

Columbia County
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
April 11, 2022

Present: Chris Polzer, Keith Miller, Liz Miller, Nancy Long, Barry Pufahl
Also Present: Jim Foley, Eric Shimpach, Joe Ruf, Bob Koch, Katelyn Schara, Madeleine Meeker, Heather Gove, Stephanie Nickel, Roger Brandner, Greg Bisch, Jim Stilson, NaDeanna Giuffre, Jonathan Stefonek

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 Pufahl. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 4) Approval of Previous Committee Meeting Minutes. *Motion made by Long to approve the previous meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by L. 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 thanked the committee members, the recording secretary NaDeanna Giuffre for her assistance, and Vern Gove, Jim Foley, and Joe Ruf for their great efforts in keeping the meetings and the county moving forward. Supervisor Liz Miller echoed Chair Polzer in commending Sheriff Brandner, Sheriff's Office staff and how they continue to educate the public through their leadership. Miller further commended the Sheriff's Office on their open house and the impressive K9 demonstrations. The event was well-planned in all divisions that truly built rapport and improve recruitment efforts. Chair Polzer wished to honor the former Crime Stoppers volunteer Don Silver who recently passed away. Mr. Silver was a Veteran and always had a desire to learn and his commitment to Crime Stoppers over the years. Sheriff Brandner thanked Polzer for his leadership and support during his tenure as PSC Chair. Through this forward-thinking and positive support, statistics for the past two years have been positive and has made our county safer.

Emergency Management. (Koch)

- 1) **Expenditure Report.** Report was reviewed and provided in the meeting binders. *After a review of the Emergency Management expenditure report, a motion was made by K. Miller to approve the report. Seconded by L. Miller. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 2) **General Review of Department Activities.** The monthly activity report was provided in meeting binders. Discussion. Koch presented his report and highlighted the following topics: the recent Hazardous Materials Mapping Training was very beneficial. Emergency Management has been working with Land Information Department for their input in the software updating. The AMTRAK safety training contained great and useful information. Assistance was provided to a chicken farm that occurred during overnight hours. A food truck was brought in to aid. The Storm Spotter training in early April were well-attended. Press releases were drafted for the State of WI Tornado and Severe Weather drills. Assistance was provided for an evacuation in Columbus during a recent gas leak. Attended and provided information to the public at the Sheriff's Office's open house.
- 3) **First Quarter 2022 Vehicle Mileage.** Reviewed/discussion. *Motion by K. Miller to approve the Emergency Management Vehicle Mileage as presented. Seconded by L. Miller. Motion carried unanimously.*

Medical Examiner. (Schara, Meeker)

- 1) **Expenditure Report.** Report was reviewed and provided in the meeting binders. *After a review of the Medical Examiner expenditure report, a motion was made by Long to approve the report. Seconded by K. Miller. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 2) **General Review of Department Activities.** Monthly activity reports for March was provided in meeting binders. Discussion. Schara provided highlights for the month of March stating that there was a total of 36 calls. More notably, one suicide who was a 27-year-old female, four overdoses (pending toxicology results), four Versiti donations, and two tissue donations. A wellness conference in conjunction with Revive Restoration is being planned for the 05/18/22 ME/Coroner Conference. Staffing: a deputy resigned due to pay concerns. Open shifts are covered by Meeker and Schara on a rotating basis. Calls for service come in waves and would be the reason for some staff responding to more calls than others. ME staff will be participating in the WI Association of Homicide Investigators Conference in the Dells 04/26-04/29/22.
- 3) **First Quarter 2022 Vehicle Mileage.** Review/discussion. *Motion by Pufahl to approve the Medical Examiner Vehicle Mileage Report as presented. Seconded by K. Miller. Motion carried unanimously.*

MAT Program Status Report. (Nickel, Gove)

On behalf of the Crisis/MAT Coordinator Angela Smith, Stephanie Nickel provided a handout containing a summary of the NNAI/MAT Program, grant cycles, as well as historical and to-date referral and consumer information to the committee.

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

- 1) **Expenditure Reports.** Report was reviewed and provided in the meeting binders. *After a review of the Sheriff's Office's expenditure reports, a motion was made by K. Miller to approve the report. Seconded by Long. Discussion. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 2) **General Review of Department Activities.** Monthly activity report for March was provided in meeting binders. Sheriff Brandner provided highlights to include the following: Marquette County requested the Sheriff's Office to conduct an investigation on one of their employees. A recent high-speed chase resulted in a large drug bust with a seizure of ¾ pound of meth. K9 update: all five teams are recertified. Open House and K9 Fundraiser: Sheriff Brandner thanked County Highway Chris Hardy, PARCC, Kinship, Portage Police, DNR, Wisconsin State Patrol, and all Sheriff's Office staff for their participation for an overwhelming successful event. Annual CPR training has once again been completed for the department. Body camera project update: after delays with the manufacturer and further internal details with MIS being worked through, the purchase is nearing. Implementation goal is later this summer. Continue to see more violent calls with guns and traffic stops involving guns. In the past year, we have seen 88 calls where weapons were involved and 74 traffic stops with guns. Dispatch staffing issues. The Sheriff reiterated that staffing problems are now affecting the dispatch center. The most recent hire has already resigned due to stress, money, and wanting a M-F job instead. Sheriff's Office admin is working with Corporation Counsel and HR on a wage study review. Because the dispatch center is now short four staff members on the schedule and only a few are applying, the current staff are working even more overtime and under much more stress to provide coverage on each shift. Not only do our dispatchers dispatch calls for our staff, but also Fire, EMS, and all municipal police departments except Wisconsin Dells Police Department. Departments. Sheriff Brandner encouraged the committee members to do ridealongs with patrol and in the jail and dispatch center to get a better feel for what these incredible staff members are doing

on a daily basis. The Sheriff reflected and briefly discussed the 2021 budget. After realigning services, the Jail holding more inmates for increased revenue, the Sheriff's administration was able to keep the budget balanced and returned over \$500,000 back to the general fund for 2021.

- 3) **Inmate Count and General Review of Jail Operations.** Inmate Counts: 143. Captain Stilson advised that with more judgments with Huber privileges, Huber numbers and revenue are up. More out of county inmates are being housed starting this week. March had 204 bookings and 216 releases. Medical totals for March were as follows: 62 doctor visits, 519 nurse screens, and five ER visits. Stilson stated he was very proud of his staff's professionalism regarding a recent high-risk inmate pending an investigation. Following a sallyport door mishap, the door dropped on a squad car resulting in approximately \$2000 damage. To alleviate this issue in the future, additional sensors were added. Discussion on inmate trust monies.

Next meeting date: Monday, May 9, 2022 at 9 a.m.

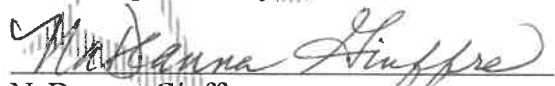
Motion by Pufahl to adjourn the meeting at 10 a.m. Seconded by Long. Motion carried unanimously.

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 Polzer; Internet