

Manitowoc County Public Safety Committee  
Manitowoc County Communications and Technology Building

June 8, 2022 5:00 p.m.

Attendance: Present: Chairperson James Falkowski, Supervisor Mark Linsmeier, Supervisor Nick Muench, Supervisor Leo Naidl, Supervisor Norb Vogt, and County Board Chair Tyler Martell.

Others in attendance: Patricia Koppa, Sheriff Dan Hartwig, Maj. Andrew LaCrosse and Lt. Jack Valukas.

Chair James Falkowski called meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Roll call circulated.

Minutes of prior meeting: Chair Falkowski asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes of the prior meeting on May 11, 2022. None were offered. Chair asked for a motion to approve. Motion was made by Supervisor Norb Vogt, seconded by Supervisor Mark Linsmeier and unanimously approved.

There was no one wishing to speak for public comment which was closed at 5:03.

Chair Falkowski recognized Sheriff Dan Hartwig. Sheriff introduced new jail personnel, Maj. Andrew LaCrosse and Lt. Jack Valukas. Started positions as of Monday (three days prior.) Given the new make up of the committee, began report with a breakdown of the three divisions of the Sheriff office: Operations, Support and Jail. Explained the functions of each to provide background to the details of the report.

In Operations, patrol is fully staffed on June 13. This includes several newly authorized positions from the current and prior budget. The budget looks good with the expected overages in fuel due to the spike in gas prices. Noted there are some expansion and improvement projects in the works including expanding the evidence room and ongoing equipping and training of the Drone Team.

In Support, able to also state fully staffed. Notes that the budget for 2023 will include a request for two additional bailiff positions in light of the approval of Branch 4 and the decision to locate that courtroom in the basement with the commissioner courtroom remaining in B-15. Notes that means five locations. This unit is also involved in Governor Warrants and extraditions which can be very expensive, but some cost has been recovered by the reduction of transports for court due to the use of the Zoom videoconferencing for non-evidentiary hearings in criminal and for the majority of civil commitment cases.

The Jail is subject of today's inspection. This is the greatest area of staffing change. There have been ten departures since January 1. In addition to ordinary procedures, candidates must undergo a background check, psychological examination and a physical exam and testing. After that there is a seven week training with a subsequent 5 week program to be completed before the one year anniversary. There are openings currently following the various promotions. Given the departures, the cost of payouts has been high. Some additional revenue has been generated by the partnership with Meals on Wheels. Little additional will come from State inmates as the prisons have reopened. Noted the remodeling of the visitation area which will be featured on the inspection tour. Are continuing converting to various electronic reports to increase efficiencies for the correction officers. There is a program to equip jails with Narcan. Needed due to drugs coming in despite searches.

ARPA funds have provided radio replacement units for jail and patrol. The UVC cleaners have been welcomed. Promised to reduce sick leave. Squad cars have addition equipment upgrades... useful while waiting for new vehicles to be delivered.

Recent community activities include DARE graduations, the Memorial Day parade, Cops and Bobbers (a fishing program with the officers and children in Big Brothers/Big Sisters and children of the Drug Court participants.) Will be participating in the Touch the Trucks program in July as well as at the County Fair. Watch for event by "Paws for Laws" the charitable organization funding the K9 program.

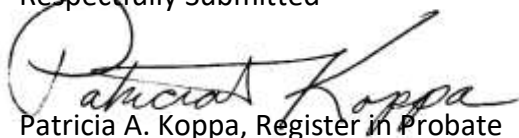
Sheriff then answered questions before the full committee went to the jail for the annual inspection tour.

Meeting Announcements: Chair Falkowski note the next meeting is July 13, 2022. We will be hearing from the judges at that meeting.

Inspection Tour: Sheriff Hartwig, Maj. LaCrosse and Lt. Valukas all offered perspectives and information while leading the group through the jail. The new areas are all equipped with corrections grade furnishings. Next big project will be refurbishing the elevator which has been in use since construction 30 years ago. That will be a challenge as it is the only elevator and everything including laundry and food service will require using the stairs.

Adjournment: Following the inspection, Supervisor Muench moved to adjourn, Supervisor Naidl seconded the motion. Motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Patricia Koppa", is written over a circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Patricia A. Koppa, Register in Probate

For Supervisor Norb Vogt, Committee Secretary