

RICHLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday, April 14, 2023

The Richland County Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee met on Friday, April 14, 2023 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 Kerry Severson, Bob Frank, Richard McKee, 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 Clinton Langreck, Judge Lisa McDougal, Clerk of Court Stacy Kleist, DA Jennifer Harper, Jenifer Laue, and Darin Gudgeon.

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 April 14, 2023 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 April 14, 2023 Meeting: Motioned by Bob Frank to approve the agenda. 2nd to this motion by Richard McKee. Motion passed.

Agenda Item #4: Read and Approve Minutes of the March 3, 2023 LEJC Meeting: Motion by Bob Frank to approve the minutes as printed. 2nd to this motion by Kerry Severson. Motion passed, minutes accepted.

Agenda Item #5: Driftless Music Gardens event updates: Representatives from Driftless Music Gardens were present to talk about their upcoming events and looked for feedback from the committee members.

Agenda Item #6: Coroner updates: Sheriff Porter went over the coroner report for March.

Agenda Item #7: Circuit Court Judge updates/comments: Judge McDougal went over current events taking place in the court system regarding backlog in the court, some staffing changes and the reconvening of two committees that deal with treatment court and courthouse security.

Agenda Item #8: Clerk of Court Update: Kleist shared her monthly report, and also reports for the 2022 & 2023 budget with the committee members. She discussed expenses and revenues for last year and also the outlook of those for 2023.

Agenda Item #9: Probate Updates: Jen Laue presented her new Deputy in Probate for the committee members. Laue briefly discussed the out-of-county judges who are working in our county on cases. She would like to discuss the small

courtroom needs at the meeting in May. Laue discussed her 2022 budget and the outlook for her 2023 budget.

Agenda Item #10: District Attorney Updates: DA Harper talked about staffing changes that are currently happening in her department with the Legal Secretary position. She discussed how adding staff in her office is helping her office practices. Harper discussed her 2022 budget along with the outlook for her 2023 budget with the committee members.

Agenda Item #11: Emergency Management: Director Gudgeon discussed his monthly reports with the committee members along with reports for his 2022 budget and the outlook for his 2023 budget.

Agenda Item #12: PSAP & GIS grant monthly updates: Barb Scott informed the committee that the workflow has been completed, there is a signed contract for the 911 software. Sheriff Porter states that there will be training that applies towards the grant.

Agenda Item #13: 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 Richard McKee. Motion approved. Sheriff Porter went over the monthly jail statistic report.

Agenda Item #14: Committee approval to hire a Cody McCollough to come back as a casual employee: Sheriff Porter stated that Cody will move from a full time employee to a casual employee as of 4/17/23, he was hired full time by Boscobel Police Department but will remain on our roster as a casual for the road. No committee approval needed.

Agenda Item #15: Review 2022 final budgets for each department: Each department discussed their 2022 budgets and the overall expenses and revenues for each department.

Agenda Item #16: Review of January to March 2023 budgets for each department: Each department discussed the outlook on their budgets for 2023 and what they project that expenses and revenues should look like for the year.

Agenda Item #17: Hiring process discussion: Sheriff Porter stated that interviews are being done today. The department is struggling to get qualified candidates as is every department. Chief Deputy Wallace talked about required staffing levels in the jail and if we are not able to keep that we have to farm out our services. Staffing issues come down to doing dual jobs in the jail (jail/dispatch) and also employees who are leaving are getting better pay and insurance at other places. Sheriff Porter states we need to be able to streamline our hiring process, the process needs to have less hoops and be faster in order to hire qualified candidates.

Agenda Item #18: Committee approval to apply for the US DOJ COPS Hiring Program FY2023 Grant: Sheriff Porter stated that the COPS grant is open and the department is looking to apply and ask for 1 position, one way we would help match monies would be the contract through Lone Rock. Motion to approve applying for the grant but not necessarily accepting the grant until after budget time made by Bob Frank, second to this motion by Kerry Severson. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #19: Discussion of future jail plans: Luck would like the Sheriff's department to think about staffing levels and where a dispatch center would be located so the committee can look at numbers and dollars, she would like this brought back in July.

Agenda Item #20: Update on protective status retirement for jail staff: Sheriff Porter informed the committee that the Senate and Governor has approved protective status for correctional staff which would include county jails.

Agenda Item #21: Review of Ordinance 89-7: Luck stated she would like a discussion on this for the next meeting and if anything needs to be changed.

Agenda Item #22: Radio Tower project updates: Mike Day from True North was at this meeting. Mike informed the committee that radio console training took place this past week and looking to switch over around the end of April. The tower design is still looking at 9 sites, 5 lease sites, 4 greenfield sites currently. The project is looking at the radio vendors and working with US Cellular and the tower rates they have given which are extremely higher than what is currently paid, US Cellular is asking \$50,000 for tower rent. If US Cellular doesn't come down on their rate, the plan for the Boaz area is using a greenfield site. Day stated the security projection is solid, the cost for greenfield sites could change in the overall costs but still within the original budget, so Mike believes there would be no change in overall costs. Administrator Langreck went over projected amounts in the project. There was more discussion on the US Cellular sites, leases and costs for tower space. Motion to approve moving this project in the amount of \$8.1 million to move forward to Finance & Personnel made by Bob Frank, second to this motion by Richard McKee. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #23: Mapping, Radio System & Squad Updates: Chief Deputy went over the squad report with the committee members. There was an issue with an air compressor in one of the Dodge Durangos.

Agenda Item #24: Future agenda items: Discussion on Ordinance 89-7 and possible changes, Discussion of dog ordinance.

Motion to approve to move into closed session made by Bob Frank, second to this motion by Richard McKee. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #25: CLOSED SESSION: Interview candidate(s) for the position(s) of Sheriff's Department Road Patrol Deputy and Jailer/Dispatcher:

Motion to move back into open session at 12:48 made by Bob Frank, second to this motion by Richard McKee. Motion approved.

Motion by committee to let Sheriff Porter move forward on hiring from the 5 Road Patrol and 2 Jailer/Dispatcher position interviews made by Bob Frank, second to this motion by Kerry Severson. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #18: Adjourn; Motion by Richard McKee to adjourn until the regular Public Safety Committee meeting on Friday, May 5, 2023 at 8:30am. Second to this motion by Bob Frank. Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Office Manager, Amber Muckler