

Minutes of the Wood County Public Safety Committee

DATE: November 9, 2020

PRESENT: Dennis Polach, Joe Zurfluh, Mike Feirer, Bill Winch, Brad Hamilton

EXCUSED:

NOT

PRESENT:

OTHERS Steve Kreuser, Scott Brehm, Shawn Becker, Lori Heideman, Kelli Trzinski, Erik

PRESENT: Engel, Bill Clendenning, Lance Pliml, Sarah Christensen, Reuben VanTassel,

Nanci Olson, Ted Ashbeck, Quentin Ellis, Kim McGrath, Randal Dorshorst

LOCATION: Wood County Courthouse

1. **Call to Order:**

Mike Feirer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. **Review minutes of October 12, 2020:**

Motion by Winch, second by Polach to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Public Comments:**

No Public Comments.

4. **Set date, time and location of next meeting:**

December 14, 2020

9:00 a.m.

Wood County Courthouse

5. **Communications Department:**

a. Communications October 2020 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Communications October 2020 claims.

b. Communications Report:

The Committee reviewed the report.

6. Emergency Management Department

a. Emergency Management October 2020 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Emergency Management October 2020 claims. Steve answered questions on the claims.

b. Emergency Management Activity Report:

The Committee reviewed the Emergency Management report. Steve Kreuser talked about the CARES Grant. Steve stated the County was awarded 1.2 million payable at three different times during the year. We are about ready to hit the submit button on the final round of submissions. Steve stated that we are a bit over at this time, but they are being submitted in case a municipality does not use their entire allotment.

7. Dispatch Department:

a. October 2020 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Dispatch October 2020 claims.

b. Dispatch Report:

The Committee reviewed the Dispatch report.

c. Covid Contingency:

Reached out to surrounding agencies to ask about their covid contingency. We are doing things pretty much the same as the surrounding counties are doing for contingency plans. Marshfield can dispatch from their department and have 4 people trained for dispatch.

Talked about potential mutual aid for radio repair in the event of covid infection of the Communication Coordinator. Talked about mutual aid from other areas in the event that we go down, and if there are charges from either agency.

8. Coroner:

a. Coroner Report:

The Committee reviewed the Coroner report.

b. October 2020 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Coroner October 2020 claims.

9. Humane Officer

a. Humane Officer Report:

The Committee reviewed the Human Officer Report.

10. Sheriff's Department:

a. Correspondences:

Sheriff Becker stated the Department has had 12 staff members test positive for COVID-19, 10 of which have recovered.

b. Wage Compression Regarding Sworn Lieutenants:

Sheriff Becker and Captain Quentin Ellis shared with the Committee a wage compression issue involving the Lieutenants and Sergeants. Captain Ellis explained that there are Sergeants that make more per hour in wages than the Lieutenant who supervises them. Sheriff Becker and Captain Ellis provided possible solutions.

The Committee discussed the wage compression concern. The Committee concluded that a resolution should be prepared and presented at the December 2020 meeting, which would address the issue.

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.

f. October 2020 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Sheriff's Department October 2020 claims.

g. Hiring Process:

Sheriff Becker stated the Department recently held testing for 28 people. He stated the results of the tests are in and have been sent to the Civil Service Commission for interviews. He stated the Department currently has three positions open.

h. Boat/ATV/UTV Patrol:

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

i. Overtime:

The Committee reviewed the overtime report.

j. Courthouse Security:

The Committee reviewed the Courthouse Security monthly and yearly reports.

k. 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-Sheriff Becker and Reuben Van Tassel stated the Property Committee has approved soil boring to determine if locations for the new Jail are viable options. Reuben stated he would also be talking with the Finance Department to see what the burden would be on the tax payers.

11. October 2020 Claims: Communications, Emergency Management, Dispatch, Sheriff, Coroner, and Humane Officer:

Motion by Polach, second by Zurfluh to approve the October 2020 claims of all Public Safety Committee Departments. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

None

13. Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(1)(c), the Committee may go into closed Session for performance evaluations of the department heads/employees the committee oversees.

Motion by Feirer, second by Zurfluh to go into closed sessions at 10:14 a.m. Motion carried unanimously. Winch-Yes, Polach-Yes, Zurfluh-Yes, Feirer-Yes

14. Return to open session

Motion by Feirer, second by Zurfluh to return to open sessions as 10:46 a.m. Motion carried unanimously. Winch-yes, Polach-yes, Zurfluh-yes Feirer-yes

14. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m. by Chairman Feirer.

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