

Minutes of the September 7<sup>th</sup> 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
- Vice Chair: Marc Helwig
- Ed Peters
- Jason Weaver - virtual
- Marshal Savitski

**Others Present:**

- |                         |                 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Andy Albarado - virtual | Greg Ripczinski |
| Lynn Fitch              | Doug Mrotek     |
| Joe Sajdera             | John Froemel    |
| Mike Woller             | Marge Kelsey    |
| Nicole Ripczinski       | John Kruk       |
| Chris Klein - 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 – Linda Zillmer**

**Minutes from the previous meeting dated: August 3, 2023**

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Savitski                      Second by: Mr. Peters  
Motion carried without negative vote.

**Circuit Court --**

Judge's Report – County Clerk will contact the Judge's department to request a monthly presence of some kind.

Courthouse Remodel Update – Mr. Albarado reported that there are a few items still being addressed and they are working on closing out the financial side of the process.

**Clerk of Court's Office Reports -**

A written report was provided. Ms. Kelsey reported that three courtrooms are now often running at once with the visiting judges caseload. Clerk of Court staff are extremely busy and another full-time position request will be on the budget.

**Sheriff's Department Report –**

Communication Center Report – Sheriff Mrotek summarized some of the events in the community including one assault on a jailer. Ms. Ripczinski advised that a full-time dispatcher was hired and started work but they still have two full-time vacancies. Calls are up slightly from last year. Chair Buckholtz recognized jailer Kollmorgen.

Patrol Report – A written report was provided and reviewed by Lt. Ripczinski. Summer is winding down and schools are back in session refocusing efforts on school bus safety and routine school checks at all area schools.

Jail Report – A written report was provided and reviewed by Lt. Woller. The average daily population YTD is 71.77, down from 92.67 in August of 2022. Incarceration rates were reviewed. Sheriff Mrotek advised that the family and civil court activity is becoming as much of a concern as criminal court.

Communication Systems Specialist Report – Mr. Kruk provided an update; on Tuesday the new paging system was put in place and tested. It seemed to increase coverage into some areas that did not have coverage before. Refurbished paging system equipment is now in place and testing continues. A connectivity issue to the

Loretta/Draper site is requiring additional work. They are now beginning to consider winterizing sites/equipment. A meeting is scheduled on September 8<sup>th</sup> between the Sheriff's Department and members of the Loretta/Draper area to look for a plan to improve service. Chris Klein of the Draper Fire Department weighed in and requested oversight. Chair Buckholtz requested that the Sheriff and Mr. Kruk meet for further investigation.

Town of Draper Emergency Services Communications Issues – A copy of an email and Town of Draper resolution requesting improved 911 service was provided. Item was covered in the Communications Specialist Report.

Code Enforcement Specialist – A written report was provided.

**Emergency Management --**

A written report was provided and reviewed by Ms. Ripczinski. Testing of the tornado sirens revealed that some stations needed maintenance. Training opportunities were highlighted.

**Child Support Department Report --**

A written report was provided and indicated \$1,251,374.73 total child support payments are due and \$883,650.95 has been collected. There are 1,134 open cases at this time.

**Emergency Services --**

Ambulance Report and Ambulance Billing – A written report was provided and reviewed by Mr. Froemel. A new report format will provide information on opioids. Call run and transfer details were provided as well as staffing situations.

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Update -**

Mr. Albarado reported that the recovery court will accelerate now that both judges are in place. Diversion court is going well.

Future items – Town of Draper Communications Update, Communications Report Budget Update

**Meeting Date/Time** – The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be Thursday, October 5th at 9:00 am in the Board Room.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 am

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk