

Minutes of Winnebago County Public Safety Commission

Meeting date: January 25, 2022

Call to order: A regular business meeting of the Winnebago County Public Safety Commission was held at the Public Safety Center and via conference call due to COVID-19 and heightened public health risks. The meeting convened at 4:30 p.m. Chairman Andy Buffington presiding and Jennifer Ackerman Secretary.

Members in attendance: Terry Durby – representing Winnebago County, Thomas Montgomery – representing Forest City, Fran Unger - representing Lake Mills, Rick Hofbauer – representing Buffalo Center, Carla Langfald – representing Scarville, Mike Hauan – representing Thompson.

Members not in attendance: Representative of Rake and Leland.

Others in attendance: Winnebago County Sheriff Steven Hepperly.

Approval of minutes: Mr. Buffington requested a motion be made to approve the agenda and minutes of the last regular business meeting of the Commission on January 19, 2021. Mr. Durby made a motion, Mr. Hauan offered a second. All voted aye, motion carried.

Election of Vice Chair: Mr. Buffington being the Communications Director is the Chairman of the Commission as per the Public Safety Commission By-Laws. Mr. Buffington asked if anyone would like to nominate someone as Vice Chair. Mr. Hoffbauer made a motion to keep Mr. Durby as the Vice Chair, Mr. Montgomery offered a second. All voted aye, motion carried. Mr. Durby is the Vice Chair.

Budget FY23: Ms. Ackerman advised the major changes to the budget are in the wages and benefits. The figures before the Commission reflect a 5% wage increase across the board, although the union negotiations have yet to be held so this percentage could change and possibly necessitate a future budget amendment. Ms. Ackerman advised the wages and benefits were also increased to change the part-time dispatch position into a full-time position with the Commission's approval. There was some discussion on the benefits of this change and how the schedule would work. With no further discussion on the budget, Mr. Buffington asked if anyone would like to make a motion to approve the budget as presented. Mr. Durby made a motion, Mr. Hoffbauer offered a second. All voted aye, motion carried.

MOA with Sheriff: Mr. Buffington advised the memorandum of agreement with the sheriff is current until January 31, 2022. The only change suggested would be the dates of the agreement be updated to February 1, 2022, to January 31, 2025. Mr. Hauan made a motion to approve the MOA with updated dates. Mr. Durby offered a second; all voted aye, motion carried.

By-laws Update: Due to the 2020 Census the percentages in Article II Subsection 6 of the Public Safety Commission By-Laws are updated as follows.

6. The Board of Supervisors and Winnebago County shall be reimbursed for costs of operation and maintenance of the Winnebago County Communications Center by a schedule based on population and adjusted after every census accordingly. The Board of Supervisors shall absorb fifty per cent (50%) of all costs and the remaining costs shall be divided as follows:

- a. Forest City 51.70%
- b. Buffalo Center 10.34%
- c. Lake Mills 25.85%
- d. Leland 3.01%
- e. Rake 2.24%
- f. Thompson 5.97%
- g. Scarville .89%

Mr. Hoffbauer made a motion to approve the updated By-laws. Mr. Unger offered a second; all voted aye, motion carried.

Other business: Mr. Durby discussed the need to move the Communications Tower that is located at the old Law Enforcement Center site sometime in the future. Mr. Buffington advised he would begin looking into what it would take to move.

Adjournment: Mr. Unger made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Durby offered a second. All voted aye, meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

Jennifer Ackerman

4/14/2022

Secretary

Date of Approval

Winnebago County Public Safety Commission