

COMMISSIONERS MINUTES 10-3-97

COMMISSIONERS RICHARD PUCKETT, DAVID GLICKFIELD AND WALTER WOOD MET WITH SHERIFF JOHN LAWSON IN THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE ON OCTOBER 3, 1997. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WAS AUDITOR JUDY CARMICHAEL.

WALT STARTED THE MEETING STATING THE COMMISSIONERS WANTED TO SETTLE THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE SHERIFF AND THE COUNTY FOR HIS 1998 SALARY. HE STATED THAT SHERIFF LAWSON HAD REQUESTED AND ADVERTISED \$96,000 IN HIS BUDGET REQUEST, AND THAT AT THE COUNCIL BUDGET HEARING THE COUNCIL HAD ALLOWED \$89,000 PLUS THE TAX WARRANTS.

SHERIFF LAWSON STATED HE HAD MADE 3 OFFERS TO THEM DURING THE BREAK AT HIS BUDGET HEARING. THEY INCLUDED \$75,000 AND HALF OF THE MEAL ALLOWANCE, \$82,000 AND 20% OF THE MEAL ALLOWANCE OR THE \$96,000 WITH THE MEAL ALLOWANCE GOING TO THE COUNTY. THE FIRST HE HEARD THE \$89,000 PROPOSAL WAS IN THE MOTION THAT WAS PASSED LATER IN HIS BUDGET HEARINGS.

MR. WOOD ASKED THE SHERIFF IF HE COULD LIVE WITH THE \$89,000 AND THE TAX WARRANTS.

THE SHERIFF STATED THAT THE SHERIFF IS AUDITED YEARLY DUE TO THE SOUTHERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S NOT CLAIMING MEALS AND DEDUCTING HOMES AND LIVING EXPENSES. HE SAID DEAN YOUNG'S BILL PROPOSED 80% OF THE PROSECUTORS SALARY FOR THE SHERIFF. HE ALSO STATED THAT THE TAX WARRANTS WOULD BE GONE IN 1999. HE SAID THAT WAS WRONG BECAUSE SHERIFF'S WOULD NOT GO OUT OF THEIR WAY TO COLLECT THOSE, IF NOT COMPENSATED. HE THEN STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE \$89,000, 10% OF THE MEALS AND THE TAX WARRANTS.

AFTER MORE DISCUSSION HE STATED THE PROBLEM WAS THAT DUE TO THE "YOUNG" BILL, HIS RETIREMENT WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY LESS THAN HE HAD EXPECTED, AND THAT HE HAD A COUPLE OTHER QUESTIONS INTO "McCREADY AND KEENE" WHO HANDLE THE SHERIFF DEPARTMENT'S RETIREMENT PLAN.

DURING THE CONVERSATION, CONNIE HUSSONG, THE SHERIFF'S SECRETARY, ENTERED THE ROOM AND GAVE SHERIFF LAWSON THE ANSWERS HE WAS AWAITING FROM "McCREADY AND KEENE" AND THEY WERE TO HIS LIKING.

HE THEN TOLD THE COMMISSIONERS HE WOULD HAVE WARREN HAAS DRAW UP A CONTRACT AND WOULD AGREE TO A SALARY OF \$89,000 AND THE TAX WARRANTS FOR THE 1998 CALENDAR YEAR. HE STATED AT MIDNIGHT ON DECEMBER 31, 1997 HE WOULD INVENTORY ALL STOCK FOR PRISONER'S MEALS, AND WOULD BILL THE COUNTY FOR WHAT WAS LEFT.

OTHER DISCUSSION INCLUDED;  
WHAT THE NEXT SHERIFF MIGHT DO REGARDING A CONTRACT. SHERIFF LAWSON STATED THAT THEY SHOULD BE COMPENSATED FOR CONTROLLING THE DETENTION CENTER ALSO.

THE COMMISSIONERS ASK THE SHERIFF ABOUT HAVING MORE INMATE WORK CREWS.

THEY ALSO DISCUSSED HAVING A CENTRALIZED RADIO ROOM AND USING THE SHERIFF DEPARTMENT TO HOUSE IT AND HAVING THE DETECTIVES AND THE JEAN TEAM ON THE 6TH FLOOR OF THE COMPLEX,

THE MEETING RECESSED AT 12:55 P.M.