



Winnebago County

The Wave of the Future

**JUDICIARY AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024**

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wise at the Richard Meyer Conference Room at the Sheriff's Department at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Chairman Jim Wise; Supervisor Conley Hanson, Supervisor Bryan Stafford, and Supervisor Jim Ponzer

Also Present: Sheriff John Matz; Chief Deputy Todd Christopherson, Communications Captain Lara Vendola, Medical Examiner Cheryl Brehmer, Emergency Management Director Eric Rasmussen, Corporation Counsel Mary Anne Mueller, County Board Chairman Tom Egan, County Executive Assistant Ethan Hollenberger, Clerk Town of Omro Dana Woods, and County Clerk Julie Barthels.

On TEAMS - Bethany Gengler and Darin Rice

Excused: Supervisor Kate Hancock-Cooke

B. Approval of Minutes

1. November 4, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Motion by Supervisor Stafford, seconded by Supervisor Hanson to approve the November 4, 2024 Judiciary & Public Safety Committee minutes. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. (4-0)

C. Public Comments within the Jurisdiction of the Committee

Tom Egan, Town of Rushford Chairman spoke in support of the Emergency Medical Service Resolution asking for \$40,000 for a study to see how a county-wide ambulance service could benefit the whole county.

D. Communications Shared by Committee Members

No comments from Committee members.

E. Committee Chair's Report

No comments from Chairman Wise.

F. Business Items

Action may be taken on any business items.

1. Authorize \$28,000 from the National Opioid Abatement Settlement Fund for the Purposes of Contracting with Solutions Recovery for the Peer Response Team members.
Sheriff Matz provided information to the committee regarding the National Opioid Abatement Settlement Fund. He is asking for \$28,000 to cover seven weeks that they are in arrears for expenses for services provided. The rules of the grant will not allow the Sheriff's Department to backdate invoices for services that were charged.
Motion by Supervisor Stafford, seconded by Supervisor Hanson to approve. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. (4-0)

2. Authorize Contingency Fund Use of Up to \$40,000 for the Purpose of a Feasibility Study for County-wide EMS at the Request of Certain Towns
Motion by Supervisor Stafford, seconded by Supervisor Ponzer to authorize moving this forward to the Personnel & Finance Committee.
Ethan Hollenberger, County Executive Assistant, explained why this study is necessary.
Dana Woods, Clerk Town of Omro, explained how this would affect their township. The fee for service will go from \$8,500 to around \$79,000 for the first year.
Municipalities have looked into the option of outside sources other than the Oshkosh Emergency Medical Service. The municipalities affected are Town of Algoma, Town of Black Wolf, Town of Nekimi, Town of Omro, City of Omro, Town of Poygan, Town of Rushford, Town of Utica, Town of Winneconne and Village of Winneconne.
Mr. Hollenberger explained the requirements of the law to be able to implement this fee. The first requirement is a feasibility study. The County would have to vote to put out a request for proposal. Then there would be a vote for an implementation plan. The last step would be for the County Board to charge a tax for this service. During discussion, the committee asked for
additional information from the City of Oshkosh to justify the charges that they are raising and their annual reports showing their current expenses.
Motion by Supervisor Stafford, seconded by Supervisor Hanson to forward to the Personnel & Finance Committee. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. (4-0)

3. Authorize Winnebago County to Enter into Intergovernmental Agreements with Local Governments for the Purposes Coordinating Emergency Management and other Response Activities
Eric Rasmussen, Emergency Management Director, introduced his resolution for a contract with the City of Oshkosh to provide HAZMAT service to citizens of Winnebago County.
Motion by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Stafford to authorize Winnebago County to enter into Intergovernmental agreements with local governments for the purposes of coordinating Emergency Management and other response activities. CARRIED BY Voice Vote. 4-0

G. Presentations

1. Overview of 2023 Wisconsin Act 235 Relating to Privacy Protections for Judicial Officers by Corporation Counsel
Mary Anne Mueller, Corporation Counsel, gave a presentation regarding Act 235, Daniel's law. This law would give judicial officers and their immediate family the option to make "personal information" held by government agencies private. She noted who is considered a judicial officer and what personal information would be protected. The applicant must provide all information that they want to be protected. They need to affirmatively identify all the properties to be shielded in the application. The judges have to submit a written request for protection. It must be renewed every ten years. Corporation Counsel Mueller explained what the County's duties will be and defined what publicly available content is. There are many unresolved issues regarding this law. This act will take effect April 1, 2025. Corporation Counsel then took questions from the committee members.

2. Update from Medical Examiner Cheryl Brehmer
 - Overdoses
 - Suicides
 - Morgue Progress
 - Transportation Vans
Cheryl Brehmer, Medical Examiner, provided a report from her office
 - Overdoses - 20 confirmed overdoses this year; there are 3 pending cases.

- *Suicides - 26 suicides reported this year so far. There were a total of 20 last year. Ages differ, but most are younger.*
- *Autopsies - Normally, the medical examiner's office averages 8 autopsies a month. They had 17 autopsies in November.*
- *Morgue Progress - moving along. The HVAC is in, they are working on pulling cables in. Hope to be in the new office by the second week in February.* *The vans should be here by the end of January.*

Medical Examiner Brehmer then took questions from the committee members.

H. Next Meeting Date

*Monday, January 6, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. *Deadline for agenda items will be Monday, December 23, 2024. Please forward those requests to Chairman Jim Wise for approval. Thank you.*

The next meeting will be held on January 6, 2024 at the Sheriff's Department Richard Meyer room at 6:00 p.m.

I. Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Stafford, seconded by Supervisor Ponzer to adjourn the December 2, 2024 Judiciary and Public Safety Committee meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

The video portion of this meeting is available on the County website: <https://winnebago.cowi.portal.civicclerk.com>

*Respectfully Submitted by:
Julie A. Barthels
Winnebago County Clerk*