

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

DATE: APRIL 8, 2019

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
RICHARD MEYER COMMUNITY RESOURCE ROOM  
4311 JACKSON STREET, OSHKOSH

PRESENT: BILL WINGREN  
LARRY SMITH  
TOM ELLIS  
PAUL EISEN  
VICKI SCHORSE

ALSO PRESENT: JOHN MATZ – SHERIFF'S  
TODD CHRISTOPHERSON – SHERIFF'S  
BARB SPANBAUER – SHERIFF'S  
SUE ERTMER – COUNTY CLERK  
MARY ANNE MUELLER – CORPORATION COUNSEL  
TODD CHRISTIE – SHERIFF'S  
MIKE NORTON – COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISOR

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Bill Wingren called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and it was verified that the meeting was properly noticed.

**2. Consideration of Minutes of March 11, 2019 meeting**

A motion to approve the minutes from March 11, 2019 was made by Larry Smith, seconded by Tom Ellis. Carried 4-0.

**3. Public comments on agenda items**

None

**4. Communications shared by Committee Members**

9:02am - Vicki Schorse arrived to the meeting.

Paul Eisen brought forward the notice for bid on two projects within the jail division that were posted in the Oshkosh Northwestern in regarding needed repairs to the kitchen and possibly replacing some of the appliances and the second was for a boiler replacement. Paul Eisen also discussed his attendance at the Wisconsin Counties Association Judiciary and Public Safety Committee meeting in Portage, to which he attended on March 29<sup>th</sup>, where the Criminal Justice Coalition spoke in support of funding to help improve the Criminal Justice System. Paul Eisen also reviewed topics covered at the WCA Health and Human Services Steering Committee. Paul Eisen circulated the PowerPoint presentation from the Steering Committee meeting to the Judiciary members.

**5. Consideration (Vote): Remove Sec. 3.14 Domestic Partner Fees from the county's General Code (ordinance) since we can't issue them anymore – County Clerk – Sue Ertmer**

Sue Ertmer indicated in 2017 the law changed to allowing same sex marriages therefore the domestic partnership fees can no longer be collected and the ordinance should be removed from the General Code.

A motion to approve the removal of Sec. 3.14 Domestic Partner Fees from the General Code was made by Larry Smith, seconded by Tom Ellis. Motion carried 5-0.

#### **6. Discussion/Review: Jail inmate phone services**

Chairman Wingren asked Sheriff Matz to review this item as it has been in the news quite a bit lately. Sheriff Matz discussed that Paul Eisen had recently mentioned a newspaper article that was posted in the Post Crescent regarding inmate telephone calls. Sheriff Matz reviewed the Sheriff's Office fees with the committee members as being \$.21 per minute equaling out to \$3.15 per 15 minute phone call, which is considerably lower than other jails throughout Wisconsin. Sheriff Matz reviewed what the phone system is able to do and the functionality of it and also confirmed with Captain Todd Christie of the Corrections Division that as an agency the Sheriff's Office is following FCC guidelines and following a federal law for inmate phone calls and fees.

Mary Anne Mueller from Corporation Counsel pointed out that the contract had just been renewed in July of 2018 and was unanimously voted on by the county board, as well as the Judiciary Committee, before being renewed in 2018. The current contract is up for renewal again in October of 2021.

#### **7. Discussion of Naco – Medicaid inmates policy proposals**

Supervisor Mike Norton brought this topic up for discussion as the issue was featured in the Naco newspaper. Supervisor Norton wanted clarification on how the Sheriff's Office handles inmates who are currently under Medicaid. Sheriff Matz discussed that Medicaid benefits are terminated upon incarceration with two exemptions. One exemption is for pregnant female inmates and the other is for In-house 24 hr patients. Medicare and social security stay active on a 30 day timeline with the average jail stay being 17 days. Once the inmates are released, they are provided with information on who to contact to reinstate their benefits if they were terminated during incarceration.

According to Supervisor Norton, there is currently a Bipartisan Bill in congress to review the Medicaid policy for inmates who become incarcerated.

#### **8. Sheriff's Report**

- Variance report from 2018 end of year budget.  
Sheriff Matz discussed the reduction in revenue for the housing of prisoners. The State of Wisconsin is not following the same reimbursement fees on the housing of felony probation holds like in the past. Sheriff Matz has discussed this in great length with Secretary Carr from the DOC and the effect it has on law enforcement agencies.

Sheriff Matz discussed the 980 placement and stated there is another offender that is due to be released soon and the state is talking about placing that offender in the home with the other current offender being housed there. The county is still planning on prepping the location by the landfill for other future offender releases.

#### **9. Suggested items for next agenda**

#### **10. Next Meeting Date: Monday, May 13, 2019**

#### **11. Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:59am by Larry Smith, seconded by Tom Ellis. Carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kimberly Delcore  
Winnebago County Sheriff's Office