

**Columbia County  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
March 11, 2019**

**Present:** Barry Pufahl, Dan Drew, Keith Miller, Tom Borgkvist, Gary Leatherberry (arrived at 0903), Christopher Polzer

**Also Present:** Vern Gove, James Foley, Joseph Ruf, Shonna Neary, Roger Brandner, Greg Bisch, Todd Horn, Kathy Johnson, Marie Darling Ellis, Angela Hinze, PDR Brad Allen, NaDeanna Giuffre

**Monthly Agenda Items:**

- 1) Call to Order. Meeting called to order at 9 a.m. by Pufahl.
- 2) Compliance with Open Meeting Law. Posting compliance was met per Open Meetings Law.
- 3) Approval of Agenda. ***Motion by Miller to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Borgkvist. Motion carried.***
- 4) Approval of Previous Committee Meeting Minutes. ***Motion made by Miller to approve the previous month's minutes as presented. Seconded by Polzer. Motion carried.***
- 5) Approval of Expenditure Reports. Reports will be reviewed by each office.
- 6) Public Input: None.
- 7) Chair's Comments: None.

**Proposed Public Safety Committee meeting date change**

Chair Pufahl's proposed dates and times were discussed. ***Motion by Miller to keep the PSC meeting dates the same that being the second Monday at 9 a.m. Seconded by Drew. Pufahl abstained. Motion carried.***

**Emergency Management.** (Johnson, Darling Ellis)

- 1) **Expenditure Report.** Report viewed overhead. ***After a review of the Emergency Management expenditure reports for January and February, a motion was made by Drew to approve the report as presented. Seconded by Borgkvist. Motion carried.***
- 2) **General Review of Department Activities.** Monthly activity report was viewed overhead. Discussion. Johnson highlighted some monthly activities to include the upcoming weather and precipitation stating we can handle the melting, but the additional rain will create many more issues. Portage/Columbia County active attack exercise planning meeting was held with the exercise planned for June. Most citizens of Columbia County did not qualify for the FEMA Disaster Declaration.
- 3) **Review/Approve 2018 Annual Report.** Reviewed and discussed report. ***Motion by Borgkvist to approve the Emergency Management 2018 Annual Report. Seconded by Miller. Motion carried.***
- 4) **Emergency Management Vehicle.** Sheriff Brandner explained that the Chevrolet Equinox that was previously purchased as a replacement vehicle for the Emergency Management Office was found to have elevated carbon monoxide readings that could not be fixed and would need to be sold. After much research, it was learned that Equinoxes have issues with elevated carbon monoxide levels. The Sheriff advised that a different vehicle is being sought locally first for the most competitive price. Discussion. ***Motion by Miller to proceed with the purchase of a vehicle to replace the faulty Emergency Management vehicle. Seconded by Borgkvist. Motion carried.*** Chair Gove and Neary discussed that the funds could come from the General Fund. Neary requested that once a suitable replacement vehicle is located, the Sheriff was asked to contact the Accounting Office as soon as possible so monies are allocated.
- 5) **Acquisition/Demolition Grant Project Update.** Johnson provided an update where further clarifications were requested by FEMA. FEMA is looking for a letter committing to maintenance on the parcel to include a three year inspection. Johnson will work with Corporation Counsel to draft the letter. FEMA also requires an appeal process. The state will put this together statewide, so Columbia County will not need to complete this portion. ***Motion by Miller to have Emergency Management work with Corporation Counsel to draft***

*the required letter. Seconded by Drew. Motion carried.*

**County Board Award.** Chair Gove presented an award recognizing Columbia County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Todd Horn for his Valued Participation with the Security Office in the Columbia County Courthouse Project.

