

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2022

4:00 P.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Commissioner Tim Barnes, Vice-Chairman Commissioner Wayne Ridge, Commissioner Jane Whitacre, Commissioner Brandon Haskell, Commissioner Mark Mudry, Commissioner Brian Droscha, and Commissioner Darius Reynnet

ALSO PRESENT:

Chairman Jeremy Whittum, Controller John Fuentes, Undersheriff Jeff Cook, Chief Deputy Adam Morris, Captain Chris Kuhlman, Captain Robert Block, Detective Sergeant Elbert Sidel, Detective Rick Buxton, Deputy Tim Daust, Deputy Tad Schwartz, Dispatch Director Kelly Cunningham, Public Defender Timothy Havis, Emergency Services Manager Ryan Wilkinson, Community Corrections Director Melanie Achenbach, Christine Barnes, and Jerri Nesbitt

The March 3, 2022, regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Barnes.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all, led by Commissioner Barnes.

AGENDA ADDITIONS AND CHANGES

There were no additions or changes to the agenda. The agenda stood as presented.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Whitacre moved to approve the Minutes of the February 3, 2022 Public Safety Committee Meeting. Commissioner Droscha seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT

None

SHERIFF'S OFFICE UPDATE

Captain Chris Kuhlman gave a presentation regarding current staffing levels. The presentation provided information regarding difficulties with recruiting and retention and the future outlook on staffing and road patrol responsibilities. Discussion held.

Captain Kuhlman reported that an application was submitted for the state grant for first responder training and recruitment. If approved, this grant would award up to \$100,000 for each category. Commissioner Haskell made a motion to accept the grant, if awarded. Commissioner Mudry seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

JAIL AND YOUTH FACILITY SECURITY SYSTEM PROJECT

Controller Fuentes provided an overview of the current project schedule presented at the February 16, 2022 project kick-off meeting.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Controller Fuentes reviewed the monthly jail census and security reports.

CENTRAL DISPATCH UPDATE

Central Dispatch Director Cunningham reported that comprehensive preventative maintenance for radios is in progress. One Telecommunicator has been promoted, one is in training and one vacancy remains.

Central Dispatch Director Cunningham recommended the current County 9-1-1 surcharge remain a \$1.65/month based on the following considerations:

- The expected need for comprehensive radio replacement after the expiration of the 10-year warranty period in 2030, with a projected cost of \$6.5 million.
- A data channel for the radio system is desired that would provide radio-enabled GPS location services to greatly enhance first responder safety. The cost of the data channel is approximately \$1 million dollars.
- Changes to the current surcharge rate must be approved by May 15, 2022. Final consideration of the recommendation to maintain the surcharge will be discussed at the April regular meeting.

EMERGENCY SERVICES UPDATE

Emergency Management Coordinator Ryan Wilkinson reported on his participation in the Emergence Program at the Naval Post Graduate School. Severe Weather Awareness Week is March 20-26, 2022. The statewide tornado drill is scheduled for Wednesday, March 23, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.

PUBLIC DEFENDER UPDATE

Public Defender Administrator Havis reported that the Social Worker position in their office has been filled. The consensus of the Committee was to begin receiving departmental reports on a quarterly basis.

MISCELLANEOUS

None.

LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT

Christine Barnes, 5490 W. Strange Hwy, Mulliken, spoke regarding past reductions in Sheriff's Office personnel levels.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Commissioner Barnes adjourned the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be held April 7, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.



Commissioner Tim Barnes
Chairperson, Public Safety Committee