

**Law Enforcement
Committee Meeting
August 6, 2012**

Members Present: JoAnn Blankenship, Ken Arney, Robert L. Gobble, Ronnie Trivett,
Richard Winters, L.C. Tester, and Buford Peters.

Members Absent: Scott Sams

Also in attendance included: Carter Co. Sheriff Chris Mathes, Chief Deputy, Ron Street, Jail
Administrator Tom Smith, County Attorney, Keith Bowers, Jr., Commissioners, Sonja Culler,
Joel Street, John Lewis, Andrew Worley, EMA Director, concerned citizens and news media.

Meeting was called to order by Buford Peters, Chairman at 6:00 PM. Quorum present.

Motion was made by Ken Arney, seconded by Ronnie Trivett to accept the minutes of the last meeting,
June 4, 2012, as printed. By majority voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

At this time Chairman Peters recognized County Attorney Keith Bowers, Jr. who spoke concerning the
State of Tennessee contract for the number of inmate beds provided by the State of Tennessee
accuracy of payment and other additions and corrections that may need to be made with the
contract as currently drafted. Attorney Bowers noted that the State currently pays \$ 37.00 per
day per inmate and that only the total have been changed currently.

Attorney Bowers also introduced to the committee Bob McKee, Director of Local Jail Resources
Office for the TN Department of Corrections, Nashville, via conference phone call.

Mr. McKee spoke and addressed several questions concerning this contract.

John Lewis,

Q: If by keeping state prisoners and the county is loosing money at \$ 37.00 a day, does Carter
County have the right to request additional funds?

A: \$ 37.00 is the maximum amount being paid by the state with only three exceptions across the
state being Davidson Co, Shelby Co., and Johnson City. Presently this is all that the state has
appropriated to pay.

Q: If we (Carter County) do not sign a contract, do we have to keep State Prisoners?

A: Because of lawsuit during the 1980's state law requires that state prisons cannot be
overcrowded, due to that fact, local jail must keep state prisoners until space become available,
even without a contract. In 2013 a new state facility is opening to hopefully help with the
overcrowding problem.

Joel Street

Q: Can the cost of transportation be reimbursed to the county and items in contract negotiated?

A: Transportation cost, not at this time, even without a contract. Negotiations of the contract,
"I will make that inquiry on up the line" if you want me to, Mr. McKee stated.

Q: Can a one (1) year contract be made rather than a five (5) year contract?

A: As of 2012, a five (5) year contract is being used. If payment for housing state prisoners increase, the rate being paid will be increased automatically and amendment to the contract will be made.

Joel Street stressed that in his opinion, the housing of state prisoners in Carter County exceeds the current fees paid by the state being \$37.00 due to the new jail being build.

Chris Mathes

Q: Where is the state getting the figures for housing state prisoners?

A: Salaries, operating expenses, debt service fees are some of the factors used to figure this in years pass.

It was stated that should a "budget crunch" occur, rate would not change, however if a medical emergency occurred once bill reached \$1,000.00 the state would cover additional cost, otherwise the county could be responsible for entire medical cost and this would be another advantage to having a contract.

In order to change fee currently paid to house state prisoners the change must come from state level. Commissioners were urged to contact State Representatives to request changes.

Motion was made by Ronnie Trivett, seconded by Robert Gobble to accept the contract as presented for one (1) year with a option for renewal.

By majority voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Old Business:

Firework Ordnance none at this time.

Alternative types of sentencing (Law Enforcement)

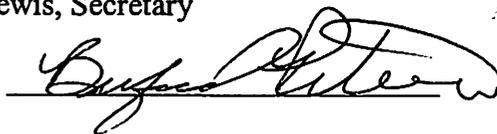
It was noted that a meeting with Judge Walton had been held. Ankle bracelets were not an option at this time however a "Day Work Program" was hopeful. This must be researched and hopefully will be ready for approval in the spring of 2013.

There were no public comments.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ronnie Trivett, seconded by Ken Arney. By majority voice vote, all ayes, meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Submitted by Patsy H. Lewis, Secretary

Buford Peters, Chairman



APPROVED