

RICHLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday, March 1, 2024

The Richland County Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee met on Friday, March 1, 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 members David Turk, Kerry Severson, Bob Frank, Richard McKee. 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 Judge Lisa McDougal, Clerk of Court Sara Ehrhardt, DA Jennifer Harper, Jenifer Laue, John Heinen and Candace Pesch.

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 March 1, 2024 Public Safety Committee Meeting: Committee Vice Chair Frank confirmed that the meeting was properly posted. Upon receiving confirmation Frank declared meeting properly posted.

Agenda Item #3: Read and Approve the Agenda for March 1, 2024 Meeting: Motioned by Richard McKee to approve the agenda. 2nd to this motion by David Turk. Motion passed.

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

Agenda Item #5: Coroner Updates: none provided for this month.

Agenda Item #6: Circuit Court Judge updates/comments: Judge McDougal gave updates of what's happening in the court system, she talked briefly about the space and needs assessment that will be done this year.

Agenda Item #7: Clerk of Court Update: Deputy Clerk of Court Sara was at the meeting and gave updates for the office. She talked briefly about a few expenses that effect their department and resolving some collections glitches with the State Debt Collection. April 17th will be government day with local high schools to come in and see how the courtroom and government offices work.

Agenda Item #8: Probate Updates: Jenifer Laue talked about her office's budget for 2023, she gave some updates on the court system and judge's case schedule in the upcoming months, and also discussed the Courtroom Security Meeting coming up in March. There was a discussion about attorney fees that were billed in 2023 that still have not been paid at the end of February 2024.

Agenda Item #9: District Attorney Updates: DA Harper introduced Krista Parker who is the legal secretary for the DA's office and Krista has passed the

probation period, she talked briefly to the committee. DA Harper talked about bail jumping ordinances that are being worked on for the future, and also working with the new Sheriff's Department Investigator. Harper talked about reimbursements for the Victim Witness positions and how there is a new funding stream that has been found for these positions. There was a discussion on the ADA position and how she not only does her work for the DA's office and Corporation Council and just recently having to fill in for as the Director for Child Support and the work load that has been put on this person and how this impacts the DA's office.

Agenda Item #10: Emergency Management: Interim Director Heinen talked about mandates that can and can't be dealt with by the LEPC and what exactly the LEPC does for the county. There was discussion about the LEPC membership.

Agenda Item #11: PSAP & GIS grant monthly updates: Barb Scott talked about a problem with an installation update paid for by the grants and the grant deadlines is June and if those updates are completed by then the grants will not be paid for them. Barb has talked to Candace and looking to give this information to Corporation Council to move on. There are problems with Bay Com and the county is getting no reply back from them. So there is a risk of losing the funding which is \$250,000 if the work is not done by Bay Com by the deadline date.

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 Richard McKee, second to this motion by David Turk. Motion approved. Sheriff Porter went over the monthly jail statistic report.

Agenda Item #13: Discussion and approval of Ordinance 89-7: Sheriff Porter states that there was a conversation on the ability and the wording for the Lieutenants or Chief Deputy being able to go back to their union position if they were not able to continue their Command Staff position. This is only if they were promoted inter department. The decision to bring this up at a future meeting.

Agenda Item #14: Discussion and possible approval regarding construction of an outdoor gun range on county property: Sheriff Porter stated there has been conversations with the Police Department regarding finding a better suited place that could be made into a county gun range and somewhere that is safer and more secure than the public gun range that the county currently has available. The department and the Highway Department has found a site in the gravel quarry right outside of the city that could offer a section of that quarry and turn it into a secure gun range on the south end of the gravel pit, that could be constructed with the help of the Highway department. There will be some equipment and labor to create this, there will be a need for a small building to be used for storage and a 3 sided shed to shoot out of and fencing. There is some fundraised money that could be used for this construction rather than being taken out of the department budget. Sheriff Porter stated that there are no residence issues. The thought is to make this a county used gun range only, but would not be open to the general public like the other outdoor gun range. This is information for now and the sheriff will look into getting pricing for the project.

Agenda Item #15: Radio Tower project updates: Barb updated the committee that all sites are picked and land contracts should be to Barb soon and all contracts will be ready to sign. This project needs to be completed by December, so roads for towers would need to be in by mid-April to sometime in May. Gen Comm will start the equipment installation once contracts have been signed. Borrowing for equipment is currently on track, professional services budgets are set so there wouldn't be much overage there. Tower survey fees are included in the project budget. The equipment will be installed in the jail in the very near future.

Agenda Item #16: Mapping, Radio System & Squad Updates: Nothing new for squad updates, the new squad from Fillback came in just a few days ago and will be equipped shortly. One squad was hit by 2 deer and will be repaired.

Agenda Item #17: Future agenda items: Ordinance 89-7 and gun range construction project. Request to repurpose funds in the new car outlay for equipment. Ordinances from the DA's office.

Agenda Item #18: Interview of the Jailer/Dispatcher Candidates: CLOSED SESSION: Motion to move to closed session at 10:10 by Kerry Severson, 2nd to this motion by Richard McKee.

12:03 pm Motion to move back to open session made by Kerry Severson, 2nd by David Turk. Motion approved

Motion to pass candidate list onto Sheriff Porter for consideration made by Kerry Severson, 2nd by Richard McKee. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #18: Adjourn; Motion by David Turk to adjourn until the regular Public Safety Committee meeting on Friday, April 5, 2024 at 8:30am. Second to this motion by Kerry Severson. Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Office Manager, Amber Muckler