



Justice and Public Safety Committee

Thursday July 28, 2011 – 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, Bruce Brown, Kyle Legel, Sheriff McBride, Undersheriff Nowicki, Mike Thompson, Melissa FitzGerald

Others Present: Rachel Frisch

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Liss to approve the minutes from the May 6, 2011 Justice and Public Safety Committee minutes. Second by Mr. Legel. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Animal Control Name Request

Mr. Burt reported that Mr. Sumerix indicated at the 7/26/11 Board of Commissioners meeting that he had several requests to name the new animal shelter building in honor of the late Don Tober, who had been very active in the community with respect to animal control operations. Mr. Burt suggested that the name of the new shelter be the 'Otsego County Animal Shelter' with it noted on the sign that it's dedicated to Don Tober.

Motion by Mr. Liss to recommend to the full board to naming the new animal shelter the "Otsego County Animal Shelter, dedicated to Don Tober." Second by Ms. Backenstose. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Hemp Support Request

Mr. Burt distributed a resolution request regarding hemp. The resolution has been adopted by NEMCOG.

Motion by Sheriff McBride to table this issue for further study. Second by Mr. Legel. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Department Updates

Sheriff – reported that they are short staffed right now but are holding their own.

Undersheriff – applied for COPS FAST grant, awaiting a reply. Three more bulletproof vests have been ordered under the bulletproof vest grant.

911/Emergency Management – Mr. Thompson reported that 911 was struck by lightning last week. The dispatchers are still able to function but there was significant damage to equipment. He is working with MMRMA to get insurance reimbursement. Two more generators are being purchased through the Homeland Security Grant for Otsego County, along with computer equipment for Otsego County's administration, as allowed through the grant for taking on the role of grant fiduciary for the previous grant cycle. For the next grant cycle, the federal government has cut the amount in half, to approximately \$500,000. The region 7 counties will divide the monies.

Prosecuting Attorney – Mr. Legel reported that the scanning project in his office is working well and has helped to maximize efficiency.

Administration – Mr. Burt had nothing further to report.

Mr. Liss had nothing further to report.

Ms. Backenstose asked Mr. Thompson about an upcoming training held in Emmet County. Mr. Thompson reported that the training will explain the role of public officials during an emergency situation. It will provide information on how to proceed if there is a disaster. The more people who can attend, the better.

Animal Control – Ms. FitzGerald reported that the new animal shelter is coming along well.

Finance – Ms. Frisch reported that it is now budget season.

Mr. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:30 AM.