

**Columbia County
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
May 9, 2022**

Present: Keith Miller, Liz Miller, Theresa Valencia, Mike Weyh

Absent w/Notice: Troy Ryan (*called into Chair Miller's cell phone intermittently*)

Also Present: Chris Polzer, Denise Brusveen, Eric Shimpach, Joe Ruf, Jessica Hale, Shonna Neary, David Drews, Bob Koch, Katelyn Schara, Madeleine Meeker, Stephanie Nickel, Angela Smith, Roger Brandner, Greg Bisch, Jim Stilson, NaDeanna Giuffre

Monthly Agenda Items:

- 1) Call to Order. Meeting called to order at 9 a.m. by K. Miller.
- 2) Compliance with Open Meeting Law. Posting compliance was met per Open Meetings Law.
- 3) Approval of Agenda. *Motion was made by L. Miller to approve the agenda as posted. Seconded by Weyh. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 4) Approval of Previous Committee Meeting Minutes. *Motion made by L. Miller to approve the April 11, 2022 and April 19, 2022 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 Miller welcomed the new members and welcomed the former members back. Introduction of the committee members and others in attendance from the departments. L. Miller commended the Sheriff's Office on their 05/06/22 swearing-in ceremony.

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 Weyh 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 recent WI EM SW Region meeting and the WI Interoperability meeting. Koch also thanked the committee and Sheriff Brandner for the opportunity to attend the Basic Academy. Two more site plans need to be done for the year. Assisted Portage Fire/Haz-Mat on a recent fuel spill. Discussion on bird flu and that it was contained quickly.
- 3) Position Replacement Request – EM Deputy Coordinator. *Motion by L. Miller to replace EM Deputy Coordinator Marie Darling Ellis. Seconded by Valencia. Motion carried unanimously.*

Medical Examiner. (Schara)

- 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 K. Miller to approve the report. Seconded by Valencia. Discussion. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 2) **General Review of Department Activities.** Monthly activity report was provided in meeting binders. Discussion. Schara provided highlights for the month of April stating that there was a total of 44 calls. The month also included two fatal accidents. Drug overdose discussion.
- 3) **Ordinance-Amend Title 7 – Medical Examiner.** Review/discussion. *Motion by L. Miller to approve the amendments to the Medical Examiner fees as presented. Seconded by Weyh. Motion*

carried unanimously.

MAT Program Status Report. (Smith, Nickel)

Updates were emailed 05/09/22 and discussed at meeting. Referrals are up. There are currently nine consumers in intake, 11 consumers receiving case management, and three pending referrals/outreach.

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

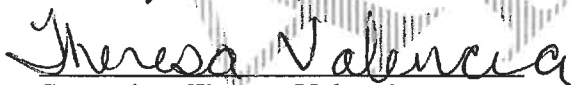
- 1) **Expenditure Reports.** Report was reviewed and provided in the meeting binders. *After a review of the Sheriff's Office's expenditure reports, a motion was made by L. Miller to approve the report. Seconded by Valencia. Discussion. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 2) **General Review of Department Activities.** Monthly activity report for April was provided in meeting binders. Sheriff Brandner provided highlights to include the following: Specialized Chaplain program training is upcoming in May. The number of concerning incidents are increasing. The Sheriff mentioned a recent call involving OWI/drug-impaired runaway kids driving complaint. They were traveling from Indiana to North Dakota. Another complaint involved a fugitive from North Dakota who was wanted for kidnapping that resulted in a high-speed chase, but eventually taken into custody in Lake Delton. After a threat to shoot-up and bomb the school was made by a juvenile student, law enforcement officials acted quickly and the Cambria-Friesland School student was later taken into custody. Although the jail is still not at full-staff, thanks to the improved wages, the jail staffing has stabilized. The Sheriff commended the jail staff for working together and for the FTO and OICs stepping up when the Jail Sergeants are not on duty. The Sheriff thanked those county board members who attended last Friday's swearing-in ceremony. The new staff and their families being supported and welcomed by those official ceremonies are irreplaceable. Replacing the burned-out Caledonia tower bulb is expensive, but will be done before the deadline. There was a recent impaired golf cart incident where the accident resulted in a fatal. OWI laws apply to those impaired operations as well. There were 116 welfare checks in April. During a recent 911 call, the subject committed suicide while on the phone with our dispatch staff. Mental health issues continue to rise and taking care of our staff is even more critical. Following a car fire and people running from it, the driver was tracked by our K9 and drone and was later arrested for OWI-4th offense. The Sheriff spoke about a human trafficking and cocaine operation case in Columbus. The Sheriff's Office investigated a domestic battery that resulted in a high-speed chase, dog napping, subsequent crash, and the subject took off on-foot. The subject was later taken into custody. Squad damages to include hail and minor squad operation accidents, squad cars are being repaired. There were eight overdoses and nine uses of Narcan. None were fatal. The Sheriff spoke about the Sheriff's Office's continual professionalism, community outreach, and involvement with the upcoming Cops & Bobbers event on 05/11/22, postings on Facebook and Instagram, and the articles published in the ADRC's Grapevine newsletter.
- 3) **Inmate Count and General Review of Jail Operations.** Inmate Counts: 136. Captain Stilson advised that body scans upon entry into the jail have been greatly assisting in detecting and locating concealed contraband. Medical totals for April were as follows: 73 doctor visits, 475 nurse screens, and four ER visits. Detox assessments and watches climbed to 34 in April. Stilson commended his staff's professionalism following an inmate struggling with a drug withdrawal. Discussion about the jail's mental health screenings. Captain Stilson advised that the jail does a thorough job through multiple resources to include screenings, professional staff from the Pauquette Center, staff knowledge and communication, and inmate classification processes. Ridealongs and job shadows in all divisions were encouraged by County Board Chair Polzer.

- 4) **Position Description – Dispatch Sergeant.** Discussion. *Motion by L. Miller to approve the position description for Dispatch Sergeant as presented. Seconded by Weyh. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 5) **Transfer Sergeant Position from Jail to Dispatch.** Discussion. The greater need for supervision and support is required in the dispatch center at this point in time. *Motion by L. Miller to approve the transfer of a sergeant position from the jail to the dispatch center as presented. Seconded by Valencia. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 6) **Position Description – 911/Dispatch Coordinator.** Discussion. *Motion by Weyh to approve the position description for 911/Dispatch Coordinator as presented. Seconded by L. Miller. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 7) **Position Request – 911/Dispatch Coordinator.** Discussion. *Motion by L. Miller to approve the position request of the 911 Dispatch Coordinator as presented. Seconded by Weyh. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 8) **Set Compensation – 911/Dispatch Coordinator.** Discussion. *Motion by Weyh to approve the compensation plan as presented. Seconded by L. Miller. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 9) **Dispatch Staff Incentive Pay.** Discussion. Because fewer candidates are applying, the stress levels and technical skills required, wage scales from other counties were researched and compared. Proposals include incentive pay on Saturday and Sundays and retirement and SSN contributions. *Motion by L. Miller to approve the Dispatch Staff Incentive Pay proposal as presented. Seconded by Weyh. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 10) **Resolution – Sheriff’s Office E911 Communications Center Staffing and Compensation.** The resolution covering the Restructure Jail and Communication Administrator (Captain) position to Jail Administrator (Captain), Revise current Dispatch Sergeant to E911 Dispatch Coordinator, Transfer Sergeant position from Jail to Dispatch, Weekend Shift Premium Pay, and Savings from vacant 2022 dispatch position was discussed. All required funds are available in the 2022 Sheriff’s Office budget. *Motion by L. Miller to approve the Sheriff’s Office E911 Communications Center Staffing and Compensation resolution as presented. Seconded by Valencia. Roll call vote: Weyh-yes, Valencia-yes, L. Miller-yes, Ryan-yes (via phone speaker), K. Miller-yes. Motion carried unanimously.*

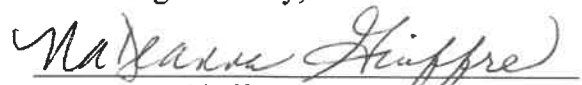
Next meeting date: Monday, June 13, 2022, at 9 a.m.

Motion by L. Miller to adjourn the meeting at 10:19 a.m. Seconded by Weyh. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary of Record,


 Supervisor Theresa Valencia
 Committee Secretary

Recording Secretary,


 NaDeanna Giuffre
 Assistant to Sheriff Brandner

cc: Public Safety Members; Chair Polzer, 1st Vice Chair Brusveen; 2nd Vice Chair Rohrbeck; Internet