

**Kewaunee County Public Safety & Justice Committee Minutes
September 8, 2021**

The Public Safety & Justice Committee meeting was held on September 8, 2021 in the County Board Room, at the Kewaunee County Administration Building.

Call to Order: John Mastalir called the meeting to order at 8:16 a.m.

Members Present: John Mastalir, Joe Lukes, Doak Baker, Doug Doell , and Scott Jahnke. EOC Director Tracy Nollenberg, Sheriff Matt Joski, and Chief Deputy Jason Veaser.

Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Doak Baker, and Scott Jahnke seconded that motion. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes from August 11, 2021 was made by Joe Lukes. Second was made by Doug Doell. Motion carried.

Public Comment: No Public comment.

AGENDA:

Emergency Management:

- a. **Review 2020 Budget to date/2022 Budget proposal:** Director Nollenberg states nothing significant is showing on the budget to date. The 2022 proposed budget has been presented to Scott Feldt and Paul Kunesh.
- b. **Review Upcoming Training/Exercises:** Nollenberg shared that the Point Beach training exercise with FEMA will be held next week. This is the FEMA evaluated training. Nollenberg added September is National Preparedness Month. The National Weather Service will start sending auto notifications when “destructional winds” are noted.
- c. **Update on Sirens:** The letters sent out by Point Beach had a deadline of August 31st for municipalities to respond if they wanted the sirens located in their areas. None of the municipalities wish to keep and maintain them, thus Point Beach will begin to take them down. Scott Jahnke informed Nollenberg his township never received the letter, but the township would not keep it, and were not interested in it.
- d. **Clean Sweep 2021** The 2021 Clean Sweep is set for Saturday, October 30 from 8:00 a.m. until noon. It will be held at the Hillside Highway Shop.

Sheriff's Office:

- a. **Review of 2021 Budget to date/2022 Budget proposal:** Sheriff Joski also shared there is nothing of surprise in regards to the 2021 budget to date. He pointed out the benchmark and payroll stats on each report drafted by Paul Kunesh. Joski shared this is a good reference to track where the budget is throughout the year. Joski pointed out

the 2021 expenditures for building Repairs are already at 635%. This is mostly due to the building repairs at the jail which were mandated by the state. This number will only increase, as we still have to fix the toilet in the J Block, which we are waiting for cost estimates. Also, we have been given a rough estimate to fix the front metal door at the jail by "Stronghold" which is approximately \$5,000. This will be fixed sometime this fall. Another expense that fell into this category was about a month ago, the radio system microwave in Algoma went down. APD was unable to get into the radio system due to this. Since we went away from having a maintenance contract for the radio system a few years ago, and went to paying as items came up, this bill was approximately \$10,000 for the time and materials. Joski stated overall the tracking for this year's budget is at 54% and pretty much spot on. We should be able to do some line item transfers at the end of the year to cover the lines over budget. It was noted in the sheriff's department last two budgets, the extra-regular time was not included, and Paul Kunesh suggested it be added back into the 2022 budget. Kunesh has added \$10,000 for the jail and sheriff based on past budgets for the extra-regular time. The 2022 budget has been proposed to Administrator Feldt, and one "long term outlay" that was put in this budget was for the floor drain at the evidence building. Joski stated we are in the process of refreshing bids for this project, as it was put in the long term capital improvement outlay for the past five years. The two "Covid grants" we received avoided us having to purchase many items in our outlay, such as computers and the Watch Guard program. It was asked how the vehicle availability is for the rotation schedule. Sheriff Joski shared we "lock in" with Ewald on our police vehicles, and rotated our 2021 vehicles into the fleet in August, where normally we have them on the road in May of each year in years past.

- b. Staffing Update: Sheriff Joski stated the department is basically fully staffed after a few FMLA issues that are now complete. The main staffing issue is filling the Jail Cook position. It is a very flexible position for 3 hours per day. If this is not filled we have to use jail staff to cover. Sheriff Joski asked if we know of any interested people to refer them to him.
- c. Review of Overtime by Category : Chief Deputy Veaser shared a printout of overtime hours. The recent overtime hours consist of a paternity leave that started earlier than planned, we had a recent court trial, and the cities and villages are running with reduced staff where we have covered. The overtime in court is because officers have to come in on their off time, and they are requested to be available to testify, and not on patrol. With the cities and villages running on reduced staff, the sheriff's department has had to cover, and recently had a critical call in the Village of Luxemburg, where staff has been called in. We expect there will be covid quarantining overtime coming, as contact quarantining is back up to 10-14 day quarantines. If the exposed person has been vaccinated, the length of quarantine has been cut.
- d. Update on Jail Study Process: Sheriff Joski was pleased with the progress made at the latest jail study meeting. Doak Baker agreed with this. Joski shared Calumet County will be holding an open house on their new facility, and members of the committee plan on touring. Calumet is expected to open sometime in November of this year. The size was agreed to stay at 52/85, which was agreed to be the most effective size that allows

minimal staff and allows growth. Cuts and savings were made in “auxiliary spaces”, and spaces were reduced, and a multi-use conference room was incorporated rather than a number of rooms. Actual cost savings are not known, and won’t be until the footage is recalculated and we have a layout. That will come in Phase III

- e. Information on upcoming “Bowl With a Cop” event: Sheriff Joski shared a new “community” involved event, Bowl with a Cop, will take place on Saturday, September 18th. This event was suggested by one of the jail/dispatch deputies, and that Deputy took a leadership role and organized the event. There are approximately 10 -11 officers who will bowl with students. Kewaunee Bowl is hosting and the event includes a light lunch.
- f. Briefing on recent critical calls & impact on operations: Chief Deputy Veese informed that the sheriff’s department critical calls seem to be on the rise. Within one week recently we had three “gun” calls, two of which could have easily become SWAT calls, but our officers (some of whom are SWAT members and were on duty) were able to convince the suspects to come out, and in the other incident shots were fired in the Village of Luxemburg. The latter incident caused investigators to be called in causing overtime. We have had four overdose deaths already this year. These critical incidents are time consuming on staff. Also, Oconto County is currently looking for a suspect in a attempted homicide incident who is known to have strong ties in Kewaunee and Door counties, and we are assisting in any way possible to apprehend him in a safe manner for both the public and our officers. Sheriff Joski reminded us that surrounding counties have been talking about the mental health officers they have, and he shared Kewaunee County has been doing this for over a decade. All officers with our department are CIT trained in de-escalating mental health issues. We are maintaining this training with new officers too.

Joe Lukes asked about the inmate/jail census handout that was shared. The overall daily population is at 26.98%. Brief discussion on Huber, and how Huber inmates and those held in other facilities are included in the population count took place.

Next Meeting Dates: The next meeting had been set for October 13 at the Administration Building in the County Board meeting room at 8:15 a.m. John Mastalir will inquire if we can reserve the large conference room instead of the board room, as we don’t need such a large meeting room. The November meeting is proposed to be held November 10th, and also for the large conference room at the Administration building if it is available.

Travel Requests: Mastalir explained travel requests are no longer necessary, but we include them on our agenda for information purposes only. Tracy and Kim from Emergency Management will be attending the Wisconsin Emergency Management Association Conference in Stevens Point, WI on October 19-21.

Chairperson’s Comments: John Mastalir reminded he will be inquiring if this committee can hold our meetings in the large conference room instead of the County Board room for all future meetings.

Other Matters as Authorized by Law: Joe Lukes inquired if it is law that vehicles have a front license plate. Sheriff Joski said that WI is a “two plate” state, and any DMV regulated vehicle needs both a front and back plate.

Doug Doell asked if the sheriff department receives monies from the state like the highway department does, for example when they plow state roads. Joski shared we do not get any funds like that. He shared that when citations are issued, there is a specific breakdown through the court system where those monies go, and a very minimal amount goes to the sheriff's department. It is a little higher if it is an ordinance citation. State Trooper issued citations follow the same as county issued citations as far as the breakdown.

Adjourned: Doug Doell made the motion to adjourn, and Doak Baker seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 9:06a.m.

Minutes provided by:
Mary Berkovitz, Recording Secretary