

LAW ENFORCEMENT
Committee Minutes
January 3, 2011

Members present: Jo Ann Blankenship, Paul Mottern, Russell Kyte, Richard Winters, Robert Gobble, Ken Arney, Ronnie Trivett and L. C. Tester.

Others present: Leon Humphrey, Chris Mathes, Constable Potter and other concerned citizens.

Chairman Ken Arney called the meeting to order and welcomed all present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved on motion by Russell Kyte and seconded by Ronnie Trivett. Motion carried.

Old Business – Neighborhood Watch Meeting location discussed. A suggestion to have a meeting in a central location such as Hampton High or Hampton Elementary School was made by Ken Arney. Ronnie Trivett made a motion the committee give authority to check with the school officials, make arrangements and report back at the next meeting, second by Robert Gobble.

New Business – Constable Potter addressed Sheriff Mathes regarding a 40 hour training school for everyone who uses the Sheriff's Department radio frequency. Why must the Constables attend a training school in order to use the radio on the Sheriff's frequency? Sheriff Chris Mathes stated "As the Chief Law Enforcement Officer of Carter County, it was the Sheriff's Departments' frequency and all must comply in order to utilize the system for which he is responsible for."

Richard Winters stated his concerns regarding a lack of law enforcement coverage in Roan Mountain. Sheriff Mathes responded there were problems of funding. The Sheriff made an offer of bringing the subject up at the upcoming budget meeting and a possibility of the businesses in Roan Mountain help offset some of the cost for protection.

Sheriff Mathes stated his Department receives a large amount of dog barking complaints and ask the committee if this was something the County would like to address with the new shelter in regards to Dog Ordinances. Mayor Humphrey stated that with the new shelter that a Director would need to be appointed and the issue would be addressed by the budget committee as well.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned on motion by Russell Kyte and seconded by Robert Gobble. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Debbie Street, Recording Secretary