

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
COUNTY BOARDROOM
MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021
MINUTES
4:30 PM**

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call –Barry Logan (ch), Albert Durst, Justin Faulk present. Donald Tolan arrived at 4:40 and Blake Parsons was excused.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of December 7th, 2020 minutes
Motion to approve December 7th minutes made by Durst, seconded by Faulk. *Motion passed.*

4. Public Input None

5. Approval of Claims

a. Approval of January 19, 2021 claims
Motion to approve January claims made by Durst, seconded by Tolan. It was questioned why the Woodcom payments are made monthly? It would save on time, checks printed, etc. if we could pay quarterly, yearly, every 6 months, etc. Plus the money could stay in the bank drawing interest. We will look into making that change.
Motion passed.

6. Coroner

7. Sheriff

a. Annex 1-2 Update.
Annex 1 & 2 are pretty well done. There is a few minor finishes that have to be completed, but overall the project is done. The offices look great. Annex 2 had a furnace die, and a new one was installed at a price of \$2,200 – that invoice will be in the February claims. The ice storm ripped a gutter off the back of the building which is in the process of being repaired. Ice breakers will be installed in the repair. An explanation of where the annexes were located for the benefit of the new board members was given.

b. Annex 4 Update.
Annex 4 is pretty well done. There needs to be a few minor completions – handicap ramp, and a bulletin board installed for agenda posting. The Health Department has been using the extra room for vaccines.

c. StarCom 21 Radio System Update
They are still working on the last tower. The fiber line has been hooked up to the control center in Springfield. There is too much loss in the run, so MTCO and AT&T are working to get it fixed. They hope to be up and running soon.

d. Vehicle Replacement Update
The Sheriff's Department is down two cars at the moment. A new K-9 vehicle has been purchased, and the equipment on that vehicle is in the process of being transferred over. Another vehicle was damaged

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in a felony pursuit. Because of the damage done to the vehicle, the high mileage and the year of the vehicle, it was totaled. The Chairman authorized the purchase of a 2018 replacement with 29,000 miles on it to be purchased. We received a little over \$9,000 for our vehicle, and because of that wreck, the transfer of all the equipment on that vehicle is being covered by insurance. The cost to transfer equipment is roughly around \$4-5,000 dollars.

e. PSB – CH Projects Update

They are finishing up laying the carpet. That project was paid in last year's budget. This year they budgeted for 6 heat pumps to be replaced – 3 have gone out. There needs to be repairs to the inside of the dome of the Courthouse. It has deteriorated significantly over the last 18-24 months. They are not sure what is causing the rapid deterioration, so several vendors will be coming out to inspect it, give their opinion on the cause, how to repair, and an estimate of fixing.

8. Animal Control

There are no issues at this time.

9. Health Department

- a. Mass Vaccination
- b. Contact Tracing

(Due to the power outages with the ice storm, there was an issue in the boardroom with the audio system. We were not able to hear any comments made by zoom. Therefore, no presentation was given on the above topics.)

10. New Business

- a. Discussion on board room lectern

Comments in the past have been about the lectern being too tall and blocking the view of the audience to see the board members. It was discussed on what could be done. There are connections in the floor for that lectern. If we were to move it, the connections would have to be redone, and since they were installed when the floor was done, this would not be an easy fix. We could put a table there for use, but was felt that this would not be the way to go. If we tried to cut the lectern down, it might just be simpler to build a new one, at an additional cost. It was asked whose job it would be to move the lectern for meetings. The whole point of the lectern is for the person addressing the board to be able to see the members, and the members to see them. If a person in the audience has their view obstructed, they can move to a different seat. The board members should not be interacting with anyone who isn't at the lectern. It was decided that we would leave the lectern as is and evaluate it again in a few months.

- b. Appointment of Public Safety Committee Vice-Chairman

The nomination of Donald Tolan as Vice-Chairman of the Public Safety Committee was made by Faulk and seconded by Durst. *Motion passed.*

- c. Cures Grant Salary Use

Chairman Logan has FOIA'd several request regarding this. The State's Attorney has asked for additional time to gather all the information. A few facts as known so far were presented –

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- *In September, Ms. Aggertt received a bonus of \$12,500. It is assumed that the Board of Health approved this.
- *In December, Ms. Aggertt put in request and received \$29,529.08 for comp time and overtime. She is a salaried employee, so overtime should not be paid. Her salary for 2021 is \$87,675.
- *Emily Kelly received an additional \$13,809.54. She too is a salary employee. Her salary for 2021 is \$62,778.
- *For the calendar year of 2020, Ms. Aggertt received \$127,145, and Ms. Kelly received \$74,745.
- *These salaries were not budgeted for, nor were the payments to IMRF, Social Security, etc. on these increased salaries.

It was questioned where the moneys came from for these increases. The \$12,500 came out of a Health Department fund when the adjustments were made at the end of the year. The additional pay is assumed to be coming out of a grant. The committee would like to know the specifics of that grant. It is believed to be for contract tracing. Several (11) new employees have been hired to do contract tracing. If the Federal Government is giving a grant, then the money from that grant needs to go to aid the process, not “line the employee’s pockets.” The State’s Attorney is looking into this, and while it may be legal, the committee feels that it is dishonest, deceitful and inappropriate. It was stated that everyone has had to work harder during Covid. That as a salary employee, there are times when you have to work extra hours and not be compensated for them, but there are also times when you are down, and still will be paid. If you take Ms. Aggertt’s hourly rate, and divide it by 2080 – the number of work hours in a year - she is being compensated for an additional 750 hours for just the December bonus, and that number goes up if you add in the September bonus. It was stated that the Health Department does not work 40 hours a week, they are on a 36 hour work week. The committee members know of several people within the community that have tested positive for Covid, and have never been contacted by the Woodford County Health Department. It was also noted that PTO time was taken during the time they received the bonuses. It is assumed that Ms. Aggertt has a contract with the Health Department. That contract has been FOIA’d. Also FOIA’d is the Contact Tracing Grant. The Health Department Board dictates the salaries, and the County Board approves them. Chairman Logan will receive all the documentation FOIA’d, and will share it with the committee. This will be looked into further.

11. Unfinished Business

12. Other

13. Executive Session – Roll Call Vote

14. Any action coming out of Executive Session

15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Faulk, seconded by Durst. *Motion passed.*

Meeting adjourned at 5:21 PM.

Submitted by: Deb Breyman

Barry Logan, Chairman
Public Safety Committee