LINCOLN COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 11, 2026 - 4:00 PM

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair Meunier called the meeting to order at 4:00pm with the following committee members in attendance: Bishop, Miller, Thiel Virtual: Hartwig, Excused: Boyd.

2. Confirm Meeting Date and Time

a. Next meeting scheduled on April 8, 2026 at 4:00pm, Lincoln County Service Center, 801 North Sales Street, Room 255, Merrill, WI 54452

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approval of the Minutes

a. Approve Minutes From: February 11, 2026

M/S Miller/Bishop to approve the from February 11, 2026. All ayes, motion cared on voice vote.

5. Public Comment

None

6. Emergency Management

a. Year-to-Date Budget Report

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Report placed on file.

b. 2025 Emergency Management/Sheriff PSAP I Budget Modification

Verhasselt reported this budget modification is to reallocate $39,380 from the Sheriff's budget to the Emergency Management budget to cover the 10% match for the 2025 PSAP grant. M/S Miller/Thiel to approve the $39,380 reallocation from the Sheriff's budget to the Emergency Management budget to cover the 10% match for the PSAP grant. All ayes, motion carried on voice vote.

c. Travel & Expense Report

M/S Thiel/Bishop to approve travel and expense report. All ayes, motion carried on voice vote.

d. Emergency Management Activity Report

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Report placed on file.

e. Res. 2026-02-XX, Resolution Accepting Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Planning Grant Payment from Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM)

M/S Bishop Miller to approve Resolution Accepting Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Planning Grant payment from Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) in the amount of $23,625, which covers the drafting and publication of an all-hazards mitigation plan. All ayes, motion carried on voice vote. Bishop to author and Miller to co-sponsor.

7. Coroner

a. Year-to-Date Budget Report

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Report placed on file.

b. Travel & Expense Report

None

c. Coroner's Report

Caylor reported 25 deaths, 7 investigations and 2 autopsies with fee waivers applied to some cases for the month of February. No questions or concerns. Reported placed on file.

d. * 2025 Coroner Budget Modification

M/S Miller/Bishop to approve the 2025 Coroner Budget Modification. All ayes, motion carried on voice vote.

8. Judicial

a. District Attorney and Victim Witness

Motion to move Kristopher Ellis, DA ahead of the Coroner on the agenda. All ayes, motion carried on voice vote..

i) Year-to-date Budget Report

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Report placed on file.

ii) Discuss/Approve DA Budget Cell Phone Increase Request

Attorney Ellis reported cell phones for attorneys are necessary for communication during jury trials and interoffice coordination. The district attorneys prefer not to use their personal cell phones. The cost of three phones would be $1,800. The expense would be covered by moving funds from the special prosecutor and transcript budgets. M/S Miller/Thiel to approve the 2026 budget modification for cell phones for the District Attorney's office. All ayes, motion carried on voice vote.

iii) 2025 Budget Modifications

M/S Miller/Bishop to approve 2025 budget modifications. All ayes, motion carried on voice vote.

b. Clerk of Courts and Family Court

i) Year-to-date Budget Report

Barker reported the budget is currently on track. However, there is an expected increase of jury trials now that the DA's office is fully staffed, noting that this portion of the budget may rise. Report placed on file.

ii) Travel & Expense Report

M/S Thiel/Miller to approve Travel and Expense report. All ayes, motion carried.

iii) 2025 Budget Modification & Contingency Request

M/S Miller/Bishop to approve budget modifications covering attorney at litem fees and psychological exams. All ayes, motion carried on voice vote.
Barker reported the wage increase for the Family Court Commissioner was approved by the Finance & Insurance Committee. M/S Thiel/Bishop to approve wage increase for the Family Court Commissioner. All ayes, motion carried on voice vote.

c. Register in Probate and Circuit Court

i) Year-to-date Budget Report

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Report placed on file.

ii) **Travel & Expense Report**

None

iii) **2025 Budget Modification**

Beyer reported that the budget modifications would be to move funds from one account to another within the department, which will keep her within budget for 2025. She also indicated that the total collection from the Title IV program was $11,207 for 2025.
M/S Miller/Bishop to approve the 2025 Budget Modification. All ayes, motion carried on voice vote.

9. Sheriff's Office

a. Statistical Reports

i) **Case Summary Report**

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Report placed on file.

ii) **Expense Budget, Revenue Budget (Year-to-date Report)**

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Report placed on file.

iii) **Recreational Officer Activity Report**

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Report placed on file.

iv) **9-1-1 Supervisor's Report**

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Report placed on file.

v) **Jail Census Report**

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Report placed on file.

b. 2025 Budget Modification, Carryover Requests, & Contingency Request

M/S Miller/Thiel to approve the 2025 Budget Modification. All ayes. Motion carried on voice vote.
M/S Miller/Thiel to approve Carryover Requests. All ayes. Motion carried on voice vote.
M/S Thiel/Miller to approve the Contingency Request. All ayes. Motion carried on voice vote.

10. Emergency Medical Services

a. Tomahawk Report

Kirkley reported the budget is on track with one ambulance currently undergoing repairs. No other questions or concerns. Report placed on file.

b. Merrill Report

Reports reviewed. No questions or concerns. Report placed on file. Chief Klug shared a successful outcome regarding a patient's recover from a heart attack.

c. Monthly Charge Report, Write-offs, and Collections

M/S Miller/Meunier to approve write-offs in the amount of $9587.94. All ayes. Motion carried on voice vote.

d. YTD Budget

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Report placed on file.

e. Discuss/Approve EMS Billing with Zoll's AR Boost (Previously Payor Logic)5 yr Packaged Services

Marheine discussed the Zoll accounts receivable program, which is expected to improve efficiency and collection speeds. There would be a one-time fee of $520 for design, setup and training. Billing is then based on call volumes. This would take 30-60 days to complete. The bill would be approximately $629.10 per month.. This program would eliminate untimely filing issues. M/S Miller/Bishop to approve signing of of the Zoll contract. All ages. Motion approved by voice vote.

f. 2025 Budget Modification

M/S Miller/Thiel to approve $68,420.00 Budget Modifications. All ayes. Motion carried on voice vote.

11. Adjourn

Chair Meunier adjouned the meeting at 4:44pm.