

**RILEY COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY  
SPECIAL LAW BOARD MEETING: BUDGET WORK SESSION  
City Commission Meeting Room  
1101 Poyntz Avenue  
Manhattan, KS  
March 6, 2014 5:30 p.m.  
Minutes**

**Members Present:**

John Matta  
Wynn Butler  
Robert Boyd

Richard Jankovich  
Ron Wells

**Absent:**

Dave Lewis

Barry Wilkerson

**Staff Present:**

Director Schoen  
Captain Hegarty  
Captain Hooper  
Captain Fink

Assistant Director Doehling  
Captain Nelson  
Captain Moldrup (arrived at 7:09 p.m.)

**I. Establish Quorum:** By Chairman Matta at 5:31 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Director Schoen

**III. General Agenda:**

**A. Public Comment:** None.

**B. 2015 Budget Development:** Members of the Law Board were provided copies of the Riley County Police Department 2015 Budget Narrative and Proposed Budget Draft 1A as part of their packets. Draft 1A includes scheduled merit increases for employees, a 1.4% Cost of Living Allowance (COLA), the addition of 2 dispatchers, 1 information technician, and the transfer of the Crime Analyst salary from Account 1, Salaries-Full Time to Account 20, Other Contractual Services. This option represents a 5.911% overall increase or a 3.533% increase from the 2014 approved budget when the 2013 carryover is applied.

Director Schoen explained that due to Kansas legislature, the Department anticipates rather sizeable increases in Kansas Police & Fire (KP&F) and Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERs) funding on the part of the employer and employee. The Department also expects notable increases in health and workers compensation insurance.

Schoen addressed the Departments request for 2 additional dispatchers. In 2012 the Riley County Police Department consolidated dispatch services and began dispatching for Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS). At the time, 5 additional dispatchers were hired to meet the needs of consolidated dispatch to staff the 1 position dedicated 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to answer Fire and EMS calls. The Law Board was advised that in order to staff the 1 position it would require approximately 5.6 to 5.9 personnel. Schoen said that the Department was 0.6 or 0.9 short from the onset. Given this, along with the considerable increase in Fire and EMS calls for service, as well as the potential addition of a third EMS unit, the Department is requesting 2 additional dispatchers in 2015.

Chairman Matta stated that from a public perception standpoint this is one of those instances in which government consolidated a function and the costs continue to rise. The public is receiving better service, but at an escalating cost.

The Law Board reviewed the individual budget lines and made the following comments and recommendations.

Jankovich stated that the individual accounts have been over or under funded each year. He would like to see the appropriate increases and decreases applied to the accounts to more accurately reflect what will be expended.

Boyd concurred with the comments made by Jankovich. He also suggested RCPD Administration contact former Flint Hills Regional Council Executive Director Bill Clark regarding grants that might be available to the Department.

Matta expressed his desire to have some consistency with respect to the COLA for the City, County and RCPD employees in 2015.

Butler stated that the inflation rate for the past 12 months was 1.6%, which tells him that the proposed RCPD budget is too high. After taking into account the City's budget, inflation rates and rise in assessments, he believes a \$100,000 reduction to the proposed budget would be appropriate.

Matta shared Butler's sentiment to find a way to reduce the budget. He recommended RCPD Administration speak with the correct representatives from the City and County to get a better feel for what they may see with respect to KPERS, workers compensation and general insurance increases.

Wells commented that he too would like the Department to refine the budget and reduce the overall increase.

Matta asked members of the Board to speak with their respective City and County administrators to get a feel for what might be given to their employees in the form of a COLA in 2015. They are to report back with their findings at a future meeting.

**C. Executive Session:** It was determined that an executive session was not needed.

**D. Adjournment:** Boyd moved to adjourn the meeting. Jankovich seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0. The March 6, 2014 Law Board Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.