

Minutes of the Wood County Public Safety Committee

DATE: October 14, 2014

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

OTHERS Tom Reichert, Randy Dorshorst, Lori Heideman, Steve Kreuser, Nanci Kinney,

PRESENT: Bill Clendenning, Craig Lambert, Lance Pliml, Laura Clark

LOCATION: Wood County Courthouse – Room 115

1. **Call to Order:**

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

2. **Review minutes of September 8, 2014:**

Motion by Hamilton, second by Polach to approve the minutes of September 8, 2014 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Public Comments:**

No public comments

4. **Emergency Management Department:**

a. Communications September 2014 Claims

The Committee reviewed the Communications September 2014 claims.

b. Communications Report

The Committee reviewed the Communications report.

c. Update on Communication Tower Projects

Steve informed the Committee that construction will start soon on the tower bases the bases need to get in before the frost sets in. Waiting on the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) report before we can start construction. We should see this report the week of October 20th 2014. He also reported the road went in at Norwood tower site so that we can get the crane in to start the tower assemble once the base is in. Tower load study was done for Marshfield highway site. There are weight and load restrictions on all the towers and all microwave paths were cleared.

A load study is being done at the Bluff tower site. Solarus came off the tower and another vendor would like to go on the existing location with more equipment. Steve explained it

takes 10 weeks to get the steel for a tower and if all goes well with the construction of the tower they should be in place by the end of December 2014.

d. Emergency Management September 2014 Claims

The Committee reviewed the Emergency Management September 2014 claims.

e. Emergency Management Activity Report

Steve stated the antenna that was taken off of City Hall in Marshfield needs to be put back on. It was taken off so roof work could be done at City Hall.

f. NOAA Weather Radio Donations

Steve handed out a copy of a letter that will be going out for soliciting donations for a new program to provide National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Emergency Weather Radios to the elderly population of Wood County. The radios detect and disseminate emergency information that takes place 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The radios cost approximately \$25. The goal is to hand out 200 or more of the radios in the Spring of 2015.

Motion by Hamilton, second by Winch to allow Emergency Management to send out the letter soliciting donations for weather radios to be given to the elderly. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Dispatch Department:

a. Dispatch September 2014 Claims

The Committee reviewed the Dispatch September 2014 claims.

b. Railroad Issues

Lori explained the railroad complaints have lessened somewhat. Over the past two to three weeks there have been no complaints. Sheriff Reichert stated he talked to Ron Kind, who in turn put Tom in contact with Anthony Fox, the United States Secretary of Transportation. Tom met with Mr. Fox and discussed the train issues with him.

Randy Dorshorst stated he has been talking with the Railroad Commissioner on a regular basis to keep him aware of the ongoing problems.

The Committee expressed their concern to District Attorney Lambert who stated the Federal Government has exclusive authority over the railroad. DA Lambert stated he will prosecute the ordinance tickets that are pending as they are municipal but will not charge them criminally.

c. Dispatch Report

Lori explained to the committee with the Ebola outbreak they were asked by the Health Department and Fire Departments that on all ambulance calls the dispatchers are to ask if the person has been out of the country within the last 21 days and if they are having flu like symptoms.

Lori explained she is getting involved in a Dispatch Working Group and hopes to gain knowledge from this group.

Lori explained the minimum staff levels were put at 3 a few years ago and she explained that is not a good option. She is looking at ways to keep minimum staffing at 4. She is looking at changing the schedule and other options. She explained things are being missed as there is so much to do and remember. She explained mobile data may help alleviate some work as officers will be entering some of their own stuff on traffic stops, etc. Lance Pliml stated there is no set number at minimum staffing, but that Lori needs to use what she feels is needed. The staffing should be driven by use and outcome.

Lori stated she has talked with Lieutenants as well as Sergeants of all departments to make them aware that they need to let Dispatch know when they plan to run grants, so there is adequate staffing.

Lori stated by the end of October all but two dispatchers will have their 24 hours of training for the year.

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

November 10, 2014

1:00 p.m.

**Wood County Sheriff's Department
Wood County Annex & Health Center
1600 N Chestnut Ave
Marshfield, WI**

7. Humane Officer:

a. Humane Officer Report

The Committee reviewed the Humane Officer report. Nanci explained this past month they had a bat attack a dog, and the bat had rabies. This was the first reported case in Wood County.

b. Humane Society Contracts & Billing of Service:

The letter written by Peter Kastenholz was sent to the townships. Committee members stated they have heard from a few townships in reference to the letter

c. September 2014 Claims

The Committee reviewed the Humane Officer September 2014 claims.

8. Coroner:

a. Coroner Report

The Committee reviewed the Coroner report.

It was discussed that the person running for coroner, Dara Hamm, should be invited to attend the Public Safety meetings.

Motion by Hamilton, second by Polach that the Coroner Elect be invited to the next meeting. Sheriff Reichert stated he would contact her and make sure she is aware of when and where the November meeting is taking place. Motion carried unanimously.

b. September 2014 Claims

The Committee reviewed the Coroner September 2014 claims.

9. Sheriff's Department:

a. Correspondence

Sheriff Reichert stated there has been a lot of talk surrounding the Babcock burglaries and vandalism complaints where the damage was over \$200,000. He stated that the Department had the case solved within 8 hours. He also stated that he received several thank you notes for the Department's response to the incidents.

Sheriff Reichert stated the Special Response Fun Run was this past weekend, October 11th. He stated they had a great turnout.

b. Range

Sheriff Reichert stated the construction project on the Rapids range is underway and it will be ready for use after the 1st of the year.

c. September 2014 Claims

The Committee reviewed the Sheriff September 2014 claims.

d. Updates

Crimestoppers: Sheriff Reichert stated the Crimestoppers fundraising show on September 13, 2014 was a huge success.

Safe Ride Initiative: The Department had a booth set up at the Grand Affair in September. The OWI goggles were well received. This was sponsored by the Tavern League.

Criminal Justice Task Force: None

K9: Sheriff Reichert stated the Glen Gerard Magic Shows have started their solicitation for the fundraising for the K9 fund. The shows will be in February of 2015.

e. Jail Items

All jail reports were reviewed.

10. September 2014 Claims: Dispatch, Communications, Emergency Management, and Sheriff:

Motion by Winch, second by Polach to approve the September 2014 claims of all the Public Safety Committee Departments. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Agenda items for next meeting:

Amish Safety Concerns

12. Adjourn:

Motion by Hamilton, second by Polach to adjourn at 2:38 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes taken by the Wood County Sheriff's Department.

William Winch, Secretary
Public Safety Committee