

RICHLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday, November 4, 2022

The Richland County Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee met on Friday, November 4, 2022 at 8:30am in the County Board Room of the Richland County Court House in Richland Center, Wisconsin.

Committee members present at the meeting were: Committee Chair Melissa Luck and Committee members Kerry Severson, Bob Frank, David Turk, Richard McKee, and Ken Rynes. Present from the Richland County Sheriff's Department were Sheriff Clay Porter, Chief Deputy Aaron Wallace, and Amber Muckler. Also present for the meeting or a portion of the meeting was Richland County Clerk of Circuit Court Stacy Kleist, DA Jennifer Harper, Jenifer Laue, Darin Gudgeon and Clinton Langreck.

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order: Committee Chair Luck called the meeting to order at 8:30am.

Agenda Item #2: Read and Approve Notice of Posting for November 4, 2022 Public Safety Committee Meeting: Committee Chair Luck confirmed that the meeting was properly posted. Upon receiving confirmation Luck declared meeting properly posted.

Agenda Item #3: Read and Approve the Agenda for November 4, 2022 Meeting: Motioned by Richard McKee to approve the agenda. 2nd to this motion by Ken Rynes. Motion passed.

Agenda Item #4: Read and Approve Minutes of the October 7, 2022 LEJC Meeting: Motion by Ken Rynes to approve the minutes as printed. 2nd to this motion by Richard McKee. Motion passed, minutes accepted.

Agenda Item #5: Public Safety Committee response document for Resolution 22-96 discussion and approval: Luck went through the documents and how the budget reductions would affect each department/office. Luck stated that if the cuts can't be made for the departments is that something that needs to be put on a referendum. Luck feels that core services and statutorily required should not be put on a referendum and should already be provided by the tax payers. Cut to the Coroner's office would come down to staff. Emergency Management have come up with \$14,000 in cuts and the committee does not feel this is a good department to cut because it is a statutory requirement and does not feel it's a good position to move to the sheriff's department. The Register In Probate office is a 2 person office and Luck feels this department would not benefit from any cut with committee agreement but if the deputy position were considered for elimination it should go on the referendum, the Probate office did provide cuts by not taking health insurance reduction in other areas of her budget. The Sheriff's department has offered cuts in training and some non-salary items. The Sheriff's Department would also have to make staff cuts according to the county request. There was a lot of discussion on how the cuts in staff for the Sheriff's office would cause many issues not only in the road and jail but also by cutting one office staffing position. The committee feels that the recommendation should be made that the Sheriff's Office is currently understaffed and no staffing cuts

should be made to this department. Motion to approve the Public Safety Chair type up the recommendations made at this meeting made by Ken Rynes, second to this motion made by Richard McKee. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #6: Coroner Updates: Sheriff Porter shared the updates provided by the coroner for the past 2 months.

Agenda Item #7: Circuit Court Judge updates/comments: Not available for this meeting.

Agenda Item #8: Clerk of Court Update: Reports were provided via email.

Agenda Item #9: Probate Updates: Jen Laue went over her budget report with the committee members, no other comments were made.

Agenda Item #10: District Attorney Updates: DA Harper has no comments for this meeting.

Agenda Item #11: Emergency Management: Director Gudgeon talked about continuing to work through the mitigation plan with other agencies. He briefly discussed his budgets with the committee members.

Agenda Item #12: Staffing levels: Sheriff Porter stated the department currently has all of the funded positions filled.

Agenda Item #13: Approve monthly invoices and other Sheriff's Department reports: The committee looked over the invoices for the month. Motion to approve to pay the invoices for the month made by Ken Rynes, second to the motion made by Kerry Severson. Motion approved. Sheriff Porter went over jail statistics report with the committee members.

Agenda Item #14: Discussion of contracting law enforcement services for the Village of Lone Rock: Sheriff Porter stated that Steve Morgenson from the Village of Lone Rock Board. The committee members went over a possible contract with the Village of Lone Rock. The village is looking at dis-banning their village law enforcement and municipal court through the village as well and both would be provided by the county. The contract is for a possible 20 hours of law enforcement for the village. Sheriff Porter stated that with current staffing levels he is not sure 20 hours of service would be possible. To fill this position with current staff, Sheriff Porter would have to decrease the hours of availability. If another community would want to have coverage as well, then Sheriff Porter feels a deputy could be provided to them as well as that other community. Luck would like this brought back next month with more information.

Agenda Item #15: Open & approve squad bids: There were 2 bids received for a 2023 Dodge Durango, the first from Fillback Ford in the amount of \$39,757.50 per vehicle. The department asked for 3 but we are intending on getting 2 squads. The other bid is from Ewald Auto \$39,402.00. The committee agrees to go with the local business since there is not a lot of difference in cost. Motion to approve

purchasing squads from Fillback Ford made by Bob Frank, second to this motion by Ken Rynes. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #16: Radio Tower Project updates: Barb Scott stated weekly meetings have been happening. There have been some problems that have been found and looked into. Luck states according to Mike Day of True North that the project is still on track.

Agenda Item #17: Mapping, Radio System & Squad Updates: The committee members went over the mileage report regarding the squads. The 2 new squads are equipped and ready to put out for service.

Agenda Item #18: Future agenda items: Contracting services with the Village of Lone Rock. Committee Jail Inspection

Agenda Item #16: Adjourn; Motion by Ken Rynes to adjourn until the regular Public Safety Committee meeting on Friday, December 2, 2022 at 8:30am. Second to this motion by Bob Frank. Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Office Manager, Amber Muckler