

Minutes of the Wood County Public Safety Committee

DATE: October 8, 2012

PRESENT: Bill Winch, Dennis Polach, Mike Feirer, Gary Allworden, William Murphy

OTHERS

PRESENT: Thomas Reichert, Randy Dorshorst, Steve Kreuser, Nanci Kinney, Erik Engel, Lance Pliml, Garry Kronstedt, Peter Kastenholz, Laura Clark

LOCATION: Marshfield City Hall

1. Call to Order:

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

2. Review minutes of September 10, 2012:

Motion by Murphy, second by Allworden to approve the minutes of September 10, 2012 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

4. Emergency Management Department:

a. Communications September 2012 Claims

The Committee reviewed the Communications September 2012 claims.

b. Communications Report

The Committee reviewed the Communications report.

c. Update on Communications Towers/Narrowband Project

Steve Kreuser stated the microwaves systems for the Sherry and Dexter tower have been installed. He also stated the antennas for the Tait radios system will be installed the 3rd week of October. The month of November Tait communication will help install the radio system link for a completion of the tower/communication project by the end of November 2012. Steve/Erik are working with the space needs committee regarding needs for a possible communication needs (tower) at the Norwood Health facility.

d. Surplus Property Procedures

Steve Kreuser asked the committee for some guidelines on what to do with surplus county property. After discussion it was decided items should be put on Craig's List.

e. Emergency Management September 2012 Claims

The Committee reviewed the Emergency Management September 2012 claims.

f. Emergency Management Activity Report

The Committee reviewed the Emergency Management activity report.

5. Dispatch Department:

a. Dispatch September 2012 Claims

The Committee reviewed the Dispatch September 2012 claims.

b. Dispatch Report

Kelly Zenz was not present at meeting as there was a crisis with the phone lines regarding 911 calls, etc. It was stated workers putting up signage on State Hwy 66 hit Solarus fiber optic lines, which caused the phone outages.

c. Discuss Dispatch Manager's Position

Discussion was held regarding the position. This item will be tabled until next month's meeting.

6. Humane Officer:

a. Humane Officer Report

The Committee reviewed the Humane Officer report.

b. September 2012 Claims

The Committee reviewed the Humane Officer September 2012 claims.

c. Dangerous Dog Ordinance

Humane Officer Kinney handed out a copy of the ordinance, as written by Peter Kastenholz and herself, and asked the committee to review it for next month's meeting.

7. Coroner:

a. Coroner Report

The Committee reviewed the Coroner report.

b. September 2012 Claims

The Committee reviewed the Coroner September 2012 claims.

8. Sheriff's Department:

a. Correspondence:

Sheriff Reichert informed the committee that Jail Sergeant Michael Christensen will be retiring on December 21, 2012. He stated the Civil Service Commission has agreed to create a new eligibility list, which they are working on right now.

Sheriff Reichert shared a letter from Attorney Juncer of Marshfield regarding Abare's Outer Limits. Bar. The letter asks the sheriff to not respond to complaints regarding noise issues regarding the bar as they are "civil matters." Sheriff Reichert stated to the Committee the department will respond to every complaint that comes into the dispatch center.

b. Horse Manure/Amish Buggy Markings:

Peter Kastenholz addressed the committee regarding these issues. He stated there were four issues presented to him to include: licensing of vehicles, additional markers on vehicles, cleaning up of manure, and require animals to wear bags/diapers. Pertaining to the licensing of vehicles and additional markers on vehicle, the State mandates those rules and we can't make rules for just Wood County. For the cleaning up manure, which is considered a foreign substance, there could be accountability for anyone using a horse drawn vehicle to clean up the manure. As for requiring animals to wear bags/diapers, the county could create a rule along those lines.

Discussion was held in regard to the safety issues as well as the manure on the roadway issues. Sheriff Reichert stated efforts have been made to communicate these matters to the Amish and there is not much more we can do. It has been documented through meeting minutes that contact was made with the Amish discussing the safety issues.

It was decided a letter would be written to the State regarding these issues in Wood County.

Motion by Winch, second by Allworden to direct County Board Chairman Lance Pliml to write a letter of concern to the State in addressing safety issues of horse drawn buggies. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Squad Cars:

Sheriff Reichert stated it has been asked of him as to what is done with old squad cars. He stated they look at each vehicle and try to get the most money for it. This can be done by sending them to auction, trading in the vehicle, or selling it outright.

d. Indian Grant Resolution:

Wood County is eligible for the yearly tribal grant from the State regarding providing additional funds for law enforcement on tribal lands within Wood County. This would be the Ho-Chunk Nation. The dollar amount varies from year to year. This is a state grant and the County only spends the amount they receive. This account is a non-lapsing account and doesn't affect tax levy. This is dedicated patrol, meaning patrol is done on overtime and the grant covers our costs. The money is also used for activities and education by the Ho-Chunk. During certain times of the year the money is used to buy public safety gifts for the different parties the Nation has.

Motion by Murphy, second by Allworden to sign the Tribal Grant resolution and send on to County Board. Motion carried 4-1, with Winch voting no, citing he doesn't believe in this grant and won't sign it.

e. Updates:

Crimestoppers: Sheriff Reichert stated a \$400 payout was given to the person who called in about the jail escapee and stayed on the line with the dispatch center until the person was followed to a Wisconsin Rapids residence.

Safe Ride Initiative: None

Criminal Justice Task Force: None

K9: None.

f. Jail Items:

All jail reports were reviewed.

Sheriff Reichert stated the Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP) is doing exceptional for the year. It had a savings of \$46,796.88 for the month of September and will be saving over \$500,000 in 2012.

Lance Pliml commended Sheriff Reichert for an outstanding State Jail Report.

9. September 2012 Claims: Dispatch, Communications, Emergency Management, and Sheriff:

Motion by Polach, second by Winch to approve the September 2012 claims of all the Public Safety Committee departments. Motion carried unanimously.

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

**November 12, 2012
1:00 p.m.
Richfield Town Hall
8478 Richfield Dr
Marshfield, WI 54449**

11. Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

Dispatch Manager's Position
Dangerous Dog Ordinance

12. Adjourn:

Motion by Winch, second by Murphy to adjourn at 2:43 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes taken by Wood County Sheriff's Department.

William Winch, Secretary
Public Safety Committee