



## Justice and Public Safety Committee

Friday, January 27, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.  
Room 100– Otsego County Building  
225 West Main Gaylord, MI 49735

### MINUTES

#### CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM

Members Present: Doug Johnson, John Burt, Erma Backenstose, Paul Liss, Undersheriff Nowicki, Judge Morse, Mike Thompson, Sara Schmidt

Others Present: Rachel Frisch

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Liss to approve the minutes from the October 7, 2011 Justice and Public Safety Committee minutes. Second by Judge Morse. Motion passed unanimously.

#### OLD BUSINESS

None

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### A. Animal Control Call-Out Policy

Mr. Burt distributed the proposed policy to the Committee. Mr. Thompson indicated that this will be helpful, as the 911 dispatchers and the police agencies need to know the call-out procedures for the Animal Control department. Mr. Burt explained that the policy reflects the procedures the Animal Control department already follows.

Motion by Mr. Liss to recommend to the full board approving the Animal Control Call Out Policy. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Undersheriff Nowicki. Motion passed unanimously.

##### B. Department Updates

911/Emergency Management – Mr. Thompson reported that the FCC is requiring all agencies that use radios to narrow the bandwidth they use for communications. We already have the upgraded equipment that will be required, so there will not be much that still needs to be purchased. The deadline for the narrow-banding is 12/31/2012. Mr. Thompson plans to have ours done in September or October. He will have the cost estimated associated with this project in May.

Undersheriff – Mr. Nowicki reported that it has been a busy time with the winter weather and accidents. The redistricting of state police officers has resulted in a need for increased city/county coverage. The Sheriff extended the work shift hours to cover through 3:00 a.m. on most nights. He also reported that we received another body armor grant through the US Department of Justice. It is a 50/50 match. He estimates the county's portion to be approximately \$1,500. Deputy Sarah Holzschu has been promoted to Sergeant. The new patrol car – a Dodge Charger – is getting its stripes put on and will be ready soon.

Finance – Ms. Frisch reported that the 2011 W-2s have been mailed and she is in the process of wrapping up 2011.

Administration – Mr. Burt noted that the Animal Control building is up and running now. He plans to cut the utilities soon at the old building. We will tear down the old building, per the City's request, in the Spring. He is in the process of writing a grant to purchase laptops for the Sheriff's patrol cars.

Courts – Judge Morse reported that the polycom system has been installed, which allows us to do remote arraignments to cut down on the transportation of inmates. The system was state funded. The court system passed their LEIN audit. We did not get the federal drug court grant, due to lack of statistical information regarding measuring the "success" of the program. Judge Morse is meeting with a grant writer to learn how to gather such information.

Prosecutor – Ms. Schmidt filled in for Mr. Legel at the meeting, stating that Mr. Legel is stepping down from his position. His last day will be 3/31/12. The Circuit Court Judges will appoint a replacement.

Commissioner – Ms. Backenstose stated that she has visited the new animal shelter and is impressed with it.

Commissioner – Mr. Liss reported that Governor Snyder has approved two new state trooper schools, as the number of state police troopers has declined. Community Mental Health may join forces with Northern Michigan Substance Abuse Services, to combine into one entity. The idea is being discussed.

Commissioner – Mr. Johnson congratulated Mr. Nowicki for filing his paperwork to run for Sheriff in the upcoming election.

Mr. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:44 AM.