

PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE COORDINATING COMMITTEE - Minutes 5-10-2021

- Call to Order – Wally called the meeting to order at 5:30pm
- Roll Call - Wallace Habegger, Adam Balz, Rod Sherwood, Remy Gomez (Toni Wissestad absent)
 - Also Present: Sheriff Wes Revels, Stan Hendrickson, Eric Weihe, Robert Smith, Randy Williams, Tina Osterberg
- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – May 12th 2021 – motion to approve by Rod, 2nd by Adam
 - Motion carried – 4/4 present committee members
- Budget Reviews:
 - District Attorney
 - Clerk of Courts
 - Justice Department
 - Medical Examiner
 - Circuit Court
 - Dispatch
 - Sheriff's Office
 - ◆ Committee Members see no issues with budgets this month and have no questions. Motion to approve by Remy, 2nd by Rod – motion carries 4/4 present committee members.
- Justice Department –
 - 2021 Budget Review
 - Justice Programs Report:
 - ◆ 17 on EMP now, numbers are coming up again – budgeted for 20 participants
 - ◆ OWI treatment court has 1 house arrest participant now, this is after the new law.
- Medical Examiner –
 - 2021 Budget Review
 - Case Review: YTD 154 cases in April 2021 compared to 142 in April 2020, and 93 cremation in 2021 compared to 97 in 2020.
 - Tina looked at website and noted 32 COVID deaths in Monroe County.
- Discussion in reference of future structure of Dispatch Center:
 - Discussion about the Dispatch department remaining as an independent department or falling under another county department. Interviews were held last Friday for this department's supervisor – hiring board will continue the hiring process as it is currently titled.
 - The number one priority moving forward is that the supervisor of dispatch has a strong background in dispatch (knowledge) and a strong background in supervising individuals.
 - If the Dispatch Department is moved under a different department the title of the Department Head would change. They would be more of a supervisory/management position.
 - Remy/Rod would like to see dispatch fall under the Sheriff's Office. Looking forward into the future, a better hierarchy or chain of command may be helpful for the head of dispatch. Emergency Management was an example from Remy on how a department can thrive with a higher entity for guidance. He (Remy) has spoken to several first responder entities in the county who agree that there is a need for change within the structure of this department.

- The Sheriff's Office works with many different entities throughout the county, working with dispatch would be very similar to all the other departments throughout the Sheriff's Office. The first responders within the county all work together very frequently and work well together.
- County Administer helps to collaborate departments to work together. She has concerns that the Chief Deputy will not have time to oversee dispatch in addition to the other departments they manage. The 911 advisory committee has never brought up any concerns to Wally, this seems to be a new topic since the last PSJCC committee. Wally's information has been provided to the 911 committee and they are welcome to bring forward any concerns.
- Monroe County Sheriff's Office –
 - Jail – tour starting at 4:30pm
 - Emergency Management –
 - ◆ Monthly Report: an AED was donated to Monroe County Emergency Management, it will go into the Command Trailer. There was training offered to several employees from different departments on the use of the AED.
 - Sheriff's Comments –
 - ◆ Regional Crisis Centers – potential funding in the future.
 - ◆ May 13th @ 7pm– there will be an event on Lynxx TV with MC Sheriff's Office and Emergency Management with the Command Trailer.
 - ◆ Wages: The Personnel Dept has been gathering information along with the MC Jail Captain in regards to wages in our county compared to other counties around us. Information has been gathered from recent resignations within the jail to help with this research. (The last wage study was done in 2013 – approximate time frame – Admin & Personnel Committee is discussing a new wage study 5/11/2021) There has been an increase in experienced applicants in both the jail and patrol open positions, and the increase in wages would be very helpful in retention and the overall hiring process. La Crosse County's starting wage is about \$4 an hour higher than Monroe County's.
 - ◆ Recruitment Budges will be high due to the increase in hiring within the jail/patrol.
- Agenda Items for Next Meeting –
 - Discussion/Action of future structure of Dispatch Center.
- Next Meeting Date/Time – Monday, June 14th 2021, @ 5pm.
- Adjourn – Wally adjourned the meeting at 6:29pm.

Recorded By:
Ally Rudie