

PUBLIC SAFETY & JUDICIAL COMMITTEE
March 11th, 2026

The meeting of the Public Safety & Judicial Committee was called to order by Chair Gonyo on Wednesday, March 11th, 2026, at 9:00AM, in the County Board Room and via remote access format at the Government Center, Green Lake, WI. The requirements of the open meeting law were certified as being met. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present:	Don Lenz	Absent:
	Gene Thom	
	Keith Hess	
	Sue Wendt	
	Joe Gonyo	

Other County Employees Present: Karissa Rohde, Deputy County Clerk; Sheriff Podoll; Chief Deputy Matt Vande Kolk; Jeff Mann, Corporation Counsel; Sophia Walters, HR; Tom Wastart, Medical Examiner; Amy Thoma, Clerk of Courts; Gerise Laspisa, District Attorney (9:01 am); Mitzi Putzke, Paralegal/Office Manager; Renee Thiem-Korth, Register of Deeds (Remote)

PUBLIC COMMENT – none

MINUTES OF 2/11/2026

Motion/second (Lenz/Thom) to approve the minutes of the 2/11/2026 meeting with no additions or corrections. Motion carried with no negative vote.

ANNUAL REPORTS

- **District Attorney**
- **Clerk of Circuit Court**
- **Medical Examiner**
- **Emergency Management**

No discussion. *Motion/second (Wendt/Lenz)* to accept the reports and forward to County Board for final approval. Motion carried with no negative vote.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Vande Kolk gave an update on hiring in the Sheriff's department.

EXPENSE & REVENUE REPORTS

No discussion.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Medical Examiner, Tom Wastart will be retiring on May 1st, 2026. *Motion/second (Thom/Lenz)* to suspend the rules to allow Wastart to speak. Motion carried with no negative vote.

Wastart thanked the committee for their support. He also shared that he has offered to stick around longer than May 1st to help train his replacement in needed. Wastart worked with Green Lake County for 5 years. Sheriff Podoll thanked Wastart for his services and shared that he brings a lot of compassion to the County. District Attorney, Gerise Laspisa also thanked Wastart for his services.

- **Future meeting dates: Regular meeting** – April 8th, 2026
- **Future agenda items for action & discussion:**

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Gonyo adjourned the meeting at 9:09 AM.

Submitted by,

Karissa Rohde

Karissa Rohde

Deputy County Clerk