APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
April 9, 2024 – 2:30 p.m.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF PIERCE

Sheriff's Office Conference Room
555 Overlook Dr., ELLSWORTH, WI

2024 – 04

1) Meeting Convened

The Pierce County Law Enforcement Committee met in the Sheriff's Conference Room of the Pierce County Law Enforcement Facility, Ellsworth, WI. Chairman J. Aubart called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

1a) Those Present

A quorum was established acknowledging 4 members present; 1 absent/excused.

Members present:		Absent/Excused:	
Jon Aubart	District #3	Ben Plunkett	District #5
Scott Bjork	District #7		
Dale Auckland	District #12		
Mel Pittman	District #17		

Also present: Brad Lawrence-Corp Counsel, Jason Matthys-Admirative Coordinator, Jamie Feuerhelm- County Clerk, Chad Koranda-Sheriff, Christine McPherson-EM Director, John Worsing-Medical Examiner, Wade Strain-Lt. Investigations, Andy Thoms-Lt. Patrol, Joe McDaniel-Facilities Manager, Steve Pott-PSC Alliance, Brianna & Brady Gartner, Cathy & Wayne Warnke, Luke & Courtney Schladweiler, Nick Jacobsen.

1b) Public Comment

None.

2) Agenda Adopted

Motion by D. Auckland/S. Bjork to address item #5 before item #4 & adopt agenda as amended; motion carried unanimously.

3) Approve Minutes

Motion by M. Pittman/S. Bjork to approve minutes of the Mar. 12th & 26th, 2024 meeting as presented; motion carried unanimously.

5) Discuss/take action to recognize the promotions of Jail Lt. Donny Knutson; Patrol Sgts. Nick Jacobsen, Rick Huneke, Luke Schladweiler; Jail Sgts. Cathy Warnke, Brianna Gartner, Bryce Frion, Jocelyn Austin.

Sheriff C. Koranda addressed the Committee to announce & recognize staff members & their recent accomplishments. First introduced for promotion to Jail Sgt. was Brianna Gartner who introduced husband Brady. Next, Cathy Warnke who introduced husband Wayne. For promotion to Patrol Sgt was Luke Schladweiler who introduced wife Courtney, & Nick Jacobsen. Sheriff commended all those being promoted including those who could not be present, Lt. Donny Knutson, Rick Huneke, Bryce Frion, & Jocelyn Austin. He also thanked family members present for their support. Committee applauded their efforts. No action taken.

4) Discuss/take action to authorize the purchase of an armored equipment upgrade of a Sheriff's Office Tactical Response Vehicle in an amount not to exceed $30,000 and to authorize

LATCF funds for the unbudgeted expenditure

C. Koranda explained that the department's one armored vehicle needs to be equipped with a turret to make it safer & more useful. J. Matthys indicated that LATCF funds were available to pay for the upgrade & will be presented to the Finance & Personnel Committee as well as County Board via resolution. Lt. A. Thoms explained that two people were being sent to St. Cloud for training at same location as upgrade will be done. The plan is for that staff to drive the vehicle there, do their training, & then bring vehicle back when upgrade completed. Motion by M. Pittman/D. Auckland to approve upgrade to Tactical Response Vehicle & authorize resolution to be drafted to present to the Finance & Personnel Committee & County Board, requesting that they adopt such a resolution on a first reading; motion carried unanimously.

6) Discuss Elmwood tower

C. McPherson reported that inspection of the tower was done & damage was found. S. Pott of PSC Alliance reviewed the inspection report & explained some of the concerns. He indicated that the recommendation from the report is to replace the tower at some point. He also explained the different classes or grades of communication towers & showed costs of such for St. Croix & Oneida counties to build such towers. Committee discussed what next steps could be taken. J. Matthys indicated that further discussions with parties involved or other potential partners should be pursued & additional information gathered to present to the Committee before moving forward. No action taken.

7) Emergency Management Report

C. McPherson reported that the 911 upgrade was completed & the cutover to the new NextGen was completed on March 27th. She added that they were also involved in helping Verizon with recent complications with their network in River Falls. Also, that upcoming Prairie Island drills are still moving forward & set to take place in May & June. Other EM grant projects on schedule. Unbudgeted $10,000 grant awarded for generator switch for highway refueling. No action taken.

8) Sheriff's Report

C. Koranda reported that the Sheriff's Office a grant & they are analyzing where & how to best use those funds. He added that the current budget looks to be in good standing & offered to share those budget numbers with any Committee members interested in having more details. No action taken.

9) Medical Examiner's Report & Statistics

ME J. Worsing reported that the Office is still extremely busy & April looks to be much the same. Site visits & cremation requests are exponentially higher than previous years. Also, that new state laws put into place have increased the workload even further with additional reporting now required. No action taken.

10) Future Agenda Items

Election of officers/reorganization, tower updates.

11) Next Meeting Date

Next regular meeting scheduled for second Tuesday, May 14th, at 2:30 p.m., in County Board Room, Courthouse.

12) Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 3:48 p.m. by M. Pittman/S. Bjork; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by: Jamie Feuerhelm, County Clerk

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
November 12, 2024 – 2:30 p.m.

STATE OF WISCONSIN	}	**EOC Room – Law Enforcement Facility**	
COUNTY OF PIERCE		**555 Overlook Dr., ELLSWORTH, WI**	**2024 – 08**

1) Meeting Convened

The Pierce County Law Enforcement Committee met in the County Board Room of the Pierce County Courthouse, Ellsworth, WI. Chairman J. Aubart called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

1a) Those Present

A quorum was established acknowledging 5 members present.

Members present:		Absent/Excused:	
Jon Aubart	District #3	Ruth Wood	District #4
Scott Bjork	District #7	Dale Auckland	District #12
Mel Pittman	District #17 (phone)		

Also present: Greg Weaver-Data Analyst, Jason Matthys-AC, Jamie Feuerhelm- County Clerk, Christine McPherson-Emergency Management Director, Chad Koranda-Sheriff, John Worsing-ME.

1b) Public Comment

None.

2) Agenda Adopted

Motion by S. Bjork/M. Pittman to adopt agenda as presented; motion carried unanimously.

3) Approve Minutes

Motion by S. Bjork/M. Pittman to approve minutes of the Aug. 13th, 2024 meeting as presented; motion carried unanimously.

4) Discuss/take action to request 2024 budget amendment for EM/IS EPCRA Grant

C. McPherson explained that Pierce County applied for a grant to purchase equipment for improving the County's preparedness to respond to a hazardous materials emergency within the County. The total cost of the equipment is $1,923 & the grant awarded was $1,504.86; thus, a budget amendment is needed to allow for receipt & expenditure of the grant. Motion by S. Bjork/M. Pittman to approve 2024 Budget amendment to allow for EM/IS EPCRA grant; motion carried unanimously.

5) Discuss/take action to request 2025 budget amendment for PSAP Grant

C. McPherson explained that Pierce County applied for a grant to complete projects that have been previously identified & to ensure resilient emergency communications services for County residents & first responders. A grant in the amount of $157,067 was awarded & a budget amendment is needed to allow for receipt & expenditure of the grant. Motion by S. Bjork/M. Pittman to approve 2025 Budget amendment to allow for PSAP grant; motion carried unanimously.

6) Discuss/take action to request 2025 budget amendment for new account for HMEP Grant

C. McPherson explained that Pierce County applied for & was awarded the HMEP Core Hazmat Training grant to support the County's seven municipal fire departments, county & municipal departments to receive awareness, operations training, hazmat refresher, hazmat technical decontamination refresher, & possibly confined space training & radiological decontamination. The grant in the amount of $8,301 will reimburse County Emergency Management 100% of all costs billed by CVTC or Northwoods. Motion by S. Bjork/M. Pittman to approve 2025 Budget amendment for new account for HMEP grant; motion carried unanimously.

7) *Discuss replacing 911 recording system*
C. McPherson explained that the County has used Equature for 911 & related calls/radio recording since 2018. The current server is end of life & the County could choose to renew the contract & get new upgrades with a 5-year or 10-year option, or solicit Requests For Proposals on a new system. Committee directed McPherson to pursue a 10-year option allowing for multiple upgrades. No action taken.

8) *Emergency Management Report*
C. McPherson reported that Xcel received approval from FEMA to discontinue using the warning sirens by the end of 2024. No action taken.

9) *Discuss/take action to declare excess equipment for Sheriff's Office*
C. Koranda explained that the department has ten old tasers with supporting equipment that the Office no longer uses or needs. He added that he has been contacted by another agency that was interested in purchasing them. He requested the Committee declare them excess equipment so the Office could eventually sell the items. Motion by S. Bjork/M. Pittman to declare the tasers & supporting equipment as excess equipment for the Sheriff's Office & forward to the Finance & Personnel Committee requesting they do the same; motion carried unanimously.

10) *Sheriff's report & update*
C. Koranda explained the issues that were brought up by a resident at a recent County Board meeting. He added that the jail is currently housing additional inmates from another county. No action taken.

11) *Medical Examiner's Report & Statistics*
J. Worsing reported that the suicide rate continues to rise for the County, scene investigations increased 17 % & cremations 2%. No action taken.

12) *Future Agenda Items*
- None presented.

13) *Next Meeting Date*
Next regular meeting scheduled for second Tuesday, Dec. 10th, at 2:30 p.m., in County Board Room, Courthouse.

14) *Adjourn*
Motion to adjourn at 3:07 p.m. by S. Bjork/M. Pittman; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by: Jamie Feuerhelm, County Clerk

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE
LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
May 14, 2024 – 2:30 p.m.

STATE OF WISCONSIN **COUNTY OF PIERCE**	}	**Sheriff's Office Conference Room** **555 Overlook Dr., ELLSWORTH, WI**	**2024 – 05**

1) *Meeting Convened*
The Pierce County Law Enforcement Committee met in the Sheriff's Conference Room of the Pierce County Law Enforcement Facility, Ellsworth, WI. Supervisor J. Aubart called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.

1a) *Those Present*
A quorum was established acknowledging 5 members present.

Members present: Absent/Excused:

Jon Aubart	District #3
Ruth Wood	District #4
Scott Bjork	District #7
Dale Auckland	District #12
Mel Pittman	District #17

Also present: Jason Matthys-Admirative Coordinator, Jamie Feuerhelm- County Clerk, Chad Koranda-Sheriff, Christine McPherson-EM Director, John Worsing-Medical Examiner, Collin Gilles-Chief Deputy Sheriff, Andy Thoms-Lt. Patrol.

1b) *Public Comment*
None.

1c) *Election of Chairman Pro-Tem*
Nominations called for by Supervisor J. Aubart. D. Auckland nominated S. Bjork. Supervisor J. Aubart called for other nominations; none given. Motion by D. Auckland/M. Pittman to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for S. Bjork; motion carried unanimously. Supervisor S. Bjork elected Chairman Pro-tem and presided over election of Chairman.

1d) *Election of Chairman*
Chairman Pro-tem S. Bjork called for nominations of Chairman. D. Auckland nominated Supervisor J. Aubart. Chairman Pro-tem S. Bjork called for other nominations; none given. Motion by RJ. Wood/D. Auckland to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for J. Aubart; motion carried unanimously. Supervisor J. Aubart elected Chairman, who then presided over the remainder of the meeting.

1e) *Election of Vice Chairman*
Chairman J. Aubart called for nominations of Vice Chairman. D. Auckland nominated Supervisor S. Bjork. Chairman J. Aubart called for other nominations; none given. Motion by M. Pittman/R. Wood to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for S. Bjork; motion carried unanimously. Supervisor S. Bjork elected Vice Chairman.

2) *Agenda Adopted*
Motion by D. Auckland/M. Pittman to adopt agenda as presented; motion carried unanimously.

3) *Approve Minutes*
Motion by S. Bjork/D. Auckland to approve minutes of the April 9th, 2022 meeting as presented; motion carried with 4 in favor & 1 abstained (R. Wood).

4) *Discuss/take action on proposed Ordinance 24-xx Amend Chapter 142 Intoxicating Liquor & Fermented Malt Beverages, Article III Alcohol Offenses Involving Underage Persons, Section 142-15 of the Pierce County Code*
A. Thoms explained that some of the language in current code is vague & problematic. Chairman J. Aubart suggested that the County consider revising the County Code to align with Wisconsin Statues §125.07 to help clear some of the ambiguity. This would also allow the County Code to stay current with the Statute should future amendments be made. Staff directed to work with District Attorney & Corp Counsel to draft ordinance based on Wisconsin Statues §125.07 to present to Finance & Personnel Committee. No action taken.

5) *Emergency Management Report*
C. McPherson reported that there was an EOC drill today that raised some issues with the State of Minnesota but Pierce County's operation went well. There will be another exercise in June. The Dept. is seeking grant funds to assist in upgrading equipment for the command vehicle. Also seeking radio grant for subscriber equipment. Closing out 2023 grant for 911 equipment. Staff levels are down one person & also looking to add the two additional positions granted previously beginning in July. She added that the current wage scale for dispatchers continues to be a challenge because it is significantly lower than surrounding agencies. J. Matthys added with regard to radio towers that the Elmwood tower was recommended to be replaced & staff are looking into the possibility of replacing & relocating the Ellsworth tower as an option to a future project as well, considering the age of the tower & ice shedding that occurs causing damage to the roof of the Annex building. No action taken.

6) *Medical Examiner's Report & Statistics*
ME J. Worsing reported that the Office is still extremely busy. Site visits & cremation requests continue to increase to the degree of approx. 95% of deaths requesting cremation. He added that there is currently no requirement to report what is done with the ashes once delivered to the respective families. No action taken.

7) *Discuss/take action to accept Wisconsin DOJ Drug Trafficking grant funds & amend 2024 Sheriff's Office budget*
C. Koranda explained that the Sheriff's Office received a Wisconsin DOJ Drug Trafficking Grant in the amount of $42,390. The request is to accept the funds & amend the 2024 budget to accommodate the additional revenue & expend the funds. Motion by M. Pittman/D. Auckland to accept the 2024 Wisconsin DOH Drug Trafficking Grant in the amount of $42,390 & amend the 2024 Sheriff's Office budget accordingly, & to approve the expenditure of funds on approved items; motion carried unanimously.

8) *Sheriff's Report*
C. Koranda reported that maintaining staffing levels continues to be a challenge. The Office is still operating within the current budget limitations. He also publicly recognized Deputy Cale Huppert & DNR Warden Joe McMahon for heroically saving an individual in the Town of Martell who had become trapped under a fallen shed. They were able to rescue & stabilize the individual until EMS arrived. The individual is now recuperating from the incident. No action taken.

9) *Future Agenda Items*
Department reports.

10) *Next Meeting Date*
Next regular meeting scheduled for second Tuesday, June 11th, at 2:30 p.m., in County Board Room, Courthouse.