

**Minutes of the November 3<sup>rd</sup> 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
- Ed Peters
- Jason Weaver
- Marshal Savitski

**Others Present:**

Andy Albarado  
Lynn Fitch  
Joe Sajdera  
Mike Woller

John Froemel  
Greg Ripczinski  
Doug Mrotek  
Brandon Blicharz

**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. Helwig to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2022, meeting; second by Mr. Peters. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Circuit Court Report** – Courthouse Remodel Update – Mr. Albarado advised that there is nothing noteworthy to report since last month. The east entrance is being encased by the boardroom. Blacktopping starts next week by the Sheriff's Department.

**Clerk of Court Report** – A written report was provided. Ms. Kelsey advised their newest clerk, Kristi Kare, started last week.

**District Attorney's Office Report**

**Sheriff's Department Report** – Written reports were provided.

**Communications Center Report** – Sheriff Mrotek advised that Craig Faulstich and Rick Chambers recently passed away, both retired law enforcement for Hayward. A moment of silence was held. He introduced Lt. Woller to the Committee. Chief Sajdera reviewed the highlights of the Communications Center Report, updating on staff vacancies and coverage.

**Patrol Report** – A written report was provided. Lt. Ripczinski reported the patrol calls decreased last month; he reviewed the highlights of his report. Patrol staff have recently received some training from medical services.

**Jail Report** – Lt. Woller reviewed the written report; the average daily population was 80.8 with females housed in Barron County.

**Update on the use of electronic bracelets** – The Sheriff is working with JusticePoint in reviewing the criteria for who qualifies for an electronic bracelet, trying to increase the number of individuals who can use them and avoid incarceration. Inmates must be post-sentence in order to qualify for bracelets.

**Tribal Law Enforcement Grant** – Mr. Albarado has not received any updates on this item. Sheriff Mrotek advised that AG Schlender is working on this so no action was taken at this time.

**Communications Systems Specialist Report** --

Code Enforcement Specialist – A written report was provided. Mr. Blicharz reviewed the highlights of his report. The number of impounded dogs' number was down significantly. Surrendered dogs must go through the Humane Society, not the County impound process.

**Child Support Department Report** – A written report was provided. Child Support MOU with DCF & LCO – Mr. Albarado advised this will need to go to the December meeting. He has had a series of meetings with all parties of the MOU. The MOU will determine how the court transfers cases and how fees will be handled.

**Coroner's report** – A written report was provided. Mr. Froemel advised that his deputies are working on training and training others in the municipalities.

**Appointment of Emergency Management/Ambulance Director** – A motion by Mr. Peters; second by Mr. Helwig to approve the appointment of John Froemel to the position of Emergency Management/Ambulance Director and forward to the County Board. The motion passed without negative vote. Mr. Albarado is researching the possibility of moving the medical examiner duties to the EMS department.

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Update** – Mr. Albarado reported that the treatment and diversion program is up and running through the TAD grant that funded it. The pre-application has been submitted for up to \$300,000. If approved, our contract with JusticePoint will expand. The CJCC is still reviewing options for use of the opioid funds.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk