

# Public Health & Safety Committee

Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 6:00 PM in the ROE Conference Room

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

Committee members present were Barbara Fletcher, Taylor Rakers, David McCleary and Mark Sorensen. Also present were Sheriff Rich Wagner, EMS Chief John Simon and Jessica Frese.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

All bills were reviewed and appeared to be in order.

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2022 meeting was made by David McCleary and seconded by Mark Sorensen. Motion passed.

## **Coroner's Report: Written Report from Coroner Scott Graham**

Coroner Graham reported that during the month of October 2022 there were:

- 89 reported deaths
- 5 autopsies
- 0 abandoned cremations
- 35 cremation permits issued
- 0 suicides.

## **Sheriff's Report: Sheriff Wagner**

### **Jail:**

Sheriff Wagner reports that the jail population is currently at 115 inmates.

The Sheriff's Office has implemented a new electronic home monitoring (GPS Monitor) program for inmates sentenced to work release. The program is running smoothly and has received positive feedback from judges and from the State's Attorney's Office.

### **Sheriff's Office:**

The Sheriff's Office would like to report a very successful Second Annual Trunk or Treat. Vermont Street was once again lined with hundreds of children and adults.

Jared Starman has been hired to fill a vacancy as a Deputy Sheriff. He is a lateral transfer from the Mount Sterling Police Department.

The Sheriff's Office is working with Jessica Douglas on degradation issues with the current VHF radio platform. Equipment at some of the tower sites has been replaced. Some of the needed repairs are pending due to parts being on backorder.

### **Ambulance/Emergency Management: John Simon**

Chief Simon reported that he and the Sheriff have been working on the radio project and plan to bring info to the County Board in December or January. They have been working with Motorola and working on quotes and numbers of radios.

He stated that on the EMS side, staffing continues to be an issue. They are working proactively. A new EMR class will be starting in January. The most recent EMT class has been completed. They hired a paramedic that very day, a 22 year veteran, and had two additional interviews the next day. They hope to get additional new hires out of the new EMR class.

Chief Simon has given notice to Hancock County terminating the agreement for assistance with their ambulance administration as of January 15, 2023. They presented their final report to Hancock County on October 18. Hancock County is already advertising for a new director.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Chairman Fletcher thanked Taylor Rakers for his service to the Public Health and Safety Committee, since this is his last meeting. His insight and knowledge will be missed.

### **Appointments**

None.

Business being concluded, a motion to adjourn was made by Taylor Rakers and seconded by Mark Sorensen. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

**The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at 6:00 PM in the ROE Conference Room.**

Barbara Fletcher  
Chair, Public Health & Safety Committee