



Effingham County Board
101 N. 4th Street, Suite 301, Effingham, IL
217.342.4990

April 23, 2025
Public Safety Committee

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Chair; Dave Campbell, Sandi Rich, Jeremy Deters

Committee Members Absent:

Other Board Members Present:

Others Present: Sheriff Kuhns, Chief Buhnerkempe, Kim Rhodes, Amber Wille, Greg Koester, M. Shoot

Minutes

- S. Rich motioned to approve the January 22, 2025 committee minutes. J. Deters seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

Sheriff's Office/Sheriff Kuhns

- Sheriff Kuhns reported since Jan of 2024 average daily inmate population has doubled increasing meals served with current population at 32.1. Sheriff Kuhns stated he is unsure what increase is attributed to. Sheriff Kuhns stated in all agencies within county, the County sworn officers are making more arrests with jail time.
- T. Buhnerkempe stated arrest warrants served are up 55% in the 1st quarter this year compared to the 1st quarter last year.

EMA/Pam Jacobs

- P. Jacobs absent. No report.

Coroner/Kim Rhodes

- K. Rhodes reported Coroner's office getting prepared for move to new building.

911/Tina Daniels

- T. Daniels reported 3 projects in the works; replacing CAD GIS server, working on 911 hardware refresh, new furniture along with new phone refresh. T. Daniels also shared updates in lighting and tile.

Animal Control/Michelle Shoot

- M. Shoot shared plans to collaborate with EARS on adoptions, fostering, spaying/neutering. M. Shoot stated they are getting more volunteers through added community events along with participation in some commercial advertising and reels aiding in community involvement.

Emergency Preparedness/Health Department

- A. Wille reported multiple states with surges in measles cases with 800 cases throughout the U.S. in 25 states with no reported cases in Illinois. A. Wille stated contract tracing will be in play if measles reported in county. A. Wille shared attendance to meeting on contractible diseases with hospital later this month.
- A. Wille stated West Nile Virus measures will be in effect along with tick surveying this spring/summer.
- A. Wille stated residential sharps container is still in use at Health Department with free containers available to the public.
- D. Campbell inquired on ingredient listing for farmer's market type environments. A. Wille confirmed cottage food operators need to list ingredients along with sub-ingredients and allergen labeling at all times.

Dive Rescue Team/Terry Trueblood

- T. Trueblood absent.
- D. Campbell stated J. Kyle reported being called out during flood, but recalled before arrival to scene.
- D. Campbell stated J. Kyle also reported having plenty of divers, however in need of more shore responders.

K-9 Search and Rescue/Kevin Bullard

- K. Bullard absent.
- D. Campbell stated K. Bullard reported will be hosting Canine Seminar on Sept 17-20th with 50 signed up from all over US along with 12 canines getting re-certified on April 12-14th.
- D. Campbell stated K. Bullard also reported two (2) call outs from Fire Marshall's office.

Highway Dept/Greg Koester

- G. Koester reported signs were placed during storms for flooding.
- G. Koester shared EMA hosting Buckeye Pipeline next week and will have some highway foremen in attendance.

General

- D. Campbell shared concerned resident reported a lot of dumping out in county by his residence. Sheriff to send someone out to investigate concern.

Closed Session

Adjournment

- S. Rich motioned/D. Campbell seconded to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

Minutes submitted by Angie Thompson, County Board Administrator