

Portage County Public Safety/Emergency Management Committee Meeting Minutes

7:00 a.m. on June 25, 2014

Portage County Law Enforcement Center – Training Room

Members Present: Chairman Dan Dobratz
Member Dale O'Brien
Member James Zdroik
Member Bo DeDeker
Member Don Jankowski

Others Present: Sheriff John Charewicz
Captain Dale O'Kray, Portage County Sheriff's Office
Captain Cory Nelson, Portage County Sheriff's Office
Lieutenant Steve Retzki, Portage County Sheriff's Office
Richard Bolder, Juvenile Detention Superintendent
Penny Oliver, Portage County Sheriff's Office
Karen Moran, Portage County Sheriff's Office
O. Philip Idsvoog, County Board Chair
Patty Dreier, County Executive
Joe Gemza, Stevens Point Fire Department
Paul Baker, Portage County Emergency Management Director
Matt Dykstra, Deputy Emergency Management Director
Jennifer Jossie, Portage County Finance Director
Michael J. McKenna, Portage County Corporation Counsel
Sari Lesk, Stevens Point Journal

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dobratz at 7:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by O'Brien/Jankowski to approve the Public Safety/Emergency Management Committee Meeting Minutes dated May 28, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence: None.

Voucher Reports, Purchasing Authorizations & Pre-Authorization Reports and Procurement Card Reports

Motion by Zdroik/O'Brien to place the vouchers on file. Motion carried unanimously.

Emergency Management/EMS – Monthly Activity Report & Correspondence

Baker discussed completed projects and work in progress as outlined on his June 2014 Monthly Report.

Motion by Jankowski/O'Brien to place the report on file. Motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff's Office:

Jail Activities:

Captain Nelson referred the committee to the following reports included in the meeting packet:

- ▶ *Monthly Jail Report for May 2014*
- ▶ *Home Detention Statistics for May 2014*

Today, there are 69 inmates in house in the adult jail, 45 inmates in the Waupaca County Jail, 20 huber inmates and six on Home Detention Program (HDP) and four youth in Juvenile Detention.

Captain Nelson advised the committee the Jail is running \$26,000 over budget for inmate housing as of July 1, 2014. There have been an average of 46.6 inmates housed out of county—up from the 35 minimum included in our housing contract with Waupaca County.

Conditional offers have been extended to two new female corrections officers. One will start on June 30, 2014 and the other on July 14, 2014. This leaves the Jail with one male corrections officer vacancy to fill.

Operations Activities:

Captain O’Kray advised the committee Patrol is fully staffed and the Communications Center has two vacancies after today. Operations has been focusing on Farm Technology Days and Deputy Gischia has returned from his paid administrative leave.

Administration Activities:

Sheriff Charewicz discussed activity related to Farm Technology Days and work being done on the simulcast system (tower lease agreements and new construction on tower sites). Five new squad cars have been purchased and there is the potential to purchase one or two administrative vehicles yet this year.

Motion by O’Brien/Zdroik to place the reports on file. Motion carried unanimously.

Coroner’s Office Activity Report: None.

Public Notice

Chairman Dobratz read the Public Notice.

DISCUSSION ONLY:

New Justice Center Facility

Jankowski relayed the history of discussions regarding this topic starting in 1995 and his focus on keeping the Jail downtown. Idsvoog indicated the County Board would want to know the operational costs of a new jail versus extra costs of shipping inmates. The Space and Properties Committee will be meeting on the second Wednesday of each month @ 4:30 p.m. to discuss space needs. It was stated there have been changes in State laws for prisons and county jails that need to be considered. Resolutions passed by the County Board regarding this topic were discussed. The Sheriff recommended a trip to the Green Lake County Jail to view the correct way to set up a jail/courts, as this is the newest facility to have been built. The Sheriff felt it would be a disservice to the County to locate the justice center downtown. Zdroik stated he is against a downtown site and stated parking is a major problem. O’Brien stated his constituents have indicated the Jail should be moved out of downtown.

Wisconsin Department of Justice NCHIP eReferral (2010) Grant

Moran advised the committee the Portage County Sheriff's Office has applied for this grant on behalf of all three law enforcement agencies in the County. Portage County has been designated as one of three eligible recipients for the grant. This grant would pay for an interface between Portage County law enforcement agencies records management systems and the District Attorney's Office PROTECT software to forward referrals for charges electronically. There is a 25% in kind match that would be met by hours spent on the installation, testing and training of all three agency's staff members. The grant was approved by the Finance Committee.

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION:

Request to Backfill Vacant Communications Technician Positions

The Sheriff's Office's most recent hire into this position resigned. Additionally, another employee in this department has decided to be a stay at home mom. Four people are being background checked at this time as possible candidates to fill these openings.

Motion by Jankowski/Zdroik to backfill the vacant positions and start an eligibility list. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

The next regular meeting of the Public Safety/Emergency Management Committee is scheduled for July 23, 2014, at 7:30 a.m. in the Law Enforcement Center Training Room. Motion by O'Brien/Zdroik to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Karen M. Moran
Recording Secretary