

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
COUNTY BOARDROOM
TUESDAY OCTOBER 10, 2023
MINUTES
4:30 PM**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Parsons at 4:33 PM

2. Roll Call

Blake Parsons, Tim Worner and Randy Barth are present. Nick Miller and John Krug are excused.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of September 11, 2023 minutes

Motion to approve September minutes made by Barth, seconded by Worner. There were no corrections. *Motion passed.*

4. Public Input

There was no public input.

5. Approval of Claims

a. Approval of October 2023 Claims

Motion to approve October claims made by Worner, seconded by Barth. There was no discussion on the claims. *Motion passed.*

6. Coroner

7. Probation

8. Health Department

9. Sheriff

a. ARPA Projects Update

The Courthouse is a big project but it is moving along. The ceiling has been removed from the 2nd and 3rd floors. The 1st floor is about half-way out. There was some paneling damage when the paneling was taken out. This is old paneling and can't be matched to replace it. The engineer will look at it and come up with some options for fixing. They are finding some issues such as electrical, that need to be addressed. It was felt that we might as well address them while everything is already torn up.

b. Courthouse Sign ARPA Project

The Sheriff has received a quote for an electrical sign in front of the Courthouse. He provided a photo of what the sign would look like. The drawing has red brick, which the Sheriff asked to have the block work match the Courthouse block. The sign would be about \$42-43,000. He will present it to the Finance Committee tomorrow night.

c. Jail Kitchen Walk in Cooler/ Freezer Replacement Bid Approval

This has been approved and put into the ARPA funds, but the Sheriff does not have a quote yet.

d. PSB Fire Alarm Upgrade Project Bid Approval

This too has been approved, but no quote has been received yet.

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e. Target Hardening ARPA Project

Part of this project is done. \$33,450 was appropriated for the project and there is \$21,000 left to complete the scope of the project. \$10,408 will be utilized to pay SunGuard Window Covering to install a film over the windows at the Courthouse which will keep the window from shattering. Motion made by Barth, seconded by Worner to approve the SunGuard window film. *Motion passed.*

Discussion ensued regarding Annex 4. It was felt that we needed to cover the windows at Annex 4 with the same shatter proof film and add it to the project. Mr. Barth made the motion to amend his original motion to include Annex 4 and not to exceed \$15,000, seconded by Worner. Approval of motion as amended. *Motion passed.*

f. Sheriff Vehicle Replacement Totaled Patrol Vehicle

A vehicle was hit by a drunk driver and totaled. The Sheriff is looking for a used vehicle. He can pull the equipment from the totaled vehicle. Motion made by Barth to purchase a squad car to replace the totaled vehicle, not to exceed \$50,000 and to be paid in vacation, seconded by Worner. *Motion passed.*

g. Sheriff Report

Sheriff's Office information for September 2023

Below is a partial list of calls for service for September.

Assist other Agency	22	Noise Complaint	6
Business Checks	644	Open Door	2
Burglar Alarm	17	Paper Service	147**
Criminal Damage	4	Reckless Driver	38
Check Wellbeing	25	Road Hazard	11
Dispute	12	Suspicious Activity	7
Domestic Disturbance	27	Suspicious Person	13
Flag down	7	Suspicious Vehicle	28
Follow up	51	Thefts	16
Fraud	7	Threats	8
Keys Locked in Vehicle	17	Trespass	5
Motorist Assist	50	Traffic Stop	824
Motor Vehicle Accident	37*	Unknown Problem	11
Vacation Checks	2	Extra Patrol	239

Sept. Total Calls 2993

(Aug Calls Total 2594)

*All Types

**Includes OP

Total Calls for Service as of the end of September 2023: 19,631

Total Calls for Service as of the end of September 2022: 14,678

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Below is information for the Corrections Facility September 2023

September 2023 Average Daily Population: 75
September 2022 Average Daily Population: 80

Bookings September 2023:

Male: 92 Female: 25 Total: 117 Year to Date Total: 935

Bookings September 2022: Male:74 Female: 24 Total: 98

Prisoner transports completed September 2023: 24

IT Report

	2022		2023
January	53		49
February	49		37
March	52		26
April	41		31
May	54		30
June	50		45
July	28		26
August	50		52
September	60		27
October	66		9*
November	50		
December	41		

Total Service Tickets 2021 – 599

Total Service Tickets 2022 – 582

Total Service Tickets YTD 2023 - 332

*As of 10/05/23

Open tickets as of 10/5/23 - 51

Year End	582		
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10. Animal Control

a. Report of Animal Control

Animal Control is an ongoing issue. We are currently working on an intergovernmental agreement with Tazewell County. A draft agreement has been made and was handed out to the committee. We will ask the State’s Attorney to look over it before we present it to Tazewell County. We would like to have something in place by the beginning of 2024. There would be a fee we would pay Tazewell and would need to hire a Warden to feed and care for the animals on a daily basis.

