

**MINUTES OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 15, 2018**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Ted Cushing, Bob Metropulos, Billy Fried, Mitch Ives, Chairman Mike Timmons

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Kathleen Belliveau (Branch I/FCC), Denise Briggs (District Attorney), Brian Desmond (Corporation Counsel), Brenda Behrle (Clerk of Courts), Jen Allen (Branch II), Larry Mathein and Crystal Schaub (Medical Examiner's Office), Ken Kortenhof and Jay Sommers (Emergency Management), Sheriff Grady Hartman

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Timmons called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. at the Oneida County Courthouse, Committee Room #2, stated the meeting notice had been posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law and noted accommodations would be made for handicap accessibility.

APPROVE AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the Agenda (Cushing/Metropulos, PASSED).

APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the January 18, 2018, Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes (Cushing/Fried, PASSED).

SCHEDULE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE(S)

The next meeting was scheduled for March 8, 2018.

BILLS, VOUCHERS AND LINE ITEM TRANSFERS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENTS

MOTION: To approve bills, vouchers, and line item transfers for Public Safety Departments (Exhibit 1) (Fried/Cushing, PASSED).

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Ambulance Service Fee Resolution

Kortenhof presented a resolution to adjust ambulance service rates. Kortenhof recommended that a service charge of \$150.00 be established and the ambulance intercept rate be changed from \$150.00 to \$300.00 per emergency call charged to the ambulance services requesting the intercept (Exhibit 2). There was discussion on what constituted a service charge, what an intercept was, the amount of intercepts last year, the amount of revenue that will be produced from this change, who would be paying these fees, and the thought process behind the service charge.

Kortenhof stated he constantly monitors the fees and in 2019 will be looking into raising the ambulance fees.

MOTION: To accept and pass the Resolution to Adjust Ambulance Service Rates as presented and forward to the County Board for their consideration (Cushing/Metropulos, PASSED).

There was further discussion on the difference between calls – accident vs. lift assist, time consumed by calls, and charges.

Establish Hazardous Materials Carryover Account

Kortenhof reported that in late 2017 work started on repairs to a HazMat vehicle and that work was not completed at budget close time. Kortenhof is requesting to carry over money in 52530.531901 (Other Supplies & Expenses) to continue this work. There was discussion on what committee this should go to, if Finance had to be involved, where the revenue came from, why the money should be carried over.

MOTION: To establish a Hazardous Materials Carryover Account to complete work on the HazMat Vehicle (Cushing/Metropulos, PASSED).

Corrections Officer Vacancy Review

Sheriff Hartman reported that a corrections officer has given his notice because he has been hired as an officer at the Rhinelander Police Department. Sheriff Hartman would like to backfill this position and stated this was the first time he was asking for the waiver of the eight-week period. Sheriff Hartman reported it was busy in the jail and he did not want to wait to get someone hired. There was discussion on the number of inmates in the jail at this time.

MOTION: To approve and forward to LRES Committee for their approval, the hiring of a new corrections officer and waiver of the eight-week waiting period (Timmons/Cushing, PASSED).

Fee Schedule

Sheriff Hartman stated he would like to make one minor change to the fee schedule. Sheriff Hartman would like to add in a fee of \$45.00 for a legal blood draw. Sheriff Hartman reported that he has been working with the Clerk of Courts Office on this. Sheriff Hartman explained that when a blood draw is performed on a drunk driver, the sheriff's office asks for reimbursement, the DA asks the judge to order a fine for that charge, then it eventually may be paid back to the Sheriff's Office. This is hard to track and will be much easier for all involved if it is just a flat fee like a booking fee.

MOTION: To approve the update to the current fee schedule to include a fee for a Legal Blood draw (Metropulos/Cushing, PASSED).

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

2017 Budget Closeout

Brenda Behrle reported on line item transfers, typical expense, postage, training, did not overdraw jury fee, etc. (Exhibit 3).

MOTION: No motion needed, this was brought forward for approval in Line Item #5.

MEDICAL EXAMINER

Status of Vilas County Discussions

ME Larry Mathein reported that the Vilas County is waiting for legitimate numbers from their coroner. It was reported that Vilas County finance director contacted the coroner and he stated he'd take care of it when he could and it stringing things along. ME Mathein reported that Vilas County is still moving forward, changing to the medical examiner style as of January 2019, and going with us, and their resolution has been approved. Mathein reported they should have clean numbers within a month or two.

MOTION: Informational only.

Autopsy Issues

Mathein reported on the lack of pathologists statewide. We work with Fond du Lac, and they had two full-time forensic pathologists. One quit almost a year ago, and the other had been working by himself to cover the northern part of the state. He was fired and quit, having worked through January 31, 2018. There is no replacement for him until August 2018. Mathein reported that the only places to have autopsy performed are Dane County, Milwaukee County, Fond du Lac, and UW-Madison. This had been a rough change over with extra expenses, time, convenience, etc. Mathein reported the UW-Madison primary pathologist is looking to retire to northern Wisconsin and go out on his own. Mathein reported on his discussions with Marathon County regarding their building of a facility, but there is no timeframe on this.

Mathein reported that he has done more work in Forest County already this year than all of last year, and it was on track to be the highest year ever.

Mathein stated we needed to find something more cost effective. St. Mary's Has a pathology unit that they do not use and he would like to speak to them to come up with an arrangement to lease that unit as needed. There was discussion on the pathologist from Madison who was interested, if he would be contracted, and if he would be available when he was needed.

Cushing asked what this pathologists time frame was and Mathein stated he was just waiting for an offer. There was discussion on how to move forward, what committees this idea needed to be brought to, and to consult with Brian Desmond.

Ives commented that no matter what happened with the pathologist from Madison, it was a great idea to look for a facility to get something set up locally and get other northern counties on board. Mathein was applauded for looking into this. Mathein stated that he had been talking with Marathon County for a couple years about setting something up, but they are dragging their feet and with the amount of workload so far this year, something needs to move forward.

There was discussion on how this would open opportunities for SMH people to assist with pathology and what the requirements were for a pathologist vs. forensic pathologist.

MOTION: To authorize Medical Examiner Larry Mathein to continue looking into options regarding an autopsy facility in the Northern Wisconsin/Oneida County area (Timmons/Cushing, PASSED).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Timmons presented ME Mathein with his five-year service award.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA(S)

Discussion regarding options for autopsy facility.

Jail has ability to add wing, are we looking down the road for discussion on expansion of that facility? Should this be on the committee radar?

E911 administration asked to be sure they receive a heads up on costs identified with the upgrad project. If big costs with E911, should the committee be looking at Rhinelander helping with upgrade costs?

ADJOURN

10:24 a.m. MOTION: To adjourn the meeting (Cushing/Metropulos, PASSED).

Mike Timmons, Chairman

Andi Seidel, Committee Secretary

Bob Metropulos, Vice-Chairman