

**RICHLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Friday, August 4, 2023**

The Richland County Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee met on Friday, August 4, 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 David Turk, Kerry Severson, Richard McKee, Ken Rynes, 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 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 August 4, 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 August 4, 2023 Meeting:** Motioned by Kerry Severson to approve the agenda. 2<sup>nd</sup> to this motion by Ken Rynes. Motion passed.

**Agenda Item #4: Read and Approve Minutes of the July 7, 2023 LEJC Meeting:** Motion by Richard McKee to approve the minutes as printed. 2<sup>nd</sup> to this motion by Ken Rynes. Motion passed, minutes accepted.

**Agenda Item #5: Partners for Prevention updates and information:** Betsy Roesler attended this meeting to give the committee members an update on what Partners for Prevention does for the community and schools and the education of drugs and how they affect teens and the community. The committee looked at a Power Point that Betsy put together and there was a discussion regarding this Power Point.

**Agenda Item #6: Coroner Updates:** Sheriff Porter went over the Coroner updates for June & July.

**Agenda Item #7: Circuit Court Judge updates/comments:** Judge Lisa McDougal talked about what is happening in the court system, scheduling, and back log issues. The Courthouse Security Committee met this past week and went over current issues and goals for the future. Updates are being made on the audio system and microphones in the courtroom, which has helped the judge with hearing what is being said in the courtroom.

**Agenda Item #8: Clerk of Court Update:** Kleist talked about the National Conference that she attended in July and the information she was able to bring back and possibly apply to the court system and her department for the county. Kleist also

talked about having her budget meeting recently and how the budget process is being handled differently this year from prior years.

**Agenda Item #9: Probate Updates:** Jenifer Laue briefly talked to the committee members about getting the information out to other departments and the community of what the departments in the county really need in order to operate with to be the best they can for the people of the county. Laue talked about with the loss of Beverly Burns, the county no longer has a free legal clinic that's being held and they find that a lot of people in the community benefited from that clinic.

**Agenda Item #10: District Attorney Updates:** DA Harper talked about the security of the courthouse. DA Harper handed out her budget with the committee members and talked about items in her budget.

**Agenda Item #11: Emergency Management:** Director Gudgeon talked about his budget meeting with the County Administrator and he is pleased with the way the budget meetings are being held this year and thinks it was very productive. He went over his budgets briefly with the committee members.

**Agenda Item #12: PSAP & GIS grant monthly updates:** Director Gudgeon stated that the quarter reports have been submitted. The PSAP grant is moving forward and the GIS grant is being worked on as well. The additional PSAP Grant was submitted and it will cover a mobile dispatch position and support services and dispatcher training.

**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 Ken Rynes, second to this motion by Richard McKee. Motion approved. Sheriff Porter discussed his budget with the committee members and provided the wage increases, other larger increases included 2 additional positions (Jail Administrator and a patrol position which is half funded by the Lone Rock contract and also a possible grant) and mostly caring for and maintaining a jail which includes feeding and caring for inmates. Sheriff Porter was pleased with the budget meeting with the County Administrator and is hopeful this is a step in the right direction. Sheriff Porter also went over the jail statistic report with the committee members.

**Agenda Item #14: Committee approval of MacTek invoice to be taken out of Jail Assessment:** Sheriff Porter is asking for the approval for the maintenance contract for the 5 year contract \$14,620 which will be taken out of jail assessment. This is for support of the phone recordings in dispatch (Higher Ground). Motion to approve this cost made by Kerry Severson, second to this motion by Ken Rynes. Motion approved.

**Agenda Item #15: Continued discussion on Ordinance 89-7 and possible changes:** This item will be discussed at a future meeting.

**Agenda Item #16: Radio Tower project updates:** Mike Day from True North was available for this meeting and talked about the status of the project with the committee members. Mike discussed the site acquisitions and everything looks good with the sites and letters of intent for those sites. All letters of intent have been received by the Sheriff and will move forward from this point. Other discussion points were covered on the designs plans of the project. Mike touched on the cost of the towers owned by US Cellular and the impact of those costs.

**Agenda Item #17: Mapping, Radio System & Squad Updates:** The committee members were given the squad update report for the month and briefly discussed mileage, and how many squads to ask for each year. Sheriff Porter talked about what to ask for in the future and if he puts a mileage restriction on vehicles once they reach certain mileage and would like to have a discussion on this in the future.

**Agenda Item #18: Future agenda items:** Jail Inspection report discussion on items that needed to be fixed.

**Agenda Item #19: Adjourn;** Motion by Ken Rynes to adjourn until the regular Public Safety Committee meeting on Friday, September 1, 2023 at 8:30am. Second to this motion by Richard McKee. Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Office Manager, Amber Muckler