
CITY OF DEER LODGE

Public Health & Safety
COMMITTEE

AGENDA

May 16, 2024 – 5:00 P.M. | Council Chambers, City Hall

1. Call Meeting to Order:

2. Approval of Minutes:

- a. Regular Meeting: April 11, 2024

3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items – (Limit to three minutes per person)

4. Old Business: (Public Comment period prior to each topic)

- a. None

5. New Business:

- a. Police Department Supplemental Funding Discussion – Jordan
- b. DL Police Department Gun Range – Chief Smith & Jordan
- c. Department Reports: (Accept reports as presented)
 - 1. PD Report - Chief Smith
 - 2. Code Enforcement Report – Kody Ryan
 - 3. FD Report – Chief Pierson
 - 4. County Health Report – Ida Miller

6. Staff or Committee Comments or Concerns:

7. Announcement of the Next Meeting:

- a. Regular Meeting: Thursday, June 13, 2024, at 5:00 PM.

8. Adjournment:

Public Health & Safety Committee

Members

John Molendyke (Chair) | Kirk Hayes | Curt Fjelstad

CITY OF DEER LODGE

**Public Health & Safety
Committee**

MINUTES

April 11, 2024, at 5:00pm | Council Chambers

Members Present: Kirk Hayes, Curt Fjelstad
Members Absent: John Molendyke
Mayor: Absent
CAO: Jordan Green
Staff: Fire Chief Pierson, Police Chief Smith, Kody Ryan
Guests: None

1. Call Meeting to Order:

Acting Chair Jordan Green called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting: March 14, 2024

Member Fjelstad motioned to approve as presented. Member Hayes seconded the motion. 2 Ayes, 0 Nos, 1 Absent. Motion passed.

3. Public Comment – Limited to Three Minutes Per Person

a. None

4. Old Business:

a. None

5. New Business:

a. Goal #6: Police Department Funding - Jordan

Kick off meeting to start discussing the needs, should haves and wants for the Police Department. Discuss what kind of funding strategy we need to look for and the needs for the Police Department. Police Chief Smith outlined 3 important needs: Staffing, Vehicles, Radios. Discussed additional items such as Patrol Rifles, Body Cam/Dash Cam Evidence Management

System, Mobile Data Terminal for the Police Vehicles. Discussed a Police Grant that may be available along with a Radio Grant.

Discussed looking into adequate cost estimates, strategizing, the best support for Police funding and the best ways to do this.

Discussion only no motion required.

b. Department Reports: ***Department Reports Accepted as presented.***

1. Police Police Chief Smith

Police Chief Smith summarized recent department activities for March based on 223 calls for service 189 reports generated, 87 traffic stops and 31 Citations issued.

2. Code Enforcement..... Kody Ryan

Kody summarized recent department activities for March based on 5 dogs at large calls, 8 citizen complaints, 1 Courtesy Hold at Shelter, 3 citations issued, 135 year-to- date dog tags issued, 1 vicious dog detained at shelter, Beaver Remediation, Property cleanups, Daily patrols.

3. Fire..... Fire Chief Pierson

Fire Chief Pierson summarized recent department activities for March based on 4 calls for service.

4. County Health March Report.....Ida Miller

Child Safety: Powell County Public Health has car seats available on a sliding scale basis and a trained child seat technician to help with installation and questions. We will be hosting a child seat inspection and installation on April 30th from 2:30-5 pm at the Community Center in conjunction with Safe Start.

Public Health Office: The Powell County Public Health office has regularly scheduled office hours every Thursday from 11 am to 2 pm. The office is on the lowest level of the courthouse in Suite 106.

Animal bites: One dog bite and one cat bite in February

Influenza/Covid: There were 12 cases of COVID-19 reported in March and 51 cases of Influenza. Currently there is 1 active case of covid and no other active cases of respiratory illness being reported.

Spring is here. Some health issues to be aware of are:

Rabies: As more wildlife becomes active as the weather warms, caution should be taken to prevent potential exposure.

Rabies is a fatal but preventable viral disease. It can spread to people and pets if they are bitten or scratched by a rabid animal. In the United States, rabies is mostly found in wild

animals like bats, raccoons, skunks, and foxes. However, in many other countries dogs still carry rabies, and most rabies deaths in people around the world are caused by dog bites.

Ticks: Different species carry different types of disease, in Montana the main species of tick we worry about are the black-legged tick or deer tick and the American dog tick. Those are the ones that carry diseases of the most concern to us right now, including Lyme disease which only deer ticks carry, and Rocky Mountain spotted fever which is carried by the dog tick.

