

## Green County Law Enforcement Committee

Meeting Minutes from May 9, 2023

### **Members Present:**

Richard Thoman, Chairperson  
Joe Snow, Vice-Chairperson  
Mark Gundlach  
David Tschudy  
Isaiah Carlson

### **Non-members Present:**

Dana Weber, Recording Secretary  
Sheriff Jeffrey Skatrud  
Chief Deputy Thomas Moczynski  
EMG Director Gary Ziegler

Also present: Deputy Brett Hermanson; Detective Curtis Erdmann; Melissa Even

1. Verified that door is unlocked-Social distancing exercised.
  2. Meeting called to order @ 5:45 p.m. by Chairman Richard Thoman.
  3. **Approve minutes of previous regular meeting:** Motion to approve minutes of the previous meeting by Mark Gundlach; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Snow. Motion carried.
  4. **Review Emergency Management updates:** Emergency Management Director Gary Ziegler updated the committee on the Emergency Management activities and upcoming grants. EMG Director Ziegler advised that the Storm Spotter training class was held on Monday, April 17. EMG Director Ziegler updated the committee on the specifics from the tornado damage results from March 31, 2023.
  5. **Review and possible approval of WPPA patrol wage increases in comparison to other county agencies:** Sheriff Jeffrey Skatrud showed the committee a wage graph of what patrol deputies receive for pay in other counties and at agencies in our own county. Sheriff Skatrud advised that our county has lost 5 patrol deputies recently to other agencies, basically due to wages. Sheriff Skatrud asked the committee to look at adopting an updated wage scale to help stay competitive with other counties and to help with retention. Sheriff Skatrud advised that we are losing good deputies that have had a lot of training and knowledge to help the new recruits. The committee looked at an updated wage scale to start on July 9 of this year for the Patrol Deputies, Detectives, Lieutenants and Chief Deputy to help with retaining deputies. Sheriff Skatrud advised that the WPPA would have to approve the wage scale as we are under a union contract through the end of 2024. Sheriff Skatrud advised that the department has been short in patrol and had budgeted for retired/resigned deputies, which will help cover the increases. Sheriff Skatrud indicated that there are other budgeted items that the department can use to help cover the increases.
- Joe Snow made a motion to approve the updated wage scales for Patrol Deputies, Detectives, Lieutenants and the Chief Deputy and forward to Personnel and Salary to help retain staff; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Isaiah Carlson. Motion carried
- The committee asked the department to put together a wage scale for the whole department, especially dispatch and jail, so the committee can see if there are other disparities that need to be updated for retention.
6. **Review and updates on radio system:** Chief Deputy Moczynski advised that the project is finished and all invoices have been paid.
  7. **Training requests:** None at this time.

**8. Review jail population and jail medical issues:** The jail housed an average on 41 inmates in April, with 46 in the jail last year at this time. Sheriff Skatrud advised that all of the female inmates were returned to our jail last Friday. Sheriff Skatrud advised that there was a medical incident and an inmate spent the weekend in the hospital and was returned to jail on Monday. Sheriff Skatrud advised that the department is short 1 female and 2 male jailers and the department is not seeing many applications.

**9. Review and possible action regarding an official agreement reference 911 Dispatch services for the City of Brodhead:** Sheriff Skatrud advised that the department will have to develop an intergovernmental agreement with Brodhead, as the department will take over all dispatching for the City of Brodhead on January, 1 2024. Sheriff Skatrud advised that the department is not receiving many applications and we would have to increase staffing to take this over, along with Emergency Medical Dispatching. Sheriff Skatrud indicated that we will probably have to add 4 dispatchers to ensure that 2 are on duty at all times. Sheriff Skatrud also advised that the Green County dispatch is currently covering Brodhead dispatch when no one is on duty. The calls are being transferred to Green County but there is a problem with the phone systems not talking to each other and AT &T and TDS Telecom are not working with each other to resolve the problem. Sheriff Skatrud advised that when the calls come into Green County dispatch from Brodhead the dispatcher cannot see where the calls are originating from if called from a landline. Sheriff Skatrud informed the committee that something official needs to be written up in reference to the Liability Exemptions that are under State Statutes on public service 911 calls between the agencies and working with telephone exchange companies. Sheriff Skatrud advised that the department just got a project manager from AT &T reference the 911 project and hopefully, they can help sort this out.

**10. Review and approve public safety and department updates:** Sheriff Jeffrey Skatrud updated the committee that we just had another patrol deputy resign and he is going to another agency in the county. Sheriff Skatrud advised that a certified deputy started with the department yesterday and the deputies that are in the patrol academy will graduate on May 19. Sheriff Skatrud advised that there are 2 full time officers handling cases in Brodhead, otherwise our department is helping cover the City of Brodhead. Sheriff Skatrud updated the committee on our department assists to other agencies in the county for the last couple of months.

**11. Review monthly budget:** Sheriff Jeffrey Skatrud advised that the department has spent about 34% of the budget thus far this year and the department is currently on track. Sheriff Skatrud advised that the Emergency Management budget has spent 26.2% of the budget so far this year and the department is looking at hiring a new PT Program Assistant hopefully, yet this month.

**12. Audit bills:** The department bills were reviewed and signed. A motion was made by Mark Gundlach and seconded by David Tschudy to approve the bills. Motion carried. Joe Snow and the committee offered their condolences to the department on the loss of a fellow officer in St. Croix County, WI.

**13. Next Meeting:** Next meeting date is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June 13 at 5:45 p.m. Joe Snow moved to adjourn and Isaiah Carlson seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m. by Chairman Thoman.

*Submitted by Dana Weber*