

Law & Justice Study Session Minutes
April 2, 2014
Commissioners Auditorium

Meeting called to order at 0800 a.m.

Present:

Chairman Paul Jewell, Commissioners Obie O'Brien and Gary Berndt, Sheriff Dana, Undersheriff Clayton Myers and Judy Pless.

Overtime Policy discussion concerning two of the Sheriff's Exempt Command Staff assisting with the Contract Overtime when the Line Staff are unable to fill all of the requested slots. (Examples: Grant County PUD and BLM). Undersheriff Myers provided an overview of the current situation on the Columbia River involving the Wanapum Dam and the need for enforcement. That there was a concern that it would be difficult to fill all of the requested hours, especially the shifts needing a Primary Boat Operator, as not all Deputies are trained if this capacity. Undersheriff Myers advised, based on prior discussion with Judy Pless, that modification of county policy would not be a workable solution and that only the Sheriff's Policy should be modified as this would only affect the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Policy to be modified to authorize Sheriff's Commissioned Exempt Staff to work and collect overtime on specific contract details where the details are in the interest of public safety, overtime is not General Fund, Union agrees to language which allows for only those slots which are unable to be filled by Union Members.

Commissioner Obrien asked about Union and if other Law Enforcement were involved. Undersheriff Myers advised the Union verbally Ok'd. Other Law Enforcement involved includes Grant, Chelan, Douglas Counties, Department of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) and Phoenix Security.

Commissioner Jewell asked about timeline and types of patrol. Undersheriff Myers advised the timeline was undetermined as they were still working on proposed solutions to repair the dam. The patrols involve shoreline and boating. The current areas of need are in primary boat operators. Commissioner Berndt asked about the concerns and if people really were getting stuck in the mud. Undersheriff Myers advised that Department of Fish & Wildlife had to rescue one guy already who tried to walk on the shoreline and was up to his waist. Commissioners voiced support of modification of Sheriff's Policy allowing the overtime provided it was specific to contract overtime.

Security update – Undersheriff Myers provided updates on the new evacuation plan for the Morris Sorenson Building and an overview on the recent Bomb Threat. Commissioner O'Brien advised the Net-Notify page would be modified to make it easier for staff to locate the "Send All" feature. Commissioner Berndt provided a summary of the events from his perspective and requested more staff training. Additional discussion is scheduled for the next Security Committee Meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 a.m.



Clay Myers,
Undersheriff



Paul Jewell,
Chairman

APPROVED
5-20-14