

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Douglas County Board of Supervisors**  
**Thursday, August 26, 2021, 4:00 p.m., Board Room, Second Floor, Government Center**  
**1316 North 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Superior, Wisconsin**

Meeting called to order by Chair Pomush.

**ROLL CALL:** Present – Samuel Pomush, Rosemary Lear, Peter Clark, Ron Leino. Others present – Carolyn Pierce, Ann Doucette, Tracy Ruppe, Sharon Dembroski, Judge Thimm, Michele Wick, Mark Fruehauf, Dave Sletten, Sheila Keup, Rebecca Lovejoy (arrived 12:30 p.m.), Jaime McMeekin, Jerry Moe, Tyler Edwards, Cheryl Westman, Committee Clerk.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Clark, second Lear, to approve the April 29, 2021, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**Updates and Reports:**

**Child Support:** Dembroski reported she just started in her new capacity as Director August 9<sup>th</sup>; short staffed currently. New investigator starting shortly and interviews scheduled soon for front desk person, then fully staffed.

**Circuit Court Branch I:** Thimm reported still having Zoom remote hearings; judicial assistant upgrade approved.

**Circuit Court Branch II:** Thimm reported still having Zoom remote hearings; judicial assistant upgrade approved.

**Clerk of Courts:** Wick reported currently down one person, with interviews occurring soon. SDC – State Debt Collection Agency (WI Dept of Revenue) collections up.

**Court Commissioner:** Thimm reported still utilizing Zoom remote hearings.

**District Attorney:** Fruehauf reported things going well; losing Jen Stank to Superior Police Department.

**Emergency Management:** Sletten reported personal protective equipment distribution ongoing-along with the UW-S vaccination clinic; grant work for current year and 2022; and capital project work.

**Communications Center:** Sletten reported difficult time recruiting for 911 center, very short staffed.

**Medical Examiner:** Keup reported she is new Medical Examiner replacing Darrell Witt, who took her former position as Chief Deputy. Autopsy numbers are way up from last year.

**Probate:** McMeekin reported office fully staffed and doing well.

**Sheriff- Patrol Division:** Moe reported fully staffed for first time in recent memory, busy summer.

**Sheriff – Jail Division:** Edwards reported 5 beds dedicated to probation and parole; new Tasers coming soon; second floor project in design phase; door systems project delayed due to trouble getting parts; third floor project starts in October; severely short staffed – looking at bulk postcard mailing recruitment campaign for jail and 911; received grant approval for fingerprint machine.

**ACTION ITEMS/REFERRALS: 2022 Requested Budgets:**

**Budget Proposals:**

**Child Support:** Personnel costs went down; indirect costs down, reducing revenue. Tax levy is the same.

**ACTION (REFERRAL):** Motion by Lear, second Leino, to approve Child Support budget as presented and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried

**Circuit Court Branch I:** Budget distributed. Personnel costs, health insurance, contractual services and IT allocation increases.

**ACTION (REFERRAL):** Motion by Lear, second Clark, to approve Circuit Court Branch I budget as presented and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

**Circuit Court Branch II:** Personnel costs and phone increases, and slight law library increase.

**ACTION (REFERRAL):** Motion by Lear, second Leino, to approve Circuit Court Branch II budget as presented and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

**Clerk of Courts:** Budget distributed. Personnel costs down, revenue increase, budget decrease.

**ACTION (REFERRAL):** Motion by Lear, second Clark, to approve Clerk of Courts budget as presented and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

**Court Commissioner:** Personnel costs, phone and IT allocation increases; revenue up slightly.

**ACTION (REFERRAL):** Motion by Lear, second Clark, to approve Court Commissioner budget as presented and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

**District Attorney:** Budget distributed. Personnel costs increase; revenue down slightly due to decreased reimbursement.

**ACTION (REFERRAL):** Motion by Lear, second Leino, to approve District Attorney budget as presented and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

**Emergency Management:** Personnel costs increase; contractual services decrease, capital outlay going down; increase revenue a bit; budget down by .13%.

**ACTION (REFERRAL):** Motion by Lear, second Clark, to approve Emergency Management budget as presented and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

**Communications Center:** Staying the same except for personnel costs increase. To review personnel costs due to numerous personnel leaving.

**ACTION (REFERRAL):** Motion by Lear, second Leino, to approve Communications Center budget as presented and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

**Medical Examiner:** Budget distributed. Personnel costs increase.

**ACTION (REFERRAL):** Motion by Lear, second Clark, to approve Medical Examiner budget as presented and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

**Probate:** Personnel costs and contractual services and revenue increases.

**ACTION (REFERRAL):** Motion by Lear, second Leino, to approve Probate budget as presented and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

**Sheriff – Patrol Division:** Budget distributed. Personnel costs increase; revenue staying the same; slightly increasing supplies.

**ACTION (REFERRAL):** Motion by Lear, second Clark, to approve Sheriff - Patrol Division budget as presented and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

**Sheriff – Jail Division:** Budget distributed. Personnel costs and pharmacy costs increase; and juvenile boarding costs going up drastically, increasing revenue. IT and building allocation raised slightly.

**ACTION (REFERRAL):** Motion by Leino, second Clark, to approve Sheriff - Jail Division budget as presented and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

**From County Board – Waushara County Resolutions:**

**Supporting Legislation Removing Requirement for Duplicate Copies of a Transcript for Application of a Search Warrant:** Douglas County does not utilize this method – no action taken.

**Supporting Legislation to Provide an Increase in Criminal and Ordinance Violation Surcharge:**

**ACTION (RESOLUTION):** Motion by Clark, second Leino, to approve resolution supporting legislation to provide an increase in criminal and ordinance violation surcharge and forward to County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

**From Sheriff- Patrol Division – Paper Cost Recovery Proposal:** Reviewed.

**ACTION (REFERRAL):** Motion by Lear, second Leino, to refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Clark, second Leino, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Submitted by,

Cheryl Westman, Committee Clerk