**Medical Examiner.** (Hinze)

- 1) **Expenditure Report.** Report viewed overhead. *After a review of the Medical Examiner's January and February expenditure report, a motion was made by Borgkvist to approve the report as presented. Seconded by Leatherberry. Motion carried.*
- 2) **General Review of Department Activities.** Viewed monthly report overhead. Discussion.
- 3) **Review/Approve 2018 Annual Report.** Reviewed and discussed report. *Motion by Borgkvist to approve the Medical Examiner 2018 Annual Report. Seconded by Miller. Motion carried.*

**Sheriff's Office/Jail.** (Brandner, Bisch)

- 1) **Expenditure Reports.** Monthly report was reviewed. *After a review of the Sheriff's Office's January and February expenditure reports, a motion was made by Drew to accept and approve the report as presented. Seconded by Leatherberry. Discussion. Motion carried.* Supervisor Polzer made special mention thanking the Sheriff's Office for their annual donation to Crime Stoppers.
- 2) **Inmate Count and General Review of Jail Operations.** Inmate Count: 160 and 138, January and February respectively. Sheriff Brandner provided details indicating that in January, there were 291 admissions and 225 releases and the HSU doctor saw 93 inmates and the nurses saw 60 inmates with three needing DSH/ER services. In February, there were 217 admissions and 228 releases and the HSU doctor saw 67 inmates and the nurses saw 49 inmates with two needing DSH/ER services. Our jail is currently at approximately 65% (of the limit of 80%) for holding inmates.
  - 3) **General Review of Department Activities.** The Sheriff gleaned and discussed highlighted incidents from the past two months. Community presentations on opioids and drug awareness are ongoing. As a substitute for the formerly run D.A.R.E. Program, the Smart Choices, Safe Kids Program was introduced and well-received at Lewiston School. Even though the recent homicide jury trial verdict was not guilty, the Sheriff stated how proud he was of his staff's professionalism and court security. Even though the extreme weather and road conditions presented incredible challenges, Chair Gove commended the Sheriff's Office deputies and dispatchers as well as the Highway crew for working together and staying calm. The hiring of new personnel continues with 10 hired and six promotions in 2019 already. A possible department-wide firearms transition to 9mm handguns was discussed.
- 4) **Review/Approve 2018 Annual Report.** Reviewed and discussed report. *Motion by Miller to approve the Sheriff's Office 2018 Annual Report. Seconded by Polzer. Motion carried.*
- 5) **Position Replacement Request – Jailer (Daveau).** Discussion. *Motion by Drew to approve the position replacement request for a Jailer. Seconded by Polzer. Motion carried.*
- 6) **Increase Hourly Rate for Part-Time Secretary.** Reviewed and discussed. *Motion by Polzer to approve the increase in the hourly rate for the Sheriff's Office Part-Time Secretary position. Seconded by Miller. Motion carried.*
- 7) **FTO Pay for Non-Sworn.** Reviewed and discussed. With this change, the Field Training Officer pay will be consistent in both sworn and nonsworn divisions. *Motion by Drew to accept the Field Training Officer pay for nonsworn staff who train new staff members. Seconded by Polzer. Motion carried.*

*\*The Committee may go into closed session pursuant to WI State Statute Section 19.85(1)(c), Stats., considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. [Sheriff-Chief Deputy Wage Adjustment.]. If the Committee goes into closed session, it will return to open session.*

**Motion by Pufahl that in accordance with Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(1)(c), the committee entered into Closed Session at 10:30 a.m. Seconded by Miller. Roll call: Pufahl, Drew, Borgkvist, Leatherberry, Miller, Polzer. Others present: Gove, Foley, Ruf, Brandner, Bisch, Neary, Giuffre.**

**Motion by Miller to return to Open Session at 10:46 a.m. Seconded by Polzer. Roll call: Pufahl, Drew, Borgkvist, Leatherberry, Miller, Polzer.**

**8) Chief Deputy Sheriff Wage Adjustment. Motion by Miller to approve the Chief Deputy Wage Adjustment of Step 8 of Grade P and review this topic again in August 2019. Seconded by Polzer. Motion carried.**

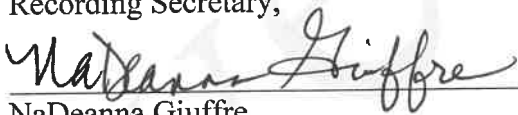
**Motion by Miller to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 a.m. Seconded by Borgkvist. Motion carried.**

The next meeting date: Monday, April 8, 2019 at 9 a.m.

Secretary of Record,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor Keith Miller  
Committee Secretary

Recording Secretary,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NaDeanna Giuffre  
Assistant to Sheriff Brandner

cc: Public Safety Members  
Chair Gove  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Drew  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Foley  
Internet