

WAUSHARA COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

05/07/2026

The regular meeting of the Waushara County Public Safety Committee was called to order on Wednesday, May 7th, 2026, @ 4:30 P.M., by County Board Chair John Jarvis. Committee members present: Supervisor Jarvis, Supervisor Johnson, Supervisor Peterman, Supervisor Urban and Supervisor Peterson.

Others present: Chief Deputy Scott Eagan, Lt. Dan Struzynski and Darlene Mastricola – Waushara County Sheriff's Office, Keith Melvin and Steve Woodstock - Waushara County EMS, Megan Kapp - Waushara County Administrator, Amanda Thoma – Waushara County Medical Examiner, Ryan McElroy - Waushara County Emergency Management/Communications, Barry West – Waushara County IT, Brian Petit – Waushara County Fire Services and Ruth Zouski – Waushara County Corporate Counsel.

Committee Chair – Supervisor John Jarvis

Election of Vice Chair – Supervisor Urban nominated Supervisor Peterson for Vice Chair. Motion by Supervisor Johnson, second by Supervisor Peterman to approve same. Voice vote was unanimous.

Committee members agreed to leave the monthly meeting date/time the same, the first Wednesday of the month starting @ 4:30 PM.

Motion by Supervisor Urban, second by Supervisor Peterson to approve the agenda for the May 7th, 2026, Public Safety Committee Meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Supervisor Johnson, second by Supervisor Peterson to approve the minutes of the regular Public Safety Committee meeting held on 03/11/2026. No meeting was held in April. Motion carried.

Public Comments – None

Fire Services – Brian Petit

West end of the county busy with fire calls, east end has been quiet.

Medical Examiner - Amanda Thoma

Provided a breakdown of calls her office responded to for March and April 2026 as follows:

March 2026: Waushara County – 26 total deaths, 23 deemed ME cases.
Marquette County – 10 total deaths, 9 deemed ME cases.

April 2026: Waushara County – 14 total deaths, 12 deemed ME cases.
Marquette County – 15 total deaths, 12 deemed ME cases.

YTD budget report presented.

She and her staff are currently covering calls in Green Lake County, June 1, 2026, is the official start date for the new contract for medical examiner services.

Have not heard about the Innovation Grant, hopefully soon.

Renovation in progress. Once complete will update her address and establish office hours.

Strategic Plan will be updated soon, with another goal added.

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County Administrator Kapp advised the recording equipment for the meeting was not working.

Medical Examiner – Unfinished Business – None

Medical Examiner – New Business – None

EMS Report –Keith Melvin

EMS did not participate in County Government Days this year to allow other county department to participate.

Hosted Wautoma High School Career Fair – taught Stop the Bleed and nasal Narcan.

Participated in Blue Ribbon Kids Day.

OpK9 Course for K9 Officer care approved, and planning is underway for 5/20/2026.

Is working with DHS and Public Health trying to reduce drug related deaths.

Current EMS staffing reviewed. Issue with part-time employees, they can only work a set # of hours so they become maxed out quickly and cannot work until the hours drop off on a rolling calendar year.

Call volumes discussed. EMS did stop inter-facility transports.

Marquette County is not continuing the contract for 2027 for the Village/Township of Neshkoro and a portion of Crystal Lake. This is a budget issue, loss of approximately \$120,000-\$135,000. Revenue from the Community Paramedic Program could cover some of the lost revenue. Deputy Chief Woodstock explained the Community Paramedic Program a little more in detail and how revenue could be generated from the program.

Strategic Plan is on track, runs throughout the year. Deputy Chief Woodstock advised they plan to increase the adjusted retention rate of staff to 82% by 6/30/2026. They will conduct quarterly all staff hybrid meetings where more than 50% of attendees rate them as helpful/beneficial. Will create a formal documented training process by 12/31/26, with an included proficiency checklist.

2026 budget on track and 2027 CIP turned in.

EMS – Unfinished Business – None

EMS – New Business - None

Emergency Management/Communications – Ryan McElroy

He and Allen are working on revamping policies/procedures for the Communication Center.

Staff attended two recent job fairs.

5/13 – Tornado Drill.

Currently there are three in training in the Communications Center, one open position.

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Emergency Management/Communications Report continued

Ryan talked about the standards for answering 911 calls which is 90% of calls answered in 15 seconds and 95% answered in 20 seconds. Waushara County Communications Center staff answer all calls 98.69% of the time within 10 seconds.

RFP completed for the backup dispatch center, with Baycom being chosen for the work.

Received a \$50,000 radio grant from DMA. Motorola will be upgrading all Sheriff's Department mobile and portable radios to 800 MHz @ no cost, so perhaps grant \$\$ received can be used to upgrade other county radios to 800 MHz.

Supervisor Urban asked if a report could be generated monthly as to nature of calls received and what they were related to. Ryan said he would try and get the info requested. Chief Deputy Eagan advised calls were increasing for juvenile related issues and welfare checks.

Emergency Management/Communications – Unfinished Business - None

Emergency Management/Communications – New Business

Motion by Supervisor Urban, second by Supervisor Peterman to reappoint Supervisor Jarvis and Supervisor Peterson to the Radio/Communications Sub-Committee and to appoint Supervisor Johnson to the sub-committee. Motion carried.

Sheriff's Department Reports

Lt. Struzynski – Courthouse Security

Average # of persons screened per day – March 400 and for April 422.

March out of county transports – 20, and for April – 13.

4 false alarm/panic buttons for March, and 10 for April.

Lt. Vaccaro – Patrol

Have three starting Recruit Academy at FVTC 6/3/2026, academy runs 6/3/26 through 8/7/26. After completing the academy all three will go through the department's FTO program.

Four cars sent to auction; auction scheduled for 6/13/26.

Jail – Chief Deputy Eagan

Currently housing 22 state inmates, have a contract for up to 25.

Sgt. Peschke and Corporal Carey are working with Corporation Counsel Zouski on PREA compliance.

Committee questioned gross vs net revenue in reference to housing state inmates. Chief Deputy Eagan will try to provide that information.

Detective Bureau – Chief Deputy Eagan

Cases reviewed Detectives are currently working on.

Still have two open positions in the Detective Bureau. Once the new hires get through all training, there will be movement within the department.

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Sheriff's reports continued

General Department Info – Chief Deputy Eagan

Advised Lt. Vaccaro is working with Highway for a better tracking program for vehicle maintenance, which hopefully will reduce costs due to preventative maintenance.

Department staff continues to work on strategic plan goals - vehicle issues, merit awards, one on one's, jail and court security have completed theirs, patrol is about halfway done.

Sheriff – Unfinished Business – None

Sheriff – New Business - None

Supervisor Urban questioned if the Department participated in a Federal Drug Task Force, and asked about federal forfeitures, he was advised no. The Sheriff's Department is a member of the Central Wisconsin Drug Task Force at the local level.

Committee requested to do the annual jail tour at the June 3rd, 2026, meeting, also requesting to go through the tunnel. Jail tour scheduled for 3:00 PM, business meeting to follow.

Motion by Supervisor Johnson, second by Supervisor Peterman to adjourn @ 5:41PM.
Minutes taken & typed by Darlene Masticola, Sheriff's Office Administrative Assistant