



Justice & Public Safety Committee

Tuesday, February 17, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.
Room 212 – Otsego County Building
Gaylord, MI 49735

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

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

Roll call – Present: Doug Johnson, Paul Liss, Erma Backenstose, John Burt

Excused – Mike Hyde

Others present: Sheriff McBride, Rudi Edel, Angel Oppermann, Rachel Frisch

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Liss to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2009 Justice & Public Safety Committee meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Department Updates

Courts

Mr. Edel informed the Committee that the Recovery Court is working well. At this time, 25 people are in the program. Approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of these individuals would be in the jail right now if they hadn't been placed in the recovery program which would increase the jail population to approximately 55 inmates.

Mr. Edel presented a letter announcing his retirement, scheduled for June 30, 2009.

Sheriff

Sheriff McBride informed the Committee that the new patrol Expedition is now in place, and that interviews are being held today for the open deputy position (an opening was created when Mike Anthony retired on 12/31/08).

Sheriff McBride also reported that the work camp is going well, and there is an interview scheduled on Friday for the full time work camp supervisor position.

Sheriff McBride explained that there was an incident on February 1, 2009 where a patrol car was rear-ended on I-75 by a careless driver. The patrol car incurred minor damage and the deputy in the car was not injured.

Animal Control

Ms. Oppermann informed the Committee that the boiler at the shelter has broken down beyond repair, and a new one is needed.

Ms. Oppermann also explained that the 2008 numbers (dogs and cats) looked consistent with 2007, despite expectations that there would be an increase due to the number of foreclosures in the area.

B. Meeting Schedule

Mr. Liss mentioned that sometimes there is not a lot to discuss at the Justice & Public Safety Committee meetings and proposed meeting every other month. We could meet more frequently as needed, but have the regular meetings every other month.

The Committee concurred, and Mr. Johnson set the next meeting for Tuesday, April 21st at 10:00 AM in Room 100.

Mr. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:35 AM.