Minutes of the meeting of the Public Safety Committee.
Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
October 1, 2020; 8:30 a.m.; Assembly Room; Sawyer County Courthouse

Members present: Helen Dennis, Ron Buckholtz, James Schlender, Dale Schleeter, Chuck Van Etten-Virtual


Chair James Schlender called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Motion by Buckholtz, 2nd by Dennis, to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

County Administrator Tom Hoff presented a 2021 budget summary for Public Safety departments. Hoff commended Supervisor Dennis for her service and efforts toward the ambulance service in the southern part of the County.

Judge Yackel reported to the Committee virtually. Yackel listed the upcoming jury trials and possible need for the Assembly Room and Large Courtroom during Committee and County Board meetings.

Clerk of Court Marge Kelsey provided a written report to the Committee. Kelsey expressed her appreciation for the IT Department for their assistance with jury trials.

Child Support Director Sandy Okamoto provided a written report to the Committee.

Sheriff Doug Mrotek reported to the Committee. Mrotek thanked Supervisor Dennis and the entire board for their service. Heroin overdoses still on the rise. Two traffic fatalities within the last month, average is 2 per year. There have been eleven fatalities to date in 2020.

Chief Deputy Joe Sajdera provided a written report to the Committee. Applying for NG911 grant that will cover 60% of costs for allowable expenses. State requiring Dispatch to provide over the phone assistance administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) beginning May 1, 2021. Dispatch received 3,600 calls in September and 1,489 calls for service.

Lieutenant Greg Ripczinski provided the patrol report. Responded to 956 calls in September. 2020-2021 block grant awarded.

Jail Administrator Jeff Johnson provided a jail report. September 2020 average daily population was 71.41 inmates; 9.04 females and 62.37 males. 2 inmates on electronic monitoring. 1 inmate housed out of county.

Animal Control Officer Sherrie Shelton provided a written report to the Committee.

Emergency Management Director Pat Sanchez presented a written report. Sanchez thanked Supervisor Dennis for her service. Sanchez distributing PPE every other Wednesday. Introduced Mat Riedell from LCO Emergency Management.

Communication Specialist John Kruk provided a written report.
The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council is working on MOU with LCO that expires January 2021.

Ambulance Director Nate Dunston provided a written report to the Committee. Issues obtaining PPE. Assisting Public Health on screening plan for vaccination clinics. Washburn municipalities will be charged a $40.00 per diem for ambulance services. This includes Stone Lake, Bass Lake and ½ of Birchwood.

Dennis expressed appreciation for County staff and Committee members. Buckholtz would like the pledge recited at meeting. Schlender remarked on inappropriate behavior at a demonstration on Saturday.

The Committee applauded Supervisor Dennis.

Adjourned 9:34 am

Minutes prepared by Carol Williamson