

**Minutes of the October 30, 2025 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
Liz Klein
Marge Kelsey
Chaz Ann Olson
Doug Mrotek
Joe Sajdera

Greg Ripczinski
John Froemel

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:

October 2, 2025

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

Second by: Mr. Evans

Clerk of Courts/Register in Probate Reports -

A written report was provided. Ms. Kelsey is requesting an increase in juror per diems.

Resolution 2025- to Increase Juror Stipend to \$25 for a half-day and \$50 for a full day, and match mileage reimbursement to the County rate was approved on a motion by: Mr. Evans

Second by: Mr. Hoehne

Motion carried without negative vote.

Sheriff's Department Report –

Patrol Report – A written report was reviewed by Lt. Ripczinski; call volume increased to 762 calls received in October. There have been 12 crashes in October, 233 year-to-date, with 3 fatalities year-to-date. Staff attended Academy graduations for Deputies Pampuch and Woller.

Jail Report – A written jail report for October was reviewed by Sheriff Mrotek: there were 59 avg. inmates incarcerated, with a 71% unemployment rate at the time of booking. Discussion on how fentanyl is brought into the jail.

Dispatch and Emergency Management – Written reports were provided with information on staffing, system updates, number and types of calls, and calls per hour. Two dispatchers were hired, the department is working with the schools on cameras and meeting weekly with GenComm on the radio tower communications project.

The FY2025 EMPG grant, which funds a portion of the county's emergency management, may have cuts which will affect the department. Letters to legislators were requested.

Resolution 2025- Sawyer County and LCO Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement Grant Resolution was approved on a motion by: Mr. Helwig
Second by: Mr. Evans
Motion carried without negative vote.

Resolution 2025- to Support Submission of an Application for the FY2026 Daily Use Radio Grant Program and Commit Matching Local Funds was approved on a motion by: Mr. Helwig
Second by: Mr. Hoehne
Motion carried without negative vote.

Code Enforcement- Ms. Olson reported on dog pound and Public Health code enforcement for the month of October. One TRH complaint and four human health hazards were investigated.

Child Support Department Report – A written report was provided.

Emergency Services—

Mr. Froemel presented and reviewed a written report showing ongoing improvements and updates within the Sawyer County Ambulance Service, including reorganization of stations, fleet management, updated protocols, and implementation of new inventory and reporting systems.

Positive high-acuity call outcomes reflect the Department's commitment to advanced skills and EVOC training.

The average response time in 2019 was 18.56 minutes, which has been reduced to 10.21 minutes in 2025. For outlying areas, the response times in 2019 were 15-30 minutes, compared to the 2025 average of 10-20 minutes.

Mr. Froemel is requesting a PT assistant to handle administrative tasks.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Update –

Mr. Markgren reported that Tall Cop will present on November 12.

Board Appointed Committee Updates-- None

Correspondence, Reports from Conferences and Meetings— None

Future Agenda Items— None

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be Thursday, December 4, at 9:00 am in the Board Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am
Minutes recorded by Liz Klein, County Clerk