

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
GRANT COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BUILDING
Lancaster, WI 53813
August 10, 2026

The Public Safety Committee Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Gary Ranum. The following members and personnel were present:

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: Bob Keeney, James McCartney, John Beinborn and Kathy Kopp. Brian Lucey was excused.

GUESTS: Sheriff Craig Reukauf; Chief Deputy Travis Klaas; Steve Braun, Emergency Management Director; Nate Dreckman, County Administrator; Phyllis Fuerstenberg, Coroner; Shane Drinkwater, IT Director; Chris Johl, Communications Supervisor; and Kelly Bird, Recording Secretary. The Herald Independent and Tonya White, County Clerk appeared by Zoom.

Kelly Bird verified the agenda had been posted at the County Clerk's Office, Community Services Building, courthouse and on the county website. John Beinborn second by Kathy Kopp approved the agenda. John Beinborn second by Kathy Kopp approved the minutes from the July 13 meeting. All above motions carried.

Public Safety vouchers were reviewed. James McCartney second by John Beinborn made a motion to accept the Public Safety vouchers. Motion carried.

Public Safety Revenue and Expense Report was reviewed. Kathy Kopp second by James McCartney made a motion to accept the Public Safety Revenue and Expense Report. Motion carried.

Treatment Court:

The Treatment Court's Report was sent via email. John Beinborn second by Kathy Kopp made a motion to accept the Treatment Court's Report. Motion carried.

Coroner

Coroner Phyllis Fuerstenberg was present to discuss the issue of abandoned bodies. It is becoming more common for family members to tell the Coroner they do not want anything to do with the body when contacted about the death of a family member. The Coroner then becomes responsible for the cremation as well as the cost and the burial of the cremains. Cremation is the cheapest option in this situation. It was asked by committee members that the Coroner contact local Funeral Homes and discuss having a contract with them.

The Coroner's Report was sent via email. James McCartney second by Kathy Kopp made a motion to accept the Coroner's Report. Motion carried.

Emergency Government:

Steve Braun gave the Director's Report. John Beinborn second by James McCartney made a motion to accept the Director's Report. Motion carried.

Steve has been busy with decommissioning tower sights and working on the Dispatch consolidation.

Sheriff's Briefing:

Sheriff Reukauf updated the committee on the Dispatch Consolidation. The people involved with this are putting in a lot of work and now are waiting on some numbers from vendors they have contacted. These are necessary for the grant application. The application has been drafted and will be reviewed by Corporation Counsel. Sheriff Craig Reukauf and County Administrator will attend the City Council Meeting at Platteville tomorrow night.

The New Radio Project is closer to being complete.

Under Personnel Update there is a Female Jailer Position open.

Under Training, two Jailer Corporals will be attending Leadership in Police Organizations. This will be a two-week training held in Wisconsin Dells.

Motion by Kathy Kopp second by John Beinborn to approve Resolution 2026-16 in support of an application for FY2027 Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) PSAP Grant Funding for the proposed consolidation of Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) operations between Grant County and the City of Platteville along with any changes made by Corporation Counsel. Motion carried. This will be sent to the Full County Board. Sheriff Reukauf presented the Sheriff's Report. John Beinborn second by Kathy Kopp made a motion to accept the Sheriff's Report. Motion carried.

Motion by John Beinborn second by James McCartney to approve Resolution 2026-18 authorizing the Grant County Sheriff to conduct search, rescue, and recovery operations in boundary waters under Wis. Stat. §§ 59.27(11), 2.04, and 2.01(22). Motion carried. This will be sent to the Full County Board.

The Sheriff's Report was sent via email. Kathy Kopp second John Beinborn made a motion to accept the Sheriff's Report. Motion carried.

It was motioned by James McCartney second by John Beinborn to adjourn at 9:56 am. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Bird, Recording Secretary
