

LINCOLN COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 8, 2025 - 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. Excused: Boyd, Hartwig

2. Confirm Meeting Date and Time

Next meeting date is scheduled for November 12, 2025 at 4:00pm at the Lincoln County Service Center, 801 North Sales Street, Room 255, Merrill, WI..

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approval of the Minutes

a. Approve Minutes From: September 10, 2025

Thiel motioned to amend the September 10, 2025 meeting minutes to correct typographical errors in sections 4, 8b, 10a and 10b.

M/S Miller/Bishop to approve September 10, 2025 meeting minutes with amendments. All ayes, motion carried on voice vote.

5. Public Comment

None

6. Emergency Management

M/S Miller/Thiel to move Emergency Management to follow Emergency Medical Service on agenda. All ayes, motion carried on voice vote.

a. Year-to-Date Budget Report

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Verhasselt reported PSAP is 96% complete. Pending two invoices. The grant close-out is June 2026. Anticipated submission for reimbursement will be ahead of schedule in December 2025. Report placed on file.

b. Travel & Expense Report

M/S Miller/Thiel to approve the Travel & Expense report. All ayes. Motion carried on voice vote.

c. Emergency Management Activity Report

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Verhasselt highlighted emergency management initiatives, including annual occupational safety training and the adoption of the "community lifelines" approach for emergency operations. Employee survey results will be available at the next meeting. Report placed on file.

d. FY25 Computer and Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) Response Equipment Grant application and proposal

Verhasselt reported that award totals have been prorated. Counties are now being funded at 74.547% of their requested amounts. Lincoln County was awarded \$5220.36 and needs to match \$1305.09 which has already been budgeted for. Verhasselt indicated that this grant funding would be utilized for the contract Lincoln County has with Oneida County, who provides our Level B Hazmat Team. Oneida has now subcontracted to Rhinelander Area Fire Department. The contractual cost is \$5000 per year. The remaining funds would be utilized for Lincoln County emergency management needs.

Verhasselt reported he wrote in for a Mass Notification System utilizing funds that were built into the budget for a paging system for Pine Crest. The Code Red paging system can be upgraded to a Mass Notification System for the entire county for the same budgeted cost. Cost for the system reviewed. The first year would be covered by this grant.

e. Closed Session

- i) The Committee may consider a motion to adjourn into closed session (roll call vote required), pursuant to Wis. Stats. §19.85 (1) (c), Wis. Stats. "Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, to wit: Annual Performance Evaluation**

M/S Miller/Bisop to go into closed session. All ayes. Motion carried on roll call vote.

Emergency Management Director Evaluation

f. Reconvene Into Open Session

- i) Take necessary action, if any, on matters discussed in closed session.**

No action.

7. Coroner

a. Year-to-Date Budget Report

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Caylor reported that she anticipates an increase in wages due to an upcoming surgery. Report placed on file.

b. Coroner's Report

Caylor reported 25 deaths, 7 formal investigations, 2 autopsies, 21 cremation permits and 7 death certificates for the month of September. No incidents for the Fall Ride. Tours were made available of the Marathon County Forensic Science Center.

8. Judicial

a. District Attorney and Victim Witness

i) Year-to-date Budget Report

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

b. Clerk of Courts and Family Court

i) Year-to-date Budget Report

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Barker reported attorney fees are still being monitored. Reimbursement for one med/psych evaluation was received for Lincoln Hills case and another should be received next quarter. Report placed on file.

c. Register in Probate and Circuit Court

i) Year-to-date Budget Report

Report reviewed. No questions or concerns. Beyer provided a positive budget update and mentioned the completion of the 2026 reapplication for the Title IV reimbursement program. Reimbursement of over \$6000 was received to date from the Title IV program. Report placed on file.

9. Sheriff's Office

a. Statistical Reports

i) Case Summary Report

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

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

Report reviewed. No concerns. Chief Deputy Iverson reported \$70,000 payment from the state had been received for Lincoln Hills inmates (year and a half timeframe).

Overages in Overtime for Transport

Sheriff Schneider and Chief Deputy Iverson reported that transports are generally conducted by the Trip Team. Deputies are utilized for transport depending on the situation. COs are only used on an occasional basis. The Trip Team consists of retired officers that strictly do nothing but transports. They do not contribute to any overtime overages.

iii) Recreational Officer Activity Report

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

iv) 9-1-1 Supervisor's Report

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

v) Jail Census Report

Report reviewed. Hoeft reported current number of state inmates is 31 with an additional 10 expected for the month of October.

Current staffing is 21. One retirement in December. One new female CO started today bringing the total of female COs to 10.

b. Resolution 2025-XX-XX - Acceptance of Bierman Family Foundation Donation for Flock Camera System

This donation would cover the entire cost of the program for 10 years. No cost to the county.

M/S Thiel/Bishop to amend the resolution to change the committee from A&L to Public Safety. All ayes.

Motion carried on voice vote.

M/S Bishop/Miller to approve the resolution to Accept Bierman Family Foundation Donation for Flock Camera System, as amended, to move forward to the County Board. All ayes, motion carried on voice vote. Bishop will author and Miller will co-sponsor the resolution.

10. Emergency Medical Services

a. Tomahawk Report

Report reviewed. Kirkely reported that there were two transports. Salaries, benefits and supplies are under budget compared to last year. No questions or concerns. Report placed on file.

b. Merrill Report

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

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

Reports reviewed. Marheine reported that a payment had been received, bringing the new write-off amount to \$20,277.86. A new EMS biller will start next Monday.

M/S Miller/Bishop to approve the write-off amount of \$20,277.86. All ayes. Motion carried on voice vote.

d. YTD Budget

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

Marheine reported that the bill for January through August had been received from Tomahawk in the amount of \$571,000.

11. Adjourn

Chair Meunier adjourned at 5:05pm.