

**Minutes of the August 4th meeting of the Sawyer County
Public Safety Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Assembly Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members Present:

- Chair: Ron Buckholtz
- Vice Chair: Marc Helwig - excused
- Ed Peters - virtual
- Jason Weaver
- Marshal Savitski

Others Present:

Andy Albarado
Mike Coleson
Lynn Fitch
Joe Sajdera
Darin Jensen

Nate Dunston
Greg Ripczinski
Doug Mrotek
Anna Amparo - virtual
John Kruk - virtual

Call to Order – Chair Ron Buckholtz called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Roll Call taken. Quorum was met.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met.

Meeting Agenda

Public Comment –

Minutes from Previous Meeting – A motion was made by Mr. Savitski to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2022, meeting with a correction in the date of the minutes to July 7th and the spelling of Chris Klein in public comments; second by Mr. Peters. Motion carried without negative vote.

Circuit Court Report – Courthouse Remodel Update – Mr. Albarado advised we will get a written report from Miron next week. We are working on furniture/fixtures and AV equipment; working to bring those costs down.

Clerk of Court Report – A written report was provided. Ms. Kelsey received a letter of resignation from a department staff member.

District Attorney's Office Report

Sheriff's Department Report – Written reports were provided. Sheriff Mrotek advised that on August 16, an active shooter training will be conducted at the Hayward Community School involving all law enforcement agencies, EMS and hospital staff. They will also perform the training in the Winter School and are working with the LCO School system. They are reaching out to local charter schools to offer the training, as well. County board members and other government leaders are encouraged to attend. All area day care and head start classes have received ALICE training. Outside agencies can request to receive this training.

Chief Sajdera advised that IT is assisting in the communications issue that arose after a storm. He reviewed the calls for service report. The NexGen grant for hardware is out for consideration but has constraints that may not allow us to qualify.

Patrol Report – Lt. Ripczinski reviewed the report and advised that numbers have slightly decreased but includes one fatality. They continue development of the body cam process and have completed moving from local services on our TRACS system to one hosted by the State.

Jail Report – Our daily average population has been 83+. Sheriff Mrotek reviewed the stats, advising we are housing 22 inmates in Barron County at this time.

Communication Systems Specialist Report – Sheriff Mrotek advised they are beginning to transfer to the new radio frequency. Mr. Kruk reported that they have tested the new radio system and had great results. They are working on an antenna in the Winter area and adjusting coverage for Loretta/Draper.

Code Enforcement Specialist – A written report was provided and highlights were shared. Mr. Blicharz reported that he visited with the Eau Claire County Humane Officer to review processes of the position. A meeting has been scheduled to begin working with staff in Public Health.

Child Support Department Report – A written report was provided.

Coroner's report – A written report was provided. Mr. Froemel advised that his deputies are working on training. He is seeing an increase in cancer-related deaths.

Review and Consider Switch to Medical Examiner Position – Mr. Albarado provided an explanation of the process and a sample resolution to act; no action was taken today.

Emergency Management Department Reports – Written reports were provided. Mr. Dunston advised that they will have a table-top training on active shooter for EMS personnel prior to August 16. The grants that they normally apply for are switching from a fiscal year to a calendar year. They received a grant of \$28,000+ from DHS and have applied for another through CARES funding. They have hired some staff to fill vacancies and will begin orientation. Six positions remain open. Approximately \$115,000 in revenue is expected through the new billing system.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Update – Mr. Albarado advised the Council is still discussing the opioid settlement fund usage and how the payments should be requested. They are working on the TAD grant and getting the drug court up and running for next year.

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be Thursday, September 1, at 9:00 am in the Assembly Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:49 am

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk