

**Minutes of the March 5, 2026 meeting of the Sawyer County
Public Safety Committee
of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Board Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members Present:

- ☒ Chair: Ron Buckholtz
- ☒ Vice Chair: Marc Helwig
- ☒ Jeff Hoehne
- ☒ Marshal Savitski
- ☒ Jim Evans

Others Present:

Mike Markgren
Laura Bruce
Marge Kelsey
Sheriff Mrotek
Nicole Ripczinski
Greg Ripczinski

Leslie Strapon
Kristi Kare

Call to Order – Chair Ron Buckholtz called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Roll Call taken. Quorum was met.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met.

Meeting Agenda- Set

Public Comment – None

Minutes from the previous meeting dated:

February 5, 2026

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Helwig
Motion carried without negative vote.

Second by: Mr. Evans

Clerk of Courts/Register in Probate Reports -

There were no questions of the submitted report.

Sheriff's Department Report –

Patrol Report – Mr. Ripczinski reported on the success of the Birkie, gave an update on the 2026 squad cars, and spoke regarding an application for a body cam grant.

Jail Report – Sheriff Mrotek reviewed a written jail report for February with arrest data by race and gender. There was an average of 59 inmates incarcerated with a 67% unemployment rate at the time of booking, 1 on electronic monitoring. Sheriff Mrotek spoke regarding an apprehension of a suspect in a missing person case from Rusk County.

Dispatch and Emergency Management –

Dispatch- Ms. Ripczinski summarized the written reports. She stated there was an error in the submitted CAD numbers on the report. There have been two full time dispatchers hired.

Emergency Management- Sheriff Mrotek spoke about the changes in the Birkie over the past twenty years.

Code Enforcement- A written report was provided.

Child Support Department Report – A written report was provided.

Emergency Services— A written report was provided.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Update – Mr. Markgren reported that CJCC met in February and made changes to improve quorums and JusticePoint received a donation in the amount of \$10,000.00.

Board Appointed Committee Updates—None.

Correspondence, Reports from Conferences and Meetings— None

Future Agenda Items – Mr. Buckholtz requested an agenda item be added labeled “Towers.”

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be April 2, at 9:00 am in the Board Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 am

Minutes recorded by Laura Bruce, County Clerk Deputy