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In the claims, Heather asked for \$2,640 for feed and boarding costs. Hold time for animals is to be 10 days. Hold time has been exceeding the 10 days. This is something that needs to be watched. The second paragraph of the Menssen Trust Contract states, "...the Trust was created for providing financial support for health, feeding and medical care..." We have never asked the Menssen Trust to pay for food. In the past they only paid for vet bills. An animal is taken to the vet, the vet bills the county. We in turn submit a claim to the Menssen Trust for that vet bill. We receive funds from the Trust, and then pay the vet bill. Dr. Fraker is not only our vet of record, but is also on the Menssen Board. We will ask Ms. Lemman to provide an itemized bill. It was stated that in the past the agreement was worded so that Ms. Lemman was to cover all costs. The only time the county paid was when an animal was being held because of a court case. It was asked what the \$5,000 and \$1,500 that we pay Ms. Lemman goes for? Ms. Lemman is keeping animals way past the 10 days. She needs to follow our Ordinance. Her contract was for 60 days with a renewal from week to week.

The Ordinance citation offenses need to be reviewed. Animal Control is not taking any money in on fees. Last month Ms. Lemman reported that she was dealing with a lot of dogs running loose. Reclamation fees for a dog running loose are \$25 for the first offense and \$35 for each subsequent offense. We have received no reclamation fees from Ms. Lemman in the past 5 months. We need to re-evaluate what citations can be written for. People need to show proof that their dog is registered and vaccinated. The county Ordinance and Statute are Ms. Lemman's guide on how to operate. Discussion on raising the registration fee from \$12 to \$16, modeling after Tazewell. It was felt that we are a smaller county, and we do not have a facility like Tazewell does. Even though the fee would only increase by \$4, it was felt that this was not needed.

There has been a lot of discussion on a facility, but nothing has panned out. North of Eureka, Merle and Michelle Blunier own a house with a kennel on the property. Years ago this was an operating kennel. Several Board members went and toured the facility. There would be a small fee to upgrade the electrical and a few other things, but the facility has 40 caged kennels, an area for cats, utility room, and a vet room. The owners are open to renting us the kennel. This would be a good solution for the short term while we can establish our own facility. The committee would like to put \$10,000 in the budget for repairs. The rent would be \$1,500 per month. There is no separate water or electricity. It was felt the \$1,500 rental cost would cover the cost of water and electricity. Discussion on how to allocate funds. We currently have in the budget funds to build a new building. We would just need to reappropriate those funds to rent and maintenance. The committee would like to appropriate funds to make the necessary repairs and hope to be up and running by the first of the year. Discussion on how we need an agreement in place with the Blunier's before we appropriate any funds for repairs. We also need to check if a special use permit is needed, and who would need to get the special use – the county or the landowner. We would also need to purchase a small van and a chip reader. These purchases would be a reallocation from the building that was budgeted for. Animal Control does not have any funds available. We would be using General Funds, which the law states we can. Discussion on how to address the public when asked about

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general funds being used for animal control. We are trying to provide a much-needed service and comply with the law.

We will need to reallocate the funds before next Tuesday's board meeting. There are a few items that we need answers to – do we need a title search, a special use permit, an agreement with the Blunder's needs to be made. We should have this ready for November's meeting.

11. New Business

There is no new business for discussion.

12. Unfinished Business

There is no unfinished business for discussion.

13. Other

14. Executive Session – Roll Call Vote

- a. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) - Animal Control (as needed)

15. Any action coming out of Executive Session


- a. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) - Animal Control

16. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Barth, seconded by Worner. *Motion passed.*

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 PM.

Submitted by: Deb Breyman



Blake Parsons, Chairman
Public Safety Committee