

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2022**

**4:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairman Commissioner Tim Barnes, Vice-Chairman Commissioner Wayne Ridge, Commissioner Jane Whitacre, Commissioner Mark Mudry, Commissioner Brian Droscha, and Commissioner Darius Reynnet

**ABSENT:**

Commissioner Brandon Haskell

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Chairman Jeremy Whittum, Controller John Fuentes, Sheriff Tom Reich, Undersheriff Jeff Cook, Captain Chris Kuhlman, Prosecuting Attorney Doug Lloyd, Canine Advocate Handler Brian Seratt and Canine Advocate Reagan, Dispatch Director Kelly Cunningham, Emergency Services Manager Ryan Wilkinson, Community Corrections Director Melanie Achenbach, Mike Atayan, and Jerri Nesbitt

The April 7, 2022, regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Barnes.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all, led by Commissioner Barnes.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS AND CHANGES**

There were no additions or changes to the agenda. Vice-Chairman Ridge moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Whitacre seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Reynnet moved to approve the Minutes of the March 3, 2022 Public Safety Committee Meeting. Commissioner Whitacre seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE UPDATE**

Sheriff Reich highlighted the major incidents in March, 2022. Sheriff Reich provided an update on efforts to identify and select a Mobile Command Vehicle.

Committee Chairman Commissioner Barnes expressed his appreciation to members of the Sheriff's Office in the apprehension of a suspect in a robbery case.

#### MONTHLY REPORTS

Controller Fuentes reviewed the reimbursement report received through February. Revenues are in line with budgeted projections through March 2022. Jail census numbers averaged under 50 percent for the month of March. WRAP numbers remain consistent with budgetary projections, and a slight increase was noted in MDOC numbers for a portion of the month. There were no unusual incidents to report from court security.

#### PROSECUTING ATTORNEY UPDATE – CANINE ADVOCATE

Prosecuting Attorney Lloyd addressed the committee, along with Canine Advocate Reagan and Handler Brian Seratt. Canine Reagan came to the Eaton County Prosecutor's Office 9 years ago from the Leader Dogs for the Blind organization and provides comfort and emotional support to victims during case investigation and during court proceedings. Canine Reagan has assisted about 20 clients per month for the last 9 years. Reagan will be transitioning to "emeritus" status and not be assigned new cases, while continuing to provide advocacy and support to current assignments. It was reported that a new Canine Advocate Stryder, a Golden Retriever, has been obtained and will be introduced at the next Board of Commissioners Meeting. Prosecuting Attorney Lloyd expressed his appreciation for the continued support of the Canine Advocate program. Discussion held.

#### SPECIALITY COURT GRANT RESOLUTIONS

The following grant renewal applications were presented for consideration:

- Community Corrections Act 1988, P.A. 511 Grant Application
- Michigan Drug Court Grant Program (MDCGP) – Adult Circuit Drug Court Application
- Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) – Adult Circuit Drug Court Application
- Michigan Drug Court Grant Program (MDCGP) – District Hybrid Court Application
- Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program – (SSSPP) Application
- Michigan Drug Court Grant Program (MDCGP) – Felony Sobriety Court Application
- Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) – Felony Sobriety Court Application
- Michigan Veterans Treatment Court – Grant Program (MVTCGP) Application

Community Corrections Director Melanie Achenbach provided a brief overview of each of the grant-funded programs, noting that the applications represent requests for continuation funding for existing programs.

Commissioner Droscha made a motion to recommend approval of the grant application renewal resolutions, as presented, to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Whitacre seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### CENTRAL DISPATCH UPDATE

Central Dispatch Director Cunningham reported that preventative maintenance on all radios is on track to be completed the end of April. Two Telecommunicators have been hired, one was rehired who had previously resigned, and one is in the hiring process. Radio Technician John Imeson is retiring effective April 21, 2022.

#### SURCHARGE RECOMMENDATION

It was reported that changes to the voter approved surcharge must be approved by May 15 annually. It has been recommended that the current surcharge rate of \$1.65/month be maintained. Discussion held. Commissioner Droscha made a motion to maintain the current 9-1-1 surcharge rate of \$1.65/month. Commissioner Reynnet seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### EMERGENCY SERVICES UPDATE

Emergency Management Coordinator Ryan Wilkinson reported that the Alert and Warning System (iPAWS) MOU was approved. Competitive School Safety Grant Program Applications were accepted with five Eaton County schools applying. Emergency Services will be hosting a 2-day Procurement Grant Training.

It was reported that three project proposals have been received and recommended by the Homeland Security Local Planning Committee; the Purchase of Gun Shot Box Training Aids; High Risk Unified Command Training; and registrations for the North American Active Assailant Conference.

Commissioner Reynnet made a motion to support recommendation of the Local Planning Committee proposals. Commissioner Droscha seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Droscha inquired about the status of the emergency alert siren at Crandall Lake Park in Eaton Township. Central Dispatch Director Cunningham reported that the electricity was being connected to complete the installation.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Board Chairman Commissioner Whittum complimented Magistrate Ficklin on his coverage of court proceedings when the Judges were unavailable.

#### LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Atayan, owner of Davis Auto Mart, resident of 7147 Steeple Chase Way, Lansing, addressed the committee with concerns over non-preference wrecker assignments.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Commissioner Barnes adjourned the meeting at 4:51 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be held May 5, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room in the Eaton County Courthouse located at 1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte MI.



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Commissioner Tim Barnes  
Chairperson, Public Safety Committee