

Minutes of the Wood County Public Safety Committee

DATE: December 12, 2022

PRESENT: Joe Zurfluh, William Voight, Bill Winch, Brad Hamilton, Dennis Polach

EXCUSED:

NOT

PRESENT:

OTHERS

PRESENT:

Sarah Christensen, Jeff Penzkover, Ed Newton, Erik Engle, Kim McGrath, Travis Wienke, Travis Patton, Chris Nieman, Amber Nieman, Matt Susa, Shawn Becker, Quentin Ellis, Charlie Hoogesteger, Ted Ashbeck, Kimberly Stimac, Alexa Acker, Kelli Trzinski, Trent Miner

LOCATION: Wood County Courthouse

1. Call to Order:

Joseph Zurfluh called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

2. Review minutes of November 14, 2022:

Motion by Hamilton, second by Zurfluh to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2022 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comments:

None

4. Discuss dispatch policy for towing vehicles.

Discussion ensued in regards to the towing policy. Dispatch manager presented the policy that was adapted in June 2015, which mirrors the state patrol policy. Also presented the Sheriff's Department towing policy. Stated there was contact made with Marathon county but no information was gathered on policies, as their system did not work. Travis Wienke from Draxler's Towing stated there needs to be better information given during a tow call. It was stated there could be a possibility of a towing association starting in Wood County. Amber Nieman from Nieman's Towing stated there is a lot of disconnect between dispatch and towing companies. Suggested dispatchers attend the time training. Sheriff Becker recommended a quarterly meeting between Dispatch, Sheriff's Department and towing companies. Supervisor Hamilton volunteered to take the lead on being the representative from the committee for trainings and follow up on this item.

5. Set date, time and location of next meeting

January 9, 2022

9:00 a.m.

Wood County Courthouse Room 114

6. Communications Department:

a. Communications November 2022 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Communications November 2022 claims.

b. Communications Report:

The Committee reviewed the Communications report. Director stated there will likely be a carryover resolution next month depending on actual delivery of some equipment and final numbers. Also, carryover of any remaining funds may be a good idea with the radio system project scheduled for next year. Prices continue to increase during the time from the original quote, to the actual start of the project, as the County has experienced with the new Jail.

7. Emergency Management Department:

a. Emergency Management November 2022 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Emergency Management November 2022 claims. Clarification was given that all of the claims related to BNI are reimbursable.

b. Emergency Management Activity Report:

The Committee reviewed the Emergency Management report. Director stated there will be carryover resolutions next month, no overages in any accounts. FSET requirements for our work relief program will be starting back up in January 2023, which will bring an increase in workers.

8. Dispatch Department:

a. Dispatch November 2022 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Dispatch November 2022 claims.

b. Dispatch Activity Report:

The Committee reviewed the Dispatch report. Director states there are steps being taken to increase staffing again.

9. Coroner:

a. Coroner Report:

The Committee reviewed the Coroner reports.

b. November 2022 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Coroner November 2022 claims.

10. Sheriff's Department:

a. Correspondences:

Sheriff Becker congratulated Lt. Nathan Dean on his graduation from the FBI Academy. Sheriff Becker stated he is the fourth member of the department to complete the academy.

Sheriff Becker discussed the press release pertaining to Roger Ellis from Montana and his death.

Sheriff Becker discussed a press release from the Vesper area where an individual was arrested a second time within two months on drug charges.

b. DOA Cost Reimbursement Grant Resolution

Motion by Hamilton, second by Voight to provide for unanticipated revenue from the state of Wisconsin Department of Administration to offset increased fuel costs for our fleet of vehicles in 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Wood County Rescue:

The Committee reviewed the Wood County Rescue report.

d. Crime Stoppers:

The Committee reviewed the Crime Stoppers report.

e. K-9 Project:

The Committee reviewed the K-9 report.

Sheriff Becker discussed the addition of K9 Bingo the department's new explosion detection dog. He stated Sgt. Brandon Christianson has two dogs for the next one to two years until Ace's retirement.

f. Humane Officer

The Committee reviewed the Humane Officer report.

i. Humane Officer Contract

Motion by Hamilton, second by Polach to approve the new Humane Officer's contract. Motion carried unanimously.

g. November 2022 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Sheriff's Department November 2022 claims.

h. Hiring Process:

Sheriff Becker stated eight candidates will be interviewed on December 20, 2022 and December 21, 2022 for deputy sheriff by the Civil Service Commission.

Sheriff Becker stated the jail is fully staffed at this time.

Sheriff Becker stated Mitzi Forde will be moving to the Clerk of Courts Office on Monday, December 19, 2022. The department will be interviewing for her position.

i. Boat/ATV/UTV/Snowmobile Patrol:

The Committee reviewed the Boat/ATV/UTV/Snowmobile Patrol report.

j. Overtime:

The Committee reviewed the overtime reports.

k. Courthouse Security:

The Committee reviewed the Courthouse Security report.

l. Jail Items

- i. Inmate Daily Population: Reviewed.
- ii. EMP: Reviewed
- iii. Safekeeper Housing Numbers: Reviewed
- iv. Kitchen Report: Reviewed
- v. Body Scanner: Reviewed
- vi. Maintenance: Nothing to Report
- vii. Inmate Programs: Nothing to Report
- viii. Jail Study: Nothing to Report

11. November 2022 Claims: Communications, Emergency Management, Dispatch, Sheriff, Coroner, and Humane Officer:

Motion by Hamilton, second by Voight to approve the November 2022 claims of all Public Safety Committee Departments. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

None

13. The Committee may go into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of conducting evaluations of department heads the committee oversees:

Motion by Hamilton, second by Zurfluh to go into closed sessions at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried unanimously. Winch-yes Voight-yes Zurfluh-yes Hamilton-yes Polach-yes

14. Return to open session:

Motion by Hamilton, second by Zurfluh to return to open sessions at 10:15 a.m. Motion carried unanimously. Winch-yes Voight-yes Zurfluh-yes Hamilton-yes Polach-yes

15. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m. by Chairman Zurfluh.

Minutes taken by the Wood County Sheriff's Department and Emergency Management.