Sheriff Swing said that will be up to you all (Commission). However, Tennessee Corrections has told Sheriff Swing that no one may be housed in the old jail or workhouse unless they are remodeled.

Mayor Graham interjected that the Courthouse and Property Committee is working to repurpose those buildings.

7. **EMA Report:** Director Scott Johnson stated he had nothing to add to his monthly report and asked if there were any questions.
8. **Juvenile Reports:** Director Cynthia West was unable to attend due to illness.
9. **Probation Report:** Director Elizabeth Stejskal was in attendance. Chairman Thomas asked if they had moved to the Judicial Center. Director Stejskal said yes. No other questions were asked.
10. **Motion to Approve all Reports Submitted:** (Anderson, Pinson) unanimous.
11. **Old Business:** None.
12. **New Business:** None.
13. **Announcements:**
14. **Adjourn:** (Thomas motioned, Pinson) unanimous. 6:07 P.M.