

RICHLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday, February 2, 2024

The Richland County Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee met on Friday, February 2, 2024 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 David Turk, Kerry Severson, Bob Frank, Ken Rynes, and Barbara Voyce. 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 Candace Pesch, Judge Lisa McDougal, Clerk of Court Stacy Kleist, Jenifer Laue, Amber Burch and John Heinen.

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 February 2, 2024 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 February 2, 2024 Meeting: Motioned by Ken Rynes to approve the agenda. 2nd to this motion by Kerry Severson. Motion passed.

Agenda Item #4: Read and Approve Minutes of the January 5, 2024 LEJC Meeting: Motion by Kerry Severson to approve the minutes as printed. 2nd to this motion by Bob Frank. Motion passed, minutes accepted.

Agenda Item #5: Coroner Update: Sheriff Porter gave an update for the Coroner's office. There were 11 deaths during the month of January. The Coroner commented on issues with the pagers and hopefully going to notification by cell phone.

Agenda Item #6: Circuit Court Judge updates/comments:

a. Report from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Meeting:

Judge McDougal talked about receiving extra microphones in the small courtroom so that discussions can be heard and captured and that has been a nice addition when there are court hearings in that room.

Judge McDougal talked about the CJC Council Meeting in January. In that meeting they discussed a lot of issues including diversion programs, DMV issues with getting your license back, treatment court and policy changes in treatment court. The next meeting will be in April.

Agenda Item #7: Clerk of Court Update: Kleist shared her reports with the committee members. Kleist talked about exceeded revenues and expenses for the 2023 budget.

Agenda Item #8: Probate Updates: Jenifer Laue shared her reports with the committee members and she briefly discussed her reports and outlook for the 2023 budget. There was a discussion about capital planning of the departments and how this helps the entire county board knows what the needs are for each department and in the court and criminal justice system.

Agenda Item #9: District Attorney Updates: Sheriff Porter gave a brief update per the DA who was unable to attend.

Agenda Item #10: Emergency Management: The position has been posted for a new EM Director. John talked about upcoming training that he is working on for regional support, John is still working on getting county wide training which has not been set up yet but is working on something for the future and Heinen also talked about grant information he is working on for EM.

- a. **A Resolution for Bernie Couey's 100th birthday:** Amber Burch shared that the ambulance committee would like to have a resolution created for Bernie and his 100th birthday and his time on the ambulance service. Motion to this resolution made by Bob Frank, 2nd to this motion by Ken Rynes. There was more discussion on what areas Bernie was all involved in the county during his time of service. Motion approved.
- b. **The sale of the former Director's squad car:** Amber informed the committee that the department is looking to sell the original vehicle and possibly receive a newer vehicle from the Sheriff's Department when a vehicle comes available from their fleet. The current vehicle is not necessarily safe to drive and that is mostly the need for a difference vehicle. Motion to send the former Director's vehicle to auction made by Bob Frank, 2nd to the motion by Ken Rynes. The money will go back into the general fund. Motion approved.
- c. **Consideration for a new Director squad car should one become available from the SO:** There was an offer for the 2 vehicles that were available but those vehicles were taken by other departments, so as of right now EM is still looking for a vehicle. Pesch talked about options on policy for something like this. There should be another vehicle available mid to late year 2024.

Agenda Item #11: PSAP & GIS grant monthly updates: GIS – licensing has been paid for out of the 2024 budget. PSAP – reports have been submitted for the last quarter, money from 2023 has to be spent by June of 2024. Most of the money for the training portion of this grant has been spent.

Agenda Item #12: Approve monthly invoices and other Sheriff's Department reports: The committee members went over the invoices for the month and discussed some specific invoices. Motion to approve paying the invoices for the month made by Kerry Severson, second to this motion by Dave Turk. Motion approved.

Sheriff Porter went over the monthly jail statistic report. The jail has added a few part time people in the jail/dispatch. The Investigator position has been filled by Tyler Barr, he is currently a casual deputy for the Sheriff's Department and works full time

with the Police Department for Richland Center. He begins his new position on February 19th. The first round of testing has been scheduled for the jail/dispatch applicants. The new Jail Administrator has been working on the classifications of inmates and provided a report for today's meeting.

Agenda Item #13: Approve a resolution commemorating the service of Toby Johnson: Sheriff Porter would like to have a resolution in appreciation for Toby Johnson the former Investigator for his years of service with the department. Motion to approve this resolution made by Ken Rynes, 2nd to this motion by Kerry Severson. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #14: Discussion & possible approval of short term borrowing spending for squad/equipment purchases: Sheriff Porter informed the committee that this is just more information, there was money approved for this in the 2024 budget. Porter is hoping that what money doesn't get spent on squads get used for radio equipment for other subscribers. The money needed for the squads should be no more than \$160,000. Motion to approve this money and forwarded to Finance and Personnel made by Ken Rynes, 2nd to this motion by Kerry Severson. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #15: Review and possible action on Ordinance 89-7 amendments: Luck sent out a clean version of the ordinance and also a version showing all the changes. There were just a few more minor wording changes. Motion to approve the changes made to the ordinance and moved forward to the county board made by Kerry Severson, 2nd to this motion by Ken Rynes. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #16: Review and discussion on RCSO demographics: Luck talked about the reports shared by the Sheriff's Office discussing the demographics of traffic stops performed by the Sheriff's Department. This is just information and something this report doesn't take into effect would be what is the amount of people reflected on this report that are just driving through the county but may not necessarily live here.

Agenda Item #17: Radio Tower project updates: The Westport site has been finalized and everything is being worked on. The bid was received from Strang's for the running of the cables through the courthouse building. Luck would like to review the budget for this project during the April meeting.

Agenda Item #18: Mapping, Radio System & Squad Updates: The squad report has been shared with the committee members.

Agenda Item #19: Future agenda items: None

Agenda Item #20: Adjourn; Motion by Ken Rynes to adjourn until the regular Public Safety Committee meeting on Friday, March 1, 2024 at 8:30am. Second to this motion by Kerry Severson. Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Office Manager, Amber Muckler