



Winnebago County

The Wave of the Future

**JUDICIARY AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2024**

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wise at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Jim Wise; Supervisor Bryan Stafford; Supervisor Conley Hanson; Supervisor Kate Hancock-Cooke; and Supervisor James Ponzer

ALSO, PRESENT: John Matz, Sheriff; Todd Christopherson, Chief Deputy; Mitchell Grube, Corrections, Jail, and GPS System; Nathan Struensee, Public Safety Application Administrator/GIS; Mary Anne Mueller, Corporation Counsel; Eric Sparr, District Attorney; Cheryl Brehmer, Medical Examiner; Mike Elder, Director of Facilities and Property Management; Supervisor Tim Paterson; 2 Citizens;

On TEAMS: Supervisor Tom Swan and Beth G.

B. Approval of Minutes

1. May 6, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Ponzer to approve the minutes from May 6, 2024. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

C. Public Comments within the Jurisdiction of the Committee

Supervisor Swan addressed the committee regarding compensation for commissions, boards, task force and consortiums. He would like to see this added to next month's Judiciary and Public Safety Committee's agenda. He feels there is discretion regarding the additional \$75.00 to be paid to the Chairpersons of the committees, which should have included commissions, boards, task force and consortiums.

D. Communications Shared by Committee Members

Supervisor Hancock-Cooke stated that one of her constituents spoke in favor of the grants that were passed at last County Board meeting regarding the STAR program.

E. Committee Chair's Report

Nothing to report.

F. Business Items

Action may be taken on any business items.

1. Update on the Morgue Project - Cheryl Brehmer, Medical Examiner
Cheryl Brehmer, Medical Examiner and Mike Elder, Facilities & Property Management Director, are working through the permit process with the Department of Natural Resources regarding wetlands and physical attributes of the building. The hope is to have the permit by June 15th for the evidence garage and the morgue. Miron is ready to start construction. Completion of the project will be pushed back at least 2 months, close to the end of the year. There are no additional costs estimated at this time. The County has been working very well with Miron Construction. For the morgue, there will be continued costs for travel and other expenses, but these were budgeted for in the 2024 budget.

2. Update on the 980 Housing Project & Evidence Garage - Mike Elder, Director of Facilities and Property Management
Mike Elder, Director of Facilities and Property Management, stated that the 980 houses are complete. Some landscaping still needs to be done, and furniture needs to be ordered. The furniture will wait until there is someone to fill the houses. There is one possible inmate that could be released soon. There are six more on the list to be released. Currently, there is one inmate in the 980 trailer.
3. Authorizing Winnebago County to Enter into the Settlement Agreement with The Kroger Co., Agree to the Terms of the Participation Agreement, and Authorize Execution of the Participation Agreement
Mary Anne Mueller, Corporation Counsel, stated that late Wednesday afternoon, she received an e-mail from Norris & Dickinson, the National Council regarding the opioid settlement with the Kroger grocery store chain. The National Council is asking for all counties to participate in this settlement. There is a very short time frame for everything to fall into place. The deadline is August 12, 2024. The committee needs to approve this agreement releasing Kroger from all other settlements pertaining to opioid settlements. This will be forwarded on to the County Board. Motion by Supervisor Stafford to approve this resolution authorizing Winnebago County to enter into a settlement agreement with Kroger Company, and agree to the terms of the participation agreement, seconded by Supervisor Hanson. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

G. Presentations

1. Report from the Sheriff's Department
John Matz, Winnebago County Sheriff, gave his presentation. There was a budget kick-off meeting held with the Finance Department. The County will be moving forward with priority-based budgeting. There will be a 4% increase in wages, 2% for scheduled wage adjustments and 2% for merit pay increases. Fringe benefits are still to be determined. Key dates for the budgeting process: August 1, 2024, net construction figures will be released; by September 7, 2024, the final Executive budget should be complete. After the budget is complete, meetings will be held for three weeks. The Chairs of the Committees will be invited to attend. Sheriff Matz noted that there would be 3 table of organization adjustments for his department with no fiscal impacts.
As of this meeting, they have 238 inmates in the jail, 40 males and 8 females are in the STAR program. Since the start of the STAR program, they have served 120 males and 55 females. Lt. Mack did a presentation regarding Winnebago County's STAR program at a conference in Wisconsin Dells. The presentation was very successful and received great comments. They met with Representative Nate Gustafson about legislative funding for the STAR program. They met with University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh faculty to discuss the STAR program to provide a database showing how effective or ineffective it is. The Sheriff's Department is pursuing funding sources for 2025. The COSSUP grant is a federal grant of \$1.3 million for three years. Because this is a federal grant, it is harder to obtain. There is a State of Wisconsin grant that they are applying for also. Upcoming Special Events: EAA - July 22 - 28, 2024. The Experimental Aircraft Association is billed directly, and they reimburse the County for all associated costs. Winnebago County Fair - July 31 - August 4, 2024. The Fair reimburses the county for all associated costs. A new event this year is Crossroads - August 8 - 10, 2024. The Sheriff's Department will provide coverage from August 7th - 11th. All expenses will be covered by the vendor. Sheriff Matz then took questions from the committee.
2. Update from District Attorney's Office - District Attorney Eric Sparr
Eric Sparr, Winnebago County District Attorney, reported on the most recent cases that are either going to trial or cases that have completed the trial phase and are awaiting sentencing. Non-case related items: The District Attorney's office has two Investigator positions. They are both retiring, they have hired a part-time one. They have posted a supervisor position labeled as a special investigator. The 12th lawyer position has been filled. One lawyer will be retiring

within the next year.

Drug Court Graduation was held on May 23, 2024. He would like to see this published as a public event to show how successful the Drug Court program can be. This program has been around for almost twenty years.

The District Attorney's office continues to do training for new police officers throughout the county.

Attorney Sparr then took questions from the committee.

H. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date is scheduled for Monday, July 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

I. Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Hancock-Cooke, seconded by Supervisor Ponzer to adjourn. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.