

Public Health & Safety Committee

Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 6:30 PM in the County Board Room

Overseeing the Sheriff, Emergency Management, Coroner and Animal Control.

Committee members present: Seldon Totsch, Mark Peter, Steve DeMoss and Barbara Fletcher. Becky Weed was excused.

Also present was Ryan Niekamp. John Meyer, John Simon and Sheriff VonderHaar were present via ZOOM.

All bills were reviewed and appeared to be in order.

Our committee approved minutes of August 18, 2020 meeting.

Motion by Steve DeMoss / Second by Mark Peter

Sheriff Dept – Sheriff VonderHaar

- The current jail population is 129. It has been in the 130's
- They have been able to transfer 10 DOC inmates so far. They have 30 remaining. The lawsuit against the State is still ongoing.
- They are still working on completing repairs to the jail from the lightning strike. .
- The Sheriff's Department is experiencing a high employee turnover. They are looking to hire 8 new jail deputies and they are down 3 road deputies.
- Sheriff VonderHaar was thanked once again for his service to Adams County.

Emergency Management – John Simon

- They are making great process in billing. In August they exceeded their anticipated revenue for the year. The department is now \$900,000 to \$1,000,000 over their budgeted revenues. .
- The Ambulance Board meets on September 23.
- They plan to award bids for the purchase of 4 ambulances. This will be full chassis and boxes but does not include the replacement of all the equipment inside the ambulance.
- Awaiting a \$236,000 reimbursement from FEMA for the Flood of 2019. Of that money, \$85,000 is to be passed through to the City of Quincy for the sand bagging site.
- The County is experiencing a slight spike in COVID-19 cases. It is not uncontrolled, and they have identified group links in cases.
- They are preparing for COVID-19 vaccinations. The goal is that 80% of the population will be vaccinated. They have purchased a cooler that can be used for other things after the COVID crisis is over. They expect to have the first doses of vaccine available in November with larger quantities available in the new year.
- Mr. Simon expressed his thanks for the approval of the new storage building.
- \$818,000 has been awarded under the CURES program for COVID-19 related expenses.

Coroner — John Myers

For the Month of August 2020

- There were 70 reported deaths.
- There were six autopsies.
- There were no unclaimed/indigent cremations.
- There were 32 cremation permits issued.

- They appreciate being included in the new storage building.
- The County is required to order an autopsy when the physicians refuse to sign the death certificate. This has been occurring when the deceased has not been under the direct care of the physician at the time of death.
- Five new tablet computers were purchased using COVID monies.

Our meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm. Motion by Steve DeMoss / Second by Seldon Totsch

The next meeting will be Tuesday October 20, 2020 at 6:30 PM in the County Board Room

Barbara Fletcher, Secretary
Public Health & Safety Committee