

Minutes of the Wood County Public Safety Committee

DATE: March 14, 2016

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Sarah Christensen, Lori Heideman, Laura Clark, Thomas Reichert, Dara Hamm, Bill Clendenning, Steve Kreuser, Lance Pliml, Nancy Kinney

LOCATION: Wood County Courthouse – Wisconsin Rapids

1. Call to Order:

Mike Feirer called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. Review minutes of February 8, 2016:

Motion by Hamilton, second by Polach to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2016 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comments:

No public comments.

4. Emergency Management Department:

a. Communications February 2016 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Communications February 2016 claims.

b. Communications Report:

The Committee reviewed the Communications report.

c. Update on Communication Tower Projects:

Steve updated the Committee members on the tower projects. He discussed that they are coming to the end of the projects. The Marshfield and Lincoln sites need to be finalized from Tait communications. Also information Systems needs to make the final connection to the Wood County Annex and health center.

d. Emergency Management February 2016 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Emergency Management February 2016 claims.

e. Emergency Management Activity Report:

The Committee reviewed the Emergency Management Activity Report.

Steve gave the Committee an update on the Amish. Shawn Becker, Steve and the Amish Community are meeting again to go over proposed changes to the buggy markings.

Steve talked about how the Work Program is up from last year in both money and hours worked. Steve answered questions regarding the program.

Steve talked about how the Volunteer Reception Center is being recognized at the United Way Volunteer Breakfast. The Volunteer Reception Center is a partnership between the United Way and Wood County Emergency Management to train individuals to handle spontaneous volunteers in the event of an emergency or lost person situation. This frees up emergency personnel to concentrate on the situation at hand instead of having to screen and vet volunteers.

Motion by Bill Winch, second by Brad Hamilton to co-sponsor the letter sent to legislators regarding Amish safety issues. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Dispatch Department:

a. Dispatch February 2016 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Dispatch February 2016 claims.

b. Dispatch Report:

Lori gave a staffing update. They will be doing a new eligibility list with Human Resources. Discussed meeting with the architects and that her dispatch consoles are falling apart. Discussed building the new dispatch center around new equipment. Talked about the move and the plans that the committee is discussing.

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

April 11, 2016

1:00 PM

Wood County Annex & Health Center – Marshfield

7. Humane Officer:

a. Humane Officer Report:

The Committee reviewed the Humane Officer report. Humane Officer Kinney explained she currently is working on the removal of 11 puppies from a home. The puppies are border collie/pit-bull mix breed.

b. March 2016 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Humane Officer March 2016 claims.

8. Coroner:

a. Coroner Report:

The Committee reviewed the Coroner report. Coroner Hamm explained she just received notification of the passing of a State Senate bill mandating education for Deputy Coroners. She stated her Deputy Coroners, as well as herself, will be attending upcoming trainings.

b. March 2016 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Coroner March 2016 claims.

9. Sheriff's Department:

a. Correspondence:

Sheriff Reichert stated recently a new deputy hire resigned after 8 weeks of training. Sheriff asked the Committee if there were any questions regarding the Nekoosa incident and/or the recent jail suicide. None were asked of him. He also explained the department has been assisting the Town of Cameron regarding a zoning issue with a local business.

Sheriff Reichert explained that a new deputy eligibility list was received from the Civil Service Commission. Interviews were done on Friday, March 11th. He stated there is a need for a new hire with the recent resignation.

Chairman Feirer spoke of the newspaper article in today's paper regarding crossing of railroad tracks. He said it cited the Wood County Sheriff's Department's issue in Auburndale with the tracks being blocked for hours. He stated it was a very good article.

b. Highway Traffic Safety Concerns:

Steve Kreuser updated the Committee regarding this issue; see 4.e. above.

c. March 2016 Claims:

The Committee reviewed the Sheriff's Department March 2016 claims.

d. Updates

Crimestoppers: County Board Chairman Lance Pliml explained that Crimestoppers will be hosting a fundraising concert on September 9th. He explained that Crimestoppers has become extremely successful.

Safe Ride Initiative: None

Criminal Justice Task Force: County Board Chairman Pliml stated the task force is working.

K9: The Magic shows were held this past weekend in Wisconsin Rapids and Marshfield, with great success. Sheriff Reichert stated he is working with the Acacia Foundation/Masons in creating a perpetual fund for the Sheriff's Department K9 future.

e. Jail Items:

All jail reports were reviewed.

10. March 2016 Claims: Dispatch, Communications, Emergency Management, and Sheriff:

Motion by Hamilton, second by Winch, to approve the March 2016 claims of all Public Safety Committee Departments. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Agenda Items:

Tour potential back-up Dispatch site at Annex

12. Adjourn:

Motion by Hamilton, second by Polach to adjourn at 3:18 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Signed Electronically by William Winch 3-23-16.

William Winch, Secretary
Public Safety Committee