

## Minutes of the Wood County Public Safety Committee

**DATE:** May 11, 2020

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

**EXCUSED:**

**NOT**

**PRESENT:**

**OTHERS** Steve Kreuser, Scott Brehm, Randy Dorshorst, Shawn Becker, Lori Heideman,

**PRESENT:** Kelli Trzinski, Sarah Christensen, Erik Engel, Bill Clendenning, Lance Pliml,  
Quentin Ellis

**LOCATION:** Wood County Courthouse

### 1. Call to Order:

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

### 2. Review minutes of March 9, 2020:

**Motion by Polach, second by Hamilton to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

### 3. Public Comments:

No Public Comments.

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

**June 8, 2020**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Wood County Courthouse**

### 5. Communications Department:

#### a. **Communications March and April 2020 Claims:**

The Committee reviewed the Communications March and April claims.

#### b. **Communications Report:**

Erik answered questions on working with the microwave replacement vendor. The company said that the tower work would be completed at the end of May.

**c. CIP:**

Erik explained the items on the CIP plan. Explained the oscillators and their function.

**Motion by Zurfluh, second by Hamilton to send the CIP for Communications on to the County Board. Motion carried unanimously.**

**6. Emergency Management Department**

**a. Emergency Management March and April 2020 Claims:**

The Committee reviewed the Emergency Management March and April 2020

**b. Emergency Management Activity Report:**

The committee reviewed the Emergency Management report. Steve discussed PPE distribution to all medical and non-medical facilities and our role within this system.

Talked about the community testing done over the weekend. Lance stated that 267 were tested. 2 more positives from Wood County and 2 positives from Jackson County. So far in Wood County there have been 858 negative tests and 4 positive tests.

**c. CIP**

Joe stated that a mobile command post is a necessary item and he would like to see it purchased sooner rather than later. Discussed the utility trailer, command post, radios, BNI vehicle and video conferencing system.

**Motion by Hamilton, second by Zurfluh to approve the CIP and move it on to the County Board. Motion carried unanimously.**

**7. Dispatch Department:**

**a. March and April 2020 Claims:**

The Committee reviewed the Dispatch March and April claims.

**b. Dispatch Report:**

The Committee reviewed the Dispatch report.

Lori talked about the new dispatch rolodex and that they won't have to use the Sheriff's Department any longer. She says that it is working out really well. Talked about Nextgen 911 and the updates for Paul in GIS. Lori thanked all outside agencies for their thoughtful treats during Telecommunications Week. She discussed the new hires and that 2 have started with 1 more starting in July.

**c. CIP**

Lori does not have anything for a CIP plan this year as most of her equipment is new. They are getting new computers this year, and the old ones will be going up to Norwood for use in the backup dispatch center.

**8. Coroner:**

**a. Coroner Report:**

The Committee reviewed the Coroner report.

**b. March and April 2020 Claims:**

The Committee reviewed the Coroner March and April 2019 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 Operations Plan for the COVID-19 Pandemic was put together and implemented by Captain Ellis in March 2020.

Sheriff Becker thanked Steve Kreuser and Sue Kunferman for the weekly meetings and answering questions.

Sheriff Becker said voluntary compliance is going well.

**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 was retired in April and given to Deputy Pidgeon. He also stated K9 Sig started in April and is assigned to Deputy Pidgeon. Sheriff Becker stated Deputy Pidgeon gave positive feedback about Jessifany Kennels.

Sheriff Becker stated Deputy Justus Arendt will be the next K9 officer and will be going to training in the fall. He stated most, if not all, of the costs for the new K9 will be covered by donations.

**e. March and April 2020 Claims:**

The Committee reviewed the Sheriff's Department March and April 2020 claims.

**f. Hiring Process:**

Sheriff Becker stated eight applicants have had background investigations done. He stated interviews would be held in June. He stated the Department currently has four openings.

**g. CIP Plans**

**Motion by Polach, second by Feirer to approve the CIP plans and pass it on to the County Board. Motion carried unanimously.**

**h. Snowmobile/ATV Patrol:**

The Committee reviewed the Snowmobile/ATV Patrol report. Sheriff Becker stated the UTV is now complete.

Brad Hamilton stated he has been getting many calls about the trails being torn up in the Town of Port Edwards. He stated the trails may need to be closed for a while. Sheriff Becker stated he would talk with Chad Schooley.

**i. Overtime:**

The Committee reviewed the overtime report.

**j. Courthouse Security:**

The Committee reviewed the Courthouse Security report. Sheriff Becker stated the number of people entering the Courthouse is down due to COVID-19 and the limited access to the courthouse.

**k. Jail Items**

- i. Inmate Daily Population: Reviewed-Sheriff Becker stated the jail population is down due to COVID-19. Chief Deputy Dorshorst stated we are being paid by the State of Wisconsin to house inmates who should have gone to prison, but could not due to COVID-19.
- ii. EMP: Reviewed-Sheriff Becker stated the EMP numbers are up due to COVID-19. He stated inmates were put out on EMP with the Judges' approval.
- iii. Safekeeper Housing Numbers: Reviewed-Sheriff Becker stated numbers in Waupaca and Adams County are down due to COVID-19.
- iv. Kitchen Report: Reviewed
- v. Maintenance: Sheriff Becker stated the new video system should be up and running soon. He stated Captain Ashbeck has been working with Rueben Van Tassel and Amy Kaup.
- vi. Inmate Programs: Sheriff Becker stated inmate programs have been cancelled due to COVID-19; however they have been utilizing Three Bridges via telephone.
- vii. Jail Study – Sheriff Becker talked about the proposal for a Jail study. Sheriff Becker stated they had a conference call with Venture Architect on May 8, 2020 to discuss the floor plan of a new jail. He stated they discussed the first floor and booking area. He stated they would like to have a presentation with the Committee at June's meeting.

**11. March and April 2019 Claims: Communications, Emergency Management, Dispatch, Sheriff, Coroner, and Humane Officer:**

**Motion by Zurfluh, second by Hamilton to approve the March and April 2020 claims of all Public Safety Committee Departments. Motion carried unanimously.**

**12. Agenda Items for Next Meeting:**

Nothing at this time.

**13. Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 19.85 (1)(g), the Committee may go into closed session to confer with counsel regarding the Reichert litigation:**

**Motion by Hamilton, second by Winch to go into closed sessions at 10:21 a.m. Motion carried unanimously. Winch-yes Polach-yes Zurfluh-yes Feirer-yes Hamilton-yes**

**14. Return to Open Session:**

**Motion by Hamilton, second by Winch to return to open session at 10:38 a.m. Motion carried unanimously. Winch-yes Polach-yes Zurfluh-yes Feirer-yes Hamilton-yes**

**Motion by Hamilton, second by Winch to settle former Sheriff Reichert's lawsuit against the county for a benefit the county does not believe him to have been eligible for. Winch-yes Polach-Yes Zurfluh-Yes Feirer-yes Hamilton-yes**

**15. Adjourn**

**Motion by Hamilton, second by Winch to adjourn the meeting at 10:39. Motion carried unanimously.**

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