

**RICHLAND COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
MEETING
Friday, October 8, 2021**

The Richland County Board of Supervisors Law Enforcement and Judiciary Committee met on Friday, October 8, 2021 at 8:30am in the County Board Room of the Richland County Court House in Richland Center, Wisconsin.

Committee members present at the meeting were: Committee Chair Melissa Luck and Committee members David Turk, Kerry Severson, and Chad Cosgrove. Present from the Richland County Sheriff's Department were Sheriff Clay Porter, Chief Deputy Aaron Wallace, and Amber Muckler. Also present for the meeting or a portion of the meeting was Richland County Clerk of Circuit Deputy Sara Ehrhardt, DA Jennifer Harper, Jenifer Laue, Barb Scott, Clinton Langreck, Toby Johnson, Julie Prouty and Betsy Roesler.

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order: Committee Chair Luck called the meeting to order at 8:30am.

Agenda Item #2: Read and Approve Notice of Posting for September 11, 2020 LEJC Meeting: Committee Chair Luck confirmed that the meeting was properly posted. Upon receiving confirmation Luck declared the meeting properly posted.

Agenda Item #3: Read and Approve the Agenda for September 11, 2020 Meeting: Motioned by Chad Cosgrove to approve the agenda. 2nd to this motion by Kerry Severson. Motion passed.

Agenda Item #4: Read and Approve Minutes of the August 14, 2020 LEJC Meeting: Motion by Kerry Severson to approve the minutes as printed. 2nd to this motion by Chad Cosgrove. Motion passed, minutes accepted.

Agenda Item #5: Partners for Prevention Coalition continued discussion and possible approval on creating a county resolution: Julie Prouty & Betsy Roesler provided two draft resolutions looking for discussion and feedback from the committee and law enforcement. They went over the results of the compliance checks with 9 out of 15 failures in the county of businesses that did sell to minor without checking ID's. Two resolutions were being presented, one regarding Compliance checks and the other regarding Social hosting. Motion to approve the draft resolution on compliance checks made by Kerry Severson, second to this motion by Chad Cosgrove. Motion approved.

There was some discussion on the Social Hosting resolution, the wording and the directives given to law enforcement. Sheriff Porter would like to take more time to look this resolution over and bring it back next month for more discussion.

Agenda Item #6: Coroner Updates: There were no updates for this meeting.

Agenda Item #7: Clerk of Court Update: Deputy Clerk of Court Ehrhardt was available at this meeting. Sara went over the reports with the committee members. She talked about court going back to Zoom and how that will effect jury trials.

Agenda Item #8: Probate Updates: Jenifer Laue went over her updates with the committee members, she informed the committee that all court has gone back to zoom and also that her assistant Devon Rupnow has left to go to another local company with better pay and similar benefits.

Agenda Item #9: District Attorney Updates: DA Harper was not available for this meeting.

Agenda Item #10: Approve monthly invoices and other Sheriff's Department reports: Sheriff Porter went over the invoices for the month with the committee members. Motion to approve paying the monthly invoices made by Kerry Severson, second to this motion by David Turk. Motion approved. Sheriff Porter went over the jail statistics report with the committee members. Porter stated that the jail is working with ACH and Rose Kohout on protocol regarding Covid and procedures taken if an inmate would come in with Covid.

Agenda Item #11: Approval to re-hire former employee for casual road patrol position: Porter stated that Deputy Liz Reddemann has left the department, the department would like her to come back and do transports along with some evidence tech custodian work for a couple hours per week. She is the only person that was trained in the department to work with evidence and it would be helpful to have her come back. Motion to approve the re-hire made by Kerry Severson, second to this motion by Chad Cosgrove. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #12: Exit interview/Employee retention information and discussion: Porter has exit interviews from two employee that left recently. Wages and benefits was the main topic of why employees choose to leave. Comments made regarding lack of educational reimbursement and benefit changes that did not benefit the employees.

Agenda Item #13: Discussion regarding future Jail Administrator position: Chief Deputy Wallace informed the committee that at the last jail inspection, Nathan White informed our department that we were the only jail in the state of Wisconsin that does not have a Jail Administrator. Wallace talked to other surrounding counties regarding pay and duties of the Jail Administrator. Wallace talked to Crawford County which has a similar jail population and their Administrator also does court security and transports. Porter and Wallace discussed the position and would look at making that position a multi-purpose roll and would look at paying them at the same rate as a Road Patrol Sergeant. Luck would like the administration to talk to Administrator Langreck. This position would be looked at for the 2023 budget.

Agenda Item #14: Possible approval for Sheriff's Department Clerical Assistant II position to move to Step G: Porter stated discussions with Susan Curtis who is the Clerical II/Administrative Assistant. There needs to be a look at this position and the pay as this person has been here for 31 years and could easily go to another job in the courthouse and make more money. Administrator Langreck needs to be part of this conversation in order to move forward. Motion to approve this increase to move forward to Administrator Langreck made by Chad Cosgrove, second to this motion by Kerry Severson. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #15: Approval to add a county ordinance regarding livestock running at large: Chief Deputy Wallace discussed having a lot of issues in the county regarding cattle out by certain citizens in the count. Currently there is nothing for this issue and there are a lot of calls to the Sheriff's Department regarding cattle issues. Wallace would like to see something in place so that enforcement can take place with ongoing issues. Severson would like something created so that this issue can move forward.

Agenda Item #16: Recommendation to archive social media accounts for open records protection: Porter states the county has several social media accounts and Archive Social has been in contact with the department. This company can help catalog media accounts. Scott states that there are many open records issues that are currently not being done, and social media is one of them. County owned phones are another piece that open records can be requested that aren't covered. The cost can range from \$249 per month to \$699 per month. Scott states that the county would easily have to have the \$699 per month plan. This only includes social media, phone coverage would be a whole different issue. Porter feels all this needs to be addressed in order to cover the liability of the county. Luck states this is a discussion that may need to get on Finance agenda at some point.

Agenda Item #17: Open and approval of County Stray Animal Rescue bid: There was one bid received from Judy Elliott, she would like to be paid \$1500 per month due to increases in expenses and building improvements. She would like to have no expiration on the contract. After discussion on contract terms years Luck wondered if we could do a 5 year contract. Currently Elliott has opened ended contracts with the city and Village of Muscoda. Motion to approve the bid and a 5 year contract made by Chad Cosgrove, second to the motion by Kerry Severson. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #18: Discussion regarding receiving no jail locks maintenance contract bids: Porter stated that we need to re-advertise. Motion by Chad Cosgrove to re-advertise, second to this motion by Kerry Severson. Motion approved.

Agenda Item #19: Radio Tower Project updates: Scott stated that the Phase II contract has been received from True North and Scott is waiting for Administrator Langreck to sign them.

Agenda Item #20: Mapping, Radio System & Squad Updates: Porter went over the mileage report with the committee. Both new squads are here but are not equipped yet to be on the road, the department is waiting on the dash cameras yet. Once those come in the squads can be built and then become part of the active fleet.

Agenda Item #21: Future agenda items: Luck would like to review Animal Control Contract and also Sheriff Funding ideas discussion. Partners for Prevention and Cattle Ordinance.

Agenda Item #16: Adjourn; Motion by Kerry Severson to adjourn until the regular LEJC meeting on Friday, November 12, 2021 at 8:30am. Second to this motion by Chad Cosgrove. Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Office Manager, Amber Muckler