

The Florence County Personnel Committee met for a special meeting on January 30, 2017 at the Courthouse. The meeting was called to order by the Chair. Members present were Supervisors Bomberg, Johnson, Kelley, and Theer. Excused: Supervisor Steber. Absent: None. Others present Donna Trudell, County Clerk, Sheriff Rickaby, Long/Tipler/Popple River residents along with Fire and Rescue for Long Lake/Tipler: Tina Sonkowsky, Joshua Sonkowsky, Kathy Wetzel, Brittany Blankenhorn, Lee Gorr, Ron Alberg, Jerry Nelson, Barb Nelson, Carol Albers, Cathy Hagen, Darleen Hagen, Linda Nichols, Nancy Modscheidler, Pamela Kelter, William Streu, Jaden Streu, Jeff Kislewski, Sue Haag, Kevin Haag, Mike Theis, Bruce Nichols, Lisa Nichols, Dale Ritchie, Cindy Ritchie, Rick Knepper, Corrin Seaman, Sandy Hodgson, William Hodgson, Roy Sonkowski, Rodney Roberts, Kelly Detro, Donald Lenehan, Stephanie Monhead, John Rodaer, Skip Ritchie, Kathy Barber, Patsy Gilligan, Jerry Gilligan, B. Breznowski, Bob Benter, Fran Modschiedler, Roger Kelter, Jack McCraw, Darlene Gilligan, Diana Hensley, Megan Wilder, Renee Andersen, Crystal Blankenhorn, Todd Mulvey, and Amanda Mulvey.

Moved by Supervisor Theer, seconded by Supervisor Kelley to approve the Agenda. Ayes: Four (4). Nays: None (0). Motion carried.

The Personnel Committee requested a meeting with the Town of Long Lake, the Town of Tipler, the Town of Popple River, the Long Lake/Tipler Rescue Squad and the Town of Long Lake Fire Department after receiving an email that the Long Lake/Tipler Rescue Squad will discontinue coverage for the Town of Long Lake as of midnight, on January 31, 2017 if the Town of Long Lake does not sign the contractual agreement given to them by the Long Lake/Tipler Rescue Squad.

Sheriff Rickaby gave a quick history and background of the forming of the Florence County Rescue Squads. Rickaby stated that in the early 70's under the Wisconsin State Statutes required all municipalities to supply rescue units. With the limited funds the towns had the County stepped in to help with the financial burden providing funds and insurances for each rescue unit formed. The goals and outcome for the meeting is to serve every citizen in the County, work together, and for the County to protect itself for any liability issues that could potentially come if rescue coverage is not being met.

A lengthy discussion between the parties took place. Members of the audience voiced their concerns and opinions. Some of the concerns raised:

- Rescue coverage would always be provided
- The citizens, the rescue squad and the fire department would all work together and getting along
- Cost difference for rescue coverage between the towns: Popple River, Tipler and Long Lake
- Long Lake Town Board not signing the contract to continue rescue coverage
- Mediator provided to resolve the conflicts.

Sheriff Rickaby asked to have one person from the Long Lake Town Board and a couple of people from the rescue squad to sit down with him after the meeting to discuss the contract and come to an agreement so a resolution can be brought to the next Town Board meeting for completion and signing.

There being no further business and on a motion made, seconded, and carried the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Trudell  
County Clerk