

Minutes of the Wood County Public Safety Committee

DATE: December 9, 2019

PRESENT: Dennis Polach, Joe Zurfluh, Mike Feirer, Bill Winch, Dawn Urban

EXCUSED:

NOT

PRESENT:

OTHERS Steve Kreuser, Scott Brehm, Ted Ashbeck, Randy Dorshorst, Shawn Becker, Lori

PRESENT: Heideman, Kelli Trzinski, Sarah Christensen, Reuben VanTassel, Doug Machon, Quentin Ellis, Bryan Peterson, Ben Nikolai, Peter Kastenholz, Erik Engel

LOCATION: Wood County Courthouse

1. Call to Order:

Dennis Polach called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Review minutes of November 11, 2019:

Motion by Feirer, second by Urban to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2019 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comments:

No Public Comments.

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

January 13, 2020

9:00 a.m.

Wood County Annex Marshfield

5. Communications Department:

a. **Communications November 2019 Claims:**

The Committee reviewed the Communications November 2019 claims. Erik answered questions about oil change pricing (it included a tire repair), and credit card charges for training.

b. **Communications Report:**

The Committee reviewed the Communications report. Erik talked about the microwave replacement that has been ongoing and that it may not be completed by the end of the year.

6. Emergency Management Department

a. Emergency Management November 2019 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Emergency Management November 2019 claims. Steve explained the charges to the Fire Chiefs Association and what they are for.

b. Emergency Management Activity Report:

The committee reviewed the Emergency Management report. Steve discussed the spills that we had this month.

7. Dispatch Department:

a. November 2019 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Dispatch November 2019 Claims. Lori also answered questions on charges from the Fire Chiefs Association.

b. Dispatch Report:

The Committee reviewed the Dispatch report.

Lori talked about the new hire that she had to let go. She also talked about a resignation that she received. She will be accepting applications until January 1, and hopes to have two hired after the testing is completed. Lori also talked about how she worked a few overnights when Solarus was doing maintenance on the phone lines. She stated that they kept her informed and were good to work with.

8. Coroner:

a. Coroner Report:

The Committee reviewed the Coroner report.

Coroner Scott Brehm along with Peter Kastenholtz talked to the committee about former Coroner Hamm and potential legal proceedings against her.

Motion by Zurfluh, second by Urban to allow Corporation Counsel to commence action with the aim of recovering \$3850.00 for over charges of per diems from former Coroner Hamm.

b. November 2019 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Coroner November 2019 claims.

9. Humane Officer

a. Humane Officer Report:

The Committee tabled the Humane Officer Reports until January 13, 2020 as she was not in attendance to explain them..

10. Sheriff's Department:

a. Correspondences:

Sheriff Becker spoke about the Riverkings Fundraiser on December 14, 2019 to raise money for the wife of a Wood County Sergeant who was diagnosed with breast cancer earlier this year.

Sheriff Becker spoke to the committee about Deputy Matthews. Deputy Matthews broke his ankle during an altercation with an inmate and will be out of work until mid-January.

b. Wood County Rescue:

The Committee reviewed the Wood County Rescue report.

c. Crime Stoppers:

The Committee reviewed the Crime Stoppers report.

d. K-9 Project:

The Committee reviewed the K-9 report. Sheriff Becker stated K9 Toro will be retiring at the end of December.

e. November 2019 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Sheriff's Department's November 2019 claims.

f. Speed Limit Reduction on STH 54 Town of Grand Rapids:

Motion by Zurfluh, second by Feirer to have a resolution drafted in support of reducing the speed limit on State Highway 54, from 64th Street to the 80th Street. Motion carried unanimously.

g. Lt. Wage Compression:

Captain Ellis discussed a wage compression issue among supervisory staff. During the first part of 2020, two night shift patrol lieutenants will be paid less hourly wages than the patrol sergeants they directly supervise. It is understood a wage study that could address this is supposed to be taking place in the near future. This issue had been previously discussed with

the Human Resource Director. It was determined that in the interim, the two night shift patrol lieutenants will receive the same shift differential pay the night shift patrol sergeants receive as a temporary solution.

The committee discussed the shift differential pay and supported the plan as long as the Sheriff's Department has the funds within their budget to support it financially.

h. First Offense Marijuana Ordinance Reslolution:

Motion by Feirer, second by Winch to approve the resolution establishing an ordinance prohibiting the first time possession of small amounts of marijuana and consolidating that with the drug paraphernalia and synthetic cannabinoids ordinance already in existence. Motion carried unanimously.

i. Hiring Process:

Sheriff Becker stated the Department is accepting applications for Deputy Sheriff until January 5, 2020 to fill two vacancies.

j. Promotions:

Sheriff Becker stated all the Department's promotional processes are complete.

k. Boat/ATV Patrol:

The Committee reviewed the Boat Patrol/ATV Patrol report.

l. Overtime:

The Committee reviewed the overtime report. Supervisor Winch asked why there was overtime. Sheriff Becker explained that there has always been overtime, although he noted it had not been reported to the Committee in previous years. Sheriff Becker referenced a previous discussion with the Committee earlier in the year, stating the Department would be more transparent and accurate in reporting all division overtime to the Committee.

m. Courthouse Security:

The Committee reviewed the Courthouse Security report.

n. Jail Items

- i. Inmate Daily Population - Reviewed
- ii. EMP - Reviewed
- iii. Safekeeper Housing Numbers – Reviewed
- iv. Kitchen Report - Reviewed
- v. Maintenance – Chiller being installed this week should be operational before the next cooling season.

- vi. Inmate Programs - Smart Recovery program has been started. Advance Correctional would like to increase the mental health and nursing hours in the jail; however this would come with a substantial increase in cost.
- vii. New Jail Study - Jail study interviews were held last week. Sheriff Becker stated a jail tour to Eau Claire County will be held on January 8, 2020.

11. November 2019 Claims: Dispatch, Communications, Emergency Management, and Sheriff:

Motion by Feirer, second by Zurfluh to approve the November 2019 claims of all Public Safety Committee Departments. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Agenda Items:

Policy for Coroner
Closed Session to Speak with Humane Officer

13. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m. by Vice Chairman Polach.

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