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LANGLADE COUNTY



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MEETING MINUTES

Committee: Public Safety Committee
Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: County Board Room, Lower Level of the Safety Building

The following discussion was held by the Committee at the meeting detailed above:

1. Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. The Committee recited the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Silence Cell Phones:
4. Roll call was conducted:

Public Safety Committee		
Name	Role	Status
Doug Curler	Chairman	Present
Warren Wagner	Vice-Chair	Present
Joel Wagner	Member	Present
Teresa Poltrock	Member	Present
Chris Below	Member	Absent

Non-Committee Members Present	
Name	Interest
Jason Hilger	County Administrator
Mark Westen	Sheriff
Heidi Walrath	Jail Administrator
Travis Krueger	Emergency Management
Kelly Hays	District Attorney
Nancy Benish	Diversion Coordinator
Becky Rank	Deputy County Clerk/ Recording Secretary
Bill Kallner	Wolf River Fire Department
Danny Spatchek	Antigo Daily Journal

5. **Approve previous meeting minutes of June 6, 2024:** Motion by Poltrock, second by W. Wagner to approve the previous meeting minutes of June 6, 2024. All ayes, motion carried.
6. **District Attorney's Report:** District Attorney Hays presented the Committee a written report prior to the meeting. Hays stated case numbers from June-July 2024 are as follows: criminal cases referred, 96; under review referrals from June through July, 12; criminal cases filed, 95; cases closed, 77. Upcoming Jury Trial Dates for 2024: August 28; September 19; September 25; October 9; and October 23. Hays updated the Committee on the two Jury Trials held June and July: State vs Doering, not guilty; State vs Rychtik, conviction on all counts, sentencing at a later date. Hays introduced Diversion Coordinator Benish updating the Committee on the program for June/July. Hays stated there has been one graduate, one new admission, with no recidivism. The TAD grant site visit went very well—some recommendations for improvement and changes we will implement. The Diversion Program will need Committee approval for the TAD 2025 grant. Information only.
7. **2025 TAD Grant Authorization:** Motion by Poltrock, second by J. Wagner to authorize approval to apply for the 2025 TAD Grant. All ayes, motion carried.
8. **Coroner's Report:** The Committee was given a printed Coroner's Report for July before the meeting. The committee held no questions on the report. Information only.

Meeting Minutes (Continued)

- 9. Child Support Report:** The committee was given a printed Child Support Report for July-August before the meeting. The committee had no questions on the report. Information only.
- 10. Emergency Management Report:** Emergency Management Coordinator Krueger presented the Committee a written report. Krueger discussed the current Grants and monthly tasks. Krueger stated he attended the Northeast Regional Meeting and completed the FEMA IPAWS monthly test. Krueger stated he has attended numerous committee and subcommittee meetings. Completed the "Basic Academy" series of classes it consists of 120 hours of classroom time focusing on the foundation of EM, science of disasters, public information, and exercise planning. Krueger stated he also attended the Governor's Conference. Information only.
- 11. Sheriff/Jail Office/Nurse Report:** Sheriff Westen updated the Committee on Simulcast. Sheriff stated the White Lake Tower is live, and now 4 towers (Elcho, White Lake, Gresch, Kent) are connected. RACOM will be evaluating the Kent Tower. Sheriff updated the Committee on the progress of the Town of Summit Tower stating there has been an unforeseen report that needs to be completed before construction can take place. Mr. Kallner with the Wolf River Fire Department stated the White Lake Tower has greatly improved communications in the White Lake/Wolf River area.

Jail Administrator Walrath presented the Committee with a written report. Walrath stated as of today there are 75 inmates in the Langlade County Jail. Walrath stated she is seeing more long-term inmates which is reflecting in medical costs. Walrath stated the Jail is short one female corrections officer and another one on FMLA. Sheriff Westen stated health care in Corrections is a Statewide trend as the general inmate population's health has deteriorated. Westen stated Walrath and her staff have noticed the general well-being of our inmates is fragile. The healthcare that the County provides has increased with more doctors' visits and medication, it is more expensive than it ever has been.

Chairman Curler asked for an update on the Space Needs in the Jail. Sheriff Westen stated he is working with County Administrator Hilger for funding to hire an architect in 2025 to do an evaluation/consultant on the current Jail needs. County Administrator Hilger stated he will work with Sheriff Westen on this process with possible ARPA funds available to help with costs. Information only.
- 12. Update on Staffing Changes:** Sheriff Westen stated the Department is currently short one Sheriff Deputy and one Corrections Officer. Sheriff Westen stated as of current the Dispatch Center has 6 Full Time Dispatchers with an accepted offer for the 7th. Marathon County Dispatch is still being used, however the number of hours has drastically reduced.
- 13. Update on 911 Center:** Discussed during item #12
- 14. Review Monthly & Year End Departmental Budgets presented to the Committee:** Sheriff stated the Office Budget is in good shape with no concerns.
- 15. County Administrator Comments/Updates:** County Administrator Hilger updated the Committee on the Sheriff's Office Budget stating the budget is on track. Hilger stated Sheriff Westen and Deputy Chief Bauknecht do an excellent job of managing the daily operations.

Hilger stated the District Attorney's Office is also doing an excellent job in managing the daily operations. The Diversion Coordinator Program is running great and is beneficial for Langlade County.

Hilger stated Simulcast is a great need for Langlade County and the County is fortunate to have ARPA Funds to make that happen. Hilger applauds the staff and County Board for moving forward to make this happen. ARPA funds need to be allocated by 12/31/2024 and used by 12/31/2025. Information only.
- 16. Next meeting date:** October 3, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.
- 17. Adjourn the meeting:** Motion by J. Wagner, second by Poltrock to adjourn the meeting at 9:54 a.m. All ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:
Becky Rank, Deputy County Clerk, Recording Secretary