

**Columbia County
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
March 8, 2021**

Present: Chris Polzer, Keith Miller, Liz Miller, Nancy Long, Barry Pufahl
Also Present: Vern Gove, James Foley, Joe Ruf, Shonna Neary, Cory Wiegel, David Drews, Greg Bisch, Jim Stilson, Kathy Johnson, Katelyn Schara, Pam Stock, NaDeanna Giuffre

Monthly Agenda Items:

- 1) Call to Order. Meeting called to order at 9 a.m. by Polzer.
- 2) Compliance with Open Meeting Law. Posting compliance was met per Open Meetings Law.
- 3) Approval of Agenda. *Motion was made by K. Miller to approve the agenda as posted. Seconded by L. Miller. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 4) Approval of Previous Committee Meeting Minutes. *Motion made by Pufahl to approve the previous meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by K. Miller. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 5) Public Input: n/a.
- 6) Approval of Expenditure Reports. Reports will be reviewed by each office.
- 7) Chair's Comments: Chair Polzer commended the Sheriff's Office on the resolution of the homicide from 2019. Citizens who reached out to him expressed their appreciation of the Sheriff's Office's efforts. Supervisor Pufahl also commended the Sheriff's Office on how despite the challenges the COVID pandemic presented, they still forged through. Supervisor Liz Miller spoke about her involvement in and statistical gathering through the U.S. Census Bureau. She provided the website for those interested in additional information at www.bjs.gov.

Emergency Management. (Johnson)

- 1) **Expenditure Report.** Report was reviewed. *After a review of the Emergency Management expenditure report, a motion was made by K. Miller to approve the report. Seconded by Long. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 2) **General Review of Department Activities.** Monthly activity report was provided in meeting binders. Discussion. Johnson presented her report and highlighted the following topics: 2020 grants, Wisconsin Disaster Fund, COVID testing, and the upcoming plans for county vaccination sites.
- 3) **Review/Approve 2020 Annual Report.** Discussion. *Motion by Pufahl to approve the Emergency Management 2020 Annual Report as presented. Seconded by K. Miller. Motion carried unanimously.*

Medical Examiner. (Schara, Stock)

- 1) **Expenditure Report.** Report was reviewed. *After a review of the Medical Examiner expenditure report, a motion was made to approve the report by K. Miller. Seconded by L. Miller. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 2) **General Review of Department Activities.** Monthly activity report was provided in meeting binders. Schara presented the monthly report and highlighted the following topics: staff shortages and the upcoming fee increases.
- 3) **Review/Approve 2020 Annual Report.** Discussion. *Motion by Pufahl to approve the Medical Examiner 2020 Annual Report as presented. Seconded by Long. Motion carried unanimously.*


MAT/NNAI Program Update: The monthly update was emailed by DHHS/Kate Young on Thursday, 02/25/21. On that same date, her email was forwarded to the committee via email as well as provided in the meeting binders. From the report, numbers are up and Chair Polzer commended the group and their efforts.

Sheriff's Office/Jail. (Bisch, Stilson)

- 1) **Expenditure Reports.** Report was reviewed. *After a review of the Sheriff's Office's expenditure reports, a motion was made K. Miller to approve the report. Seconded by L. Miller. Discussion. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 2) **General Review of Department Activities.** Monthly activity reports for January and February were provided in meeting binders. Chief Deputy Bisch provided highlights of the report to include: the recent resolution of the 2019 Wolf homicide; a large federal seizure of drugs and money from Sauk County; during a recent transport to a mental health facility, the deputy's passenger proceeded to spread urine and feces in the caged portion of the squad car; the recent suicide of a 14 year old; following a Marquette County juvenile suicide, their administration reached out to Sheriff Brandner and requested one of our Chaplains to assist; the 2020 Awards Presentation was held, was well-attended, and another huge success; tower and radio project updates were provided; impaired driving arrests totaled 33 in January and 23 in February, and nine more were added just from this past weekend; Wisconsin Dells Police Department requested assistance from the Sheriff's Office for a homicide within the city; Sheriff's Office Secretary update; a recent resignation of a Patrol Sergeant; and a Patrol Lieutenant requested a voluntary demotion back to Patrol Sergeant.
- 3) **Inmate Count and General Review of Jail Operations.** Inmate Count: January 122 and February 126. Captain Stilson reported that the jail had 18 out of county holds and seven ES inmates. There were 232 booked and 221 release in January and 197 booked and 190 released in February. The inmate suicide is being investigated by Dodge County Sheriff's Office and is still ongoing. Captain Stilson also displayed images for the committee on how well the body scanner is aiding jail staff in locating concealed contraband within suspects' bodies as they are being booked into the jail.
- 4) **Position Replacement Request – Jailer.** *Motion by Pufahl to approve the position replacement request for the resignation of Jailer Derek Jesko as presented. Seconded by K. Miller. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 5) **Position Replacement Request – Deputy (2).** *Motion by Pufahl to approve the position replacement request for two Patrol Deputies (Terry Ott-retirement; Todd Wagner-resignation) as presented. Seconded by K. Miller. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 6) **Jail Camera System.** MIS/Drews, Facilities Management/Wiegel, Sheriff's Office Bisch and Stilson were present to discuss this topic. The current camera system needs replacing as it is no longer supported and is failing. This project is unfunded, but necessary. Possible areas of funding were discussed. *Motion by Pufahl to support this camera system project and forward it onto the Finance Committee for their consideration. Seconded by K. Miller. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 7) **Review/Approve 2020 Annual Report.** Discussion. *Motion by Pufahl to approve the Sheriff's Office 2020 Annual Report as presented. Seconded by Long. Motion carried unanimously.*

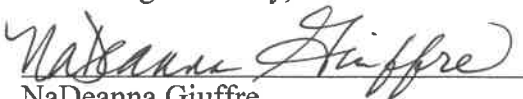
Meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m. Next meeting date will be: Monday, April 12, 2021 at 9 a.m.

Secretary of Record,



Supervisor Liz Miller
Committee Secretary

Recording Secretary,



NaDeanna Giuffre
Assistant to Sheriff Brandner

cc: Public Safety Members
Chair Gove, 1st Vice Chair Foley, 2nd Vice Chair Koch
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