

Price County Law Enforcement Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: August 27, 2021

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Courthouse County Board Room 101; 126 Cherry St; Phillips, WI 54555

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by James Hintz, Committee Chairperson. Roll Call - Present: Doug Erickson, James Hintz, Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Ginny Strobl. Also present: Nick Trimner and Brian Schmidt

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Public Comment and Communications: Communication provided by Paula on behalf of Town of Spirit. Concerns about trucks over weight limit using Highways 86 and C. To be addressed at the state level, will let state know to monitor this area. Doug Erickson inquired about the need for school bus stops signs and what the process is. Per Sheriff, speak with Joe Baratka at Highway. A DOT study is conducted and then signs are implemented as needed.
2. Meeting Minutes – June 11, 2021: Motion Ginny Strobl/Paula Houdek to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried.
3. Coroner's Report and Vouchers: Coroner not present. Motion Paula Houdek/Doug Erickson to approve the voucher in the amount of \$1,012.90. Motion carried.
4. District Attorney's Report and Voucher: DA not present. DA has hired Stacy Abraham for Legal Assistant. Lynn Wallace is leaving as the Technical Assistant for the Sheriff's Department. Leslie Hauschild is transitioning to this position. Katie Crivello is going to transition to Leslie's position, Executive Administrative Assistant. This creates an opening for the Victim Witness Coordinator/Legal Assistant Position. Recruitment is in process. Everyone is working together to train during transitions. Sheriff shares DA has contacted the Sheriff to review County ordinances collaboratively, spanning all departments. This committee would eventually review proposed ordinances. Motion Larry Palecek/ Ginny Strobl to approve the voucher in the amount of \$2,405.01. Motion carried.
5. Clerk of Circuit Court's Report and Vouchers: Fully staffed. Court continues to be in full session. Continue to utilize zoom. New jury chairs coming. Court room received new carpet. Motion Paula Houdek/Ginny Strobl to approve the voucher in the amount of \$18,924.63. Motion carried.
6. Sheriff's Office Report and Vouchers: Motion Ginny Strobl/Doug Erickson to approve the voucher in the amount of \$103,691.27. Motion carried.
 - a. K-9 Unit – Proposed Additional Unit: Would like to create another assignment of a current deputy as a second K9 Officer. The dog would be provided by a grant. Equipment charges funded by County. Motion Doug Erickson/Paula Houdek to pursue an additional K9 for 2022 pending the County budgeting process and approval. Motion carried.
 - b. Humane Officer: No current issues. Catkins is full; Dean has been working with Catkins, Corporate Counsel and the public as needed.
 - c. Proposed Recreation Officer: This officer would be responsible for Recreational Patrol including: Boat, ATV, snowmobiles, County Park patrol, etc. Budget \$25,000: County share of the program. Recreational hours would be tracked and reimbursable. Lake Associations have donated monies to support lake patrol. This officer can also assist with calls. Sheriff has boat and search and rescue ATV. With more roads being open to ATVs/UTVs and boat traffic, this Officer would assist.
7. Reclassification - One Deputy Position to Lieutenant: Motion Paula Houdek/Doug Erickson to recommend the reclassification of one Deputy position to Lieutenant and forward to the Administration Committee for their consideration. Motion carried. This reclassification would create a lieutenant on each A and B tour. To create leadership on each tour and continue to serve on the road in patrol/call response. Increase leadership presence during am and pm shifts as well as weekends.
8. Date of Next Meeting: TBD
9. Meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Erica Bockerstette, Deputy County Clerk