

**Minutes of the March 3rd meeting of the Sawyer County
Public Safety Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Assembly Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members Present:

- Chair: Ron Buckholtz
- Dale Schleeter -Vice Chair
- Ed Peters
- Jason Weaver
- Chuck Van Etten

Others Present:

- Tom Hoff
- Mike Coleson
- Lynn Fitch
- Joe Sajdera
- Sandy Ocomoto

- Nate Dunston
- Greg Ripczinski
- Jeff Johnson
- John Yackel
- Mark Gritzmacher - Virtual
- Linda Zillmer - virtual

Call to Order – Chair Ron Buckholtz called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Roll Call taken. Quorum was met.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met.

Meeting Agenda

Public Comment –

Minutes from Previous Meeting – A motion was made by Mr. Peters to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2022, meeting; second by Mr. Schleeter. Motion carried without negative vote.

Circuit Court Report – Judge Yackel was present to provide an update of our busy court schedule. We are still dealing with high crime rates and the court system being tied up. Mr. Hoff provided a courthouse remodel update, advising that the Ad Hoc Courthouse Construction Committee is meeting today to get an update on the bid process.

Clerk of Court Report – A written report was provided.

District Attorney's Office Report

Sheriff's Department Report – Written reports were provided.

Communication Center Report - Chief Sajdera asked for a brief moment of silence in honor of previous Sheriff Jim Meier who recently passed away. He advised that we have one FT vacancy as the person who was training for the position chose not to accept. Not all individuals are showing up for their interviews. The Lumen command post hardware and software is here and is now available as a portable unit.

Patrol Report - Lt. Ripczinski advised that calls remained steady last month; there were no fatalities for this time period. The body cameras are delayed in shipping but are expected to arrive and training will take place for line and patrol staff. The Birkie had no issues and the traffic plan worked well.

Communication Systems Specialist Report - Mr. Kruk said all equipment is now in for the microwave equipment. He received some damaged boxes so credits are coming. Weather has delayed some tower installation. Preparation of the tower site agreements is underway. The paging system is working but is having some location issues which explains why some were not getting their pages. We may need to look into amplifiers to boost reception in some cases.

Jail Report – A jail report review provided by Lt. Johnson. There are 104 total inmates in our jail this time. All FT positions full but the PT person has resigned so they are still looking for staff.

Animal Control Report – A written report was provided at the meeting.

Child Support Department Report – A written report was provided.

Coroner's report --

Emergency Management Department Reports – Written reports were provided. Mr. Dunston advised that the Birkie was pretty uneventful on the healthcare system side. He attended some school safety meetings recently and is planning a table top exercise with the Hayward School District - potentially in August. He will attend next week's Governor's conference. Ambulance billing transition is underway.

County Ambulance Service Rate Survey – A chart was provided that identifies rates proposed by LifeQuest based on a survey they completed. A motion to approve an increase in rates and send request to Finance and County Board meetings was made by Mr. Schleeter; second by Mr. Peters. Motion carried without negative vote.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Update – An update was provided by Mr. Hoff. We are making good progress in Committee; looking at the opioid settlement rules and how funds can be used for implementing diversion or other programs related to the epidemic. TAD grant funding will also help fund required services that are needed for 2nd courtroom.

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be Thursday, April 7, at 9:00 am in the Assembly Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk