

Kewaunee County Public Safety & Justice Committee Minutes
January 13, 2021

The Public Safety & Justice Committee meeting was held on January 13, 2021 in the County Board Room, at the Kewaunee County Administration Building.

Call to Order: John Mastalir called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Members Present: John Mastalir, Joe Lukes, Doak Baker, Doug Doell, and Scott Jahnke. EOC Director Tracy Nollenberg, and Chief Deputy David Cornelius. Sheriff Matt Joski was excused. Inv. Eric Pieschek, incoming Patrol Operations Lieutenant for KWSO.

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

Approve Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of December 9, 2020 was made by Scott Jahnke. Doak Baker questioned a statement in section e. of the Sheriff's report that gave the same number of rescue calls in 2019 as 2020. Chief Deputy Cornelius believes this to be a typo, and will obtain the correct numbers to amend at next month's meeting. Doug Doell seconded the motion with this information noted to be corrected. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Retiring Chief Deputy Cornelius took this time to introduce Inv. Eric Pieschek, who was hired as the new Patrol Operations Lt. to replace Lt. Jason Veaser who will take over as Chief Deputy upon Dave's retirement next week. Pieschek comes with 20+ years as an investigator with the sheriff's department, and 30 overall in law enforcement.

Agenda:

Justice Reports: None.

Emergency Management:

- a. Review 2020 Budget to date: Director Nollenberg asked if anyone had questions on the budget that was sent out. No one had questions. Nollenberg said nothing much changed from last month.
- b. Review Upcoming Training/Exercises: Nollenberg reports she is working on setting up a virtual EOC activation training/exercise for late February
- c. Update on Sirens: Nollenberg had no new updates regarding the sirens. A maintenance company reached out to her about their services. She will pass this information on once we know the final decisions on the sirens Point Beach will be turning over.
- d. Brief on COVID-19: Nollenberg continues to completed the Mortuary Report three times a week for the state, and the monthly Virtual EOC Brief update.
- e. Virtual EOC Brief update: Nollenberg reports they held the monthly Virtual EOC Brief yesterday, January 12, 2021 and everything is running "status quo". She also reports

Emergency Management will assist Public Health with the setting up of the Covid 19 vaccine clinics in the next weeks.

Sheriff's Office:

- a. Review of 2020 Budget to date: Chief Deputy Dave Cornelius gave the sheriff's department reports in the absence of Sheriff Joski. He reports the 2020 budget only has the final payroll to be applied to it. Finance Director Kunesh said the sheriff's department budget is looking at being \$60,000 to \$100,000 to the good. Kunesh is recommending the department puts that excess towards our share of the NextGen911 grant.
- b. Review of Overtime by Category: Chief Deputy Cornelius handed out the 2020 overtime summary for the end of the year, along with the 2019 OT summary. Areas that have increased include Holiday, which we have no control over due to contracts. Also, Training was up due to 3 people attending jail school. Investigations was up due to a murder /suicide, a house fire where a person perished in the fire, and a couple of overdose investigations. Meetings were down, mainly due to Covid. Also, ERU, as there were not many calls in 2020. The County Fair and Shanty Days being cancelled due to COVID led to no overtime in those categories. Saturation Patrol was up considerably but that is covered 100% by grant money. MEG Unit is down mainly because our drug investigator is out on FMLA since October. The scheduled OT is also way down from 2019. Once we are full staffed the OT should be in check.
- c. Update on Facility Improvement Study Committee/Inmate Census Report: There has been nothing regarding the facility study since last month. The inmate census handout was shared. There were no questions. The population has been steady.
- d. Information regarding potential medical costs due to inmate care: Chief Deputy Cornelius explained the jail "dodged" a potentially huge medical expense with a current inmate. This issue has been resolved at no cost to the county (jail).
- e. Staffing Update: Cornelius reported that two officers were offered positions, and backgrounds are being conducted by our investigator. The department has high hopes and things are looking good, they will be announced as new hires soon. These two hires replace his position and the one in the jail from the resignation a few months ago. He also reports that Deputy Chelsea Broomhall started at recruit academy on January 6th. He has already received glowing reports from staff at NWTC on her. We have two out on FMLA at this time, one which is expected to be cleared in the next week or so. There are currently two employees from the department out on COVID. We have had a total of 12 that were affected by COVID, 6 in the jail, 5 on patrol, and 1 from administration. The sheriff's department has been advised by Cindy Kinnard of Public Health, that those who have chosen to have the vaccine are scheduled to receive their first dose next week on Wednesday. Nine of the 35 sheriff's department employees have opted to receive the vaccine.

Next Meeting Dates: The next meeting had been set for February 10 at the Administration Building in the County Board meeting room at 8:15 a.m. The proposed date for March is March 10, 2021, continuing at the Admin Building at 8:15 a.m.

Travel Requests: There were no travel requests by either Emergency Management or the Sheriff's Department.

Chairperson's Comments: John Mastalir had no comments to add.

Other Matters as Authorized by Law: Scott Jahnke was at the Parks Committee the previous evening and questioned the sheriff's department about the parking problems at Red River Park that were discussed Tuesday night. It was explained this is a yearly problem with the ice fishing on the bay. Jahnke shared the Red River Chairman requested no parking signs. Cornelius stated there are patrol officers that are watching this area closely, and there have been citations and warnings issued. Extra patrol will continue in that area as well.

Joe Lukes asked whether dispatch asks callers if they have burning permits when calling in controlled burns. It was shared they do not. Joe advised they have a person in his township that is burning illegally (garbage). Lukes was advised to call it in right away when he sees this, and officers will be sent. Pieschek also stated he is aware officers will enforce if they see illegal burns occurring while on patrol.

Dave Cornelius wanted to thank this committee as this will be his final, announcing he will be retiring next Friday, January 21, 2021. He shared he has been with the Kewaunee County Sheriff's Department for 26 years, of which he served as the Chief Deputy for 18 years. Cornelius said he "couldn't have asked for a better career", and "it's been one hell of a ride I will cherish and miss". Cornelius was thanked by all for his service.

Adjourned: Doug Doell made the motion to adjourn, and Doak Baker seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Minutes provided by:
Mary Berkovitz, Recording Secretary