Hantavirus: With spring weather, cleaning of outbuildings which may harbor rodents can lead to potential for exposure to hantavirus. Appropriate precautions should be used when evidence of rodents is visible. The most important hantavirus in the United States that can cause Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome is spread by the deer mouse here in Montana.

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza: This virus is extremely infectious and fatal to poultry and some species of wild birds. HPAI is now being found in dairy cattle and can cause decreased milk production and illness. The USDA has confirmed that there is no threat to human health and milk. Dairy products remain safe to consume. Pasteurization (high heat treatment) kills harmful microbes and pathogens in milk, including the influenza virus. Although the risk to humans is very low, Montanans should take precautions when handling game birds or any sick or dead bird they find. Gloves should always be worn when handling game birds or any sick or dead bird that must be handled for disposal. People are encouraged to report unusual or unexplained cases of sickness and/or death of domestic or wild birds by calling code enforcement at 406-594-0911 or public health at 406-691-0242.

Measles: Although there has only been a suspected case of Measles in Montana this year, the possibility of it occurring is increasing. If you are notified that you have been exposed to a case of measles, contact your healthcare professional so that they may determine if you are immune based on your immunization status, age, or laboratory evidence or evaluate you for symptoms.

6. Staff Comments or Concerns:

- a. None

7. Announcement of the Next Meeting:

- a. Regular Meeting: Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 5:00PM.

8. Adjournment:

- a. Meeting was adjourned at 5:32PM.

Prepared by: Cyndi Thompson, City Clerk

Chairperson: _____
John Molendyke

Date: _____

**Public Health & Safety Committee
Members**

John Molendyke (Chair) | Kirk Hayes | Curt Fjelstad



DEER LODGE Police Department

April 2024 Monthly Report

Chief George Smith

- 205 Calls for Service
- 188 Reports Generated
- 58 Traffic Stops
- 21 Citations Issued
- Highlighted Calls
 - Felony Assault w/ Weapon
 - Resisting Arrest
 - Felony Stalking
 - Felony DUI
 - 2 Felony Theft cases
 - 2 DUI Misdemeanors
 - 9 Traffic Accidents
 - 2 Hit and Runs
 - Stolen Firearm
 - DLDP was involved w/ 10 arrests.

Officer Highlights

Sergeant Slauson- Investigated and got a warrant on a Stalking case. The suspect was subsequently in a 4-hour standoff with Missoula SWAT and then arrested.

Officer Schmidt- Investigated a traffic accident that resulted in a DUI-Drug charge along with multiple other citations.

Officer Malcomb- Currently investigating a Felony Theft case, several power tools were stolen.

Officer Denend- Conducted a DUI investigation and arrested the suspect.



CODE COMPLIANCE REPORT

April 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

- 27 new cases started
- 6 new property cleanups (2 progressing quickly 4 slowly)
- 2 DLPD assists
- 4 junk vehicles removed (1 towed)
- 10 dog at large calls
- 2 reports of animal cruelty
- 2 city to paws adoptions of abandoned animals
- 1 dog held at shelter per judge's order
- 1 dog attack on livestock or poultry
- 1 dog barking complaint
- 171 dog tags sold year to date
- 14 citizen complaints
- beaver abatement
- monthly culvert inspections
- daily patrols and inspections

INTEREST ITEMS FOR CITY COUNCIL

- Possible code language change for barking dogs (clarification for deciding nuisance value).



FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

APRIL 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

2 Calls for Service:

- 1 Small grass fire off of Interstate 90. Extinguished in a minute or two. Suspected cause was a careless cigarette thrown out of a car.
- 1 Small grass fire off of the Beaumont Place. Started in the remnants of a control burn. A wind out of the north took a small path of fire off property to the south. We put it out on arrival and looked for hot spots before we left.

INTEREST ITEMS FOR CITY COUNCIL

Department Happenings:

- We met with the county planner and other area fire departments to look at the CWPP (Community Wildfire Protection Plan) draft plan. It's coming along great thanks to the hard work of Amanda Cooley, our county planner.

Powell County Public Health
APRIL 2024

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Public Health Office: The Powell County Public Health office has changed their regularly scheduled office hours to **every Wednesday** from 11 am to 2 pm. The office is on the lowest level of the courthouse in Suite 106.

Animal bites: Three dog bites in April

Influenza/Covid-19: There was 1 case of COVID-19 reported in April and no other active cases of respiratory illness were reported in April.

Spring is here. Some health issues to be aware of are:

Rabies: As more wildlife becomes active as the weather warms, caution should be taken to prevent potential exposure.

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