

**Minutes of the January 4, 2024 meeting of the Sawyer County
Public Safety Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Assembly Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members Present:

- ☒ Chair: Ron Buckholtz
- ☒ Vice Chair: Ed Peters - virtual
- ☒ Marc Helwig - virtual
- ☒ Jason Weaver @ 9:05 am virtual
- ☒ Marshal Savitski

Others Present:

Andy Albarado
Lynn Fitch
John Yackel – left @ 9:45 am
Brandon Blicharz
Mike Woller
Doug Mrotek
Nicole Ripczinski
Monica Isham @ 9:07 am to 9:38 am; returned 9:47 am

John Froemel - Virtual

Greg Ripczinski

Ana Amparo

Marge Kelsey

Stacey Hessel

Linda Zillmer

Joe Sajdero

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

Public Comment – Linda Zillmer

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: December 7, 2023 and December 19, 2023

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Savitski Second by: Mr. Peters

Motion carried without negative vote.

Circuit Court --

Judge's Report – Judge Yackel advised that the court staff are going to conduct a mock court exercise for the drug court. They hope to hold the first actual drug court by the end of the month.

Courthouse Remodel Update – Mr. Albarado advised that the floor repair should be completed this month and the HVAC repair should be done this week.

Clerk of Court's Office Reports -

A written report was provided. The listing of type of new jury trial cases filed for January was included along with the revenue generated from debt collection, tax intercept and wage income assignment. They continue to try to fill the part-time position.

Sheriff's Department Report –

Patrol Report – A written report was provided. Deputy Paige Woller has graduated from the NWTC LEO Academy and has started Patrol Field Training. Sheriff Mrotek advised that K-9 Oscar is being retired and a new K-9 will begin training soon.

Jail Report – A written report was provided. The current unemployment rate is 67%, and the total population was at 71. There are currently 5 individuals on electronic monitoring and 1 working Huber privileges. Chief Sajdero reviewed the highlights.

Communication Systems Specialist Report – Mr. Albarado advised that they have not renewed the contract with the former Communication Systems Specialist and have chosen a replacement service; they have switched services.

Code Enforcement Specialist – A written report was provided and reviewed by Mr. Blicharz. The Kennel Attendant Position was filled last month, as Ms. Chapman accepted the position. Revenue licensing in November was expectedly low due to timing of new licenses being offered, and admissions were also down for November and December. Call volume was also down. The 2024 licensing sales began December 1st. The animal ordinance will be presented next month.

Out-of-County Car Use Update -

Public comments from Jeremy Anderson, Charlie Logan, Ian Hall, Casey Culhane, Dennis Nelson, Kevin Hagman, Stacey Hessel. A motion was made by Mr. Savitski to allow the out-of-county deputies to take squads home within 25 miles with no charge; second by Mr. Helwig. This would have a fiscal impact of approximately \$40,000 to the budget. This item is on the Administration Committee as well. A roll call vote was taken and passed 5-0.

Emergency Management --

A written report was provided. Birkebeiner meetings & tabletops are taking place in preparation for the 50th Anniversary. Ms. Ripczinski attended several trainings for the department.

Communication Center Report – A written report was provided.

Child Support Department Report --

A written report was provided, listing 1,105 open cases. Total November current support due was \$253,138.61 and total support collected was \$182,605.90.

Emergency Services --

A written report was provided listing calls by township; reviewed by Mr. Froemel. The Hayward High School EMR course completed Dec 22 with 8 graduating to go on and challenge the NREMT cognitive exam. Training events for staff are planned.

Ambulance Report and Ambulance Billing – A written report was provided and reviewed.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Update -

Mr. Albarado advised that the recovery court will be up and running by the end of the month, and they are encouraging referrals. The TAD grant has been submitted and training under the Law Enforcement grant has been started.

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be Thursday, February 1st at 9:00 am in the Board Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 am

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk