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CITY OF DEER LODGE

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Public Health & Safety  
COMMITTEE

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AGENDA

March 10, 2022 – 5:00 P.M. | Council Chambers, City Hall

**1. Call Meeting to Order:**

**2. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. Meeting Minutes, February 10, 2022.

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

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

- a. Street Maintenance Discussion – John Skibsrud
- b. City Police Department Patrolled Areas – John Skibsrud
- c. Department Reports: (Accept reports as presented)
  - i. PD Report - Chief Smith
  - ii. Code Enforcement Report – Suzan Callahan
  - iii. FD Report – Chief Pierson
  - iv. County Health Report – Ida Miller

**5. Old Business:**

- a. None

**6. Staff or Committee Comments or Concerns:**

**7. Announcement of the Next Meeting:**

- a. April 14, 2022, at 5:00 PM.

**8. Adjournment:**

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Public Health & Safety Committee

**Members**

John Skibsrud (Chair) | Rob Kersch | Curt Fjelstad

# Public Health & Safety Committee

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# MINUTES

February 10, 2022, at 5:00pm | Council Chambers

**Members Present:** Robert Kersch (via zoom), John Skibsrud, & Curt Fjelstad  
**Members Absent:** None  
**Mayor:** Absent  
**CAO:** Jordan Green  
**Staff:** Police Chief Smith, Fire Chief Pierson, Suzan Callahan & Cyndi Thompson  
**Guests:** See Sign in Sheet

**1. Call Meeting to Order:**

Interim Chairperson Skibsrud called meeting to order at 5pm

**2. Approval of Minutes for**

a. January 13, 2022 – Member Kersch motioned to approve minutes as presented. Interim Chairperson Skibsrud seconded the motion. 2 Ayes, 1 Abstained. Motion passed.

**3. Public Comment – Limited to Three Minutes Per Person**

a. None

**4. New Business:**

a. Committee Chair Appointment – Jordan  
Member Skibsrud was voted as new Committee Chairperson. 2 Ayes, 1 No. Motion passed.

b. Review and Approve Bylaws – Jordan  
Vote was unanimous with 3 Ayes, 0 No. Motion passed.

c. Department Reports: Accepted as presented.

1. Police ..... Police Chief Smith

Police Chief Smith summarized recent department activities for January based upon 173 calls for service and 31 citations.

2. Code Enforcement..... Code Enforcement Officer Callahan

Code Enforcement Officer Callahan summarized recent department activities for January.

3. Fire..... Fire Chief Pierson

Fire Chief Pierson's report summarized department activities for January based on 4 calls for service.

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

Powell County Public Health continues to offer Child Safety Seat inspections. They also have some child safety seats available on a sliding scale fee basis.

Testing and contact tracing for Coronavirus continues in Powell County. In December, there were 34 positive cases in Powell County. Over the month of December, there were 5 hospitalizations and 1 death. We are seeing more people testing, we had about 180 tested. The majority of Covid-19 cases found in Powell County are still the Delta variant, but the Omicron variant has been found here.

Vaccination for Covid-19 is available to all residents of Powell County who are 18 and over. Deer Lodge Medical Center is administering the vaccine free of charge call 846-2212 or 846-1722 or check the DLMC website at dlmed.org. for more information or to register to receive the vaccine. The vaccine is also available at Safeway in Deer Lodge. Booster doses for individuals who are 18 years and older are now available. Everyone ages 18 and older should get a booster shot either when they are 6 months after their initial Pfizer or Moderna series or 2 months after their initial J&J vaccine.

Butte-Silver Bow is providing Pfizer vaccination for the 5- to 11-year-olds. They currently have the vaccine for 12 to 18-year-old age groups and Butte-Silver Bow Public Health has information regarding scheduling.

Montana State Prison has had staff and offenders testing positive with Covid-19 during the month of December.

New guidelines for isolation and quarantine have been issued by the CDC and Montana DPPHS. For the general population, a positive case must isolate for the first 5 days and if able to wear a mask may return to normal activities while wearing a mask at all times for the second five days. If exposed, the quarantine period is recommended by Powell County Public Health but cannot be required.

There have been 6 confirmed cases of influenza in Powell County. Deer Lodge Medical Center and Safeway have vaccines for influenza available. Influenza and Covid-19 have similar symptoms and can occur at the same time. Only a lab test can determine if you have influenza, Covid-19, or both.

d. Prior Project Update – Jordan

Discussed a summary of prior projects and projects in progress; Deer Lodge Hotel 501C3, Stop signs, crosswalks, and signage.

- e. Committee Goals – Jordan  
No motion, discussion only of future committee goals.

**5. Old Business:**

- a. None

**6. Staff Comments or Concerns:**

- a. None

**7. Announcement of the Next Meeting:**

- a. March 10, 2022, at 5:00pm

**8. Adjournment:**

- a. Meeting was adjourned at 5:42pm by unanimous vote.

Prepared by: Cyndi Thompson, City Clerk

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_  
John Skibsrud

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Public Health & Safety Committee**

**Members**

John Skibsrud (Chair) | Rob Kersch | Curt Fjelstad



Chief George Smith

# CITY OF DEER LODGE

## Police Department

300 Main St. Deer Lodge, MT. 59722

Phone: (406) 846-9585

Fax: (406) 846-2500

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### February 2022 Police Department Report

**Calls: 107**

**Traffic Stop Total: 27**

**Citations: 26**

911 Hang Up: 1  
Abandoned Vehicle: 2  
Alarms: 5  
Animal Calls: 3  
Assault: 1  
Assist Other Agency: 1  
Burglar Alarm: 1  
Citation Service: 2  
Civil Standby: 3  
Code Violation: 1  
Courtesy Ride: 3  
Criminal Mischief: 1  
Disturbance: 3  
Drug Paraphernalia  
Found: 1  
DUI: 2  
Fight: 1  
Fire Other: 1  
Gun Shot Incident: 1  
Hit and Run: 2  
Indecent Exposure: 1  
Informational Call: 1  
Intoxicated Person: 1  
License Plate Stolen: 1  
Ministerial Assistance  
Requested: 1  
Noise Complaint: 1  
OOP Violation: 1  
Parking Complaint: 2  
Power Outage: 1

Probation Officer Check: 4  
Request Ambulance: 3  
Request Officer: 7  
Speak to Officer: 2  
Stolen Vehicle: 1  
Suicide: 1  
Theft Motor Vehicle: 1  
Traffic Accident: 2  
Trespass to Property: 2  
Unwanted Person(s): 2  
Vehicle Check: 1  
Welfare Checks: 8

#### Highlight Citations

\*Driving while Suspended- 7  
\*Disorderly Conduct- 2  
\*Partner Family Member  
\*Assault- 2  
\*No Insurance- 2  
\*Resisting Arrest- 1  
\*Forgery- 1  
\*Indecent Exposure- 1  
\*Assault on a Peace Officer-  
1  
\*Obstructing an Officer- 1  
\*Assault- 1  
\*Criminal Possession of Drug  
Paraphernalia- 1  
\*Contributing to a Minor



## **CODE COMPLIANCE REPORT**

### **February 2022**

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

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- Three certified letters sent out reminding them to comply by May 1st.
- 9 Feral cats deposited at a county farm that requested some cats for their barn. 2 rabbits and a goat were taken back after they ran amuck. (Chased and caught by neighbor kids)
- Alleyways are staying clear for the sanitation truck, one issue behind Main Street business but resolved.

#### **PROJECT SUMMARIES**

- Junk Vehicle Program- Chad Lanes meeting was conducted on 1/26/2022 at Anaconda Court house with Joe Ungaretti (code enforcement). Meeting to be set by CAO Green and Mr. Lanes to go JVP and iron out minor issues. We are trying to mesh everyone's schedules to have an active participation meeting. If there is anyone else that would like to attend send me an email.
- No Community workers
- 144 dog licenses done, and updated rabies record complete.
- Found a lot of old files still incomplete from March of 2020 and I will be heading into their completion this next month.

#### **INTEREST ITEMS FOR CITY COUNCIL**

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- New Vehicle is here and is working great. It has a small oil leak and is scheduled to be looked at. Also, decals are done and ready to be put on the car. Uniform shirts and coat are at the embroiders and should be done by next week.

#### **STAFFING CONCERNS**

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- I'm looking forward to getting cleared for full duty. As I am still on restrictive duty and with the help of Officer K. Hamilton, feral cats are being rounded up.
- As of now all cases from last year are in the iWork's system, we are out of the set-up phase and running full steam ahead. If anyone would like to see how it is used give me a call.



# FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

FEBRUARY 2022

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

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### **2 Calls for Service:**

- 1 rural structure fire on Emery Road. The shop was fully engulfed on arrival. Crews kept the spread from reaching fuel storage tanks and worked on getting the fire out. It was a total loss. We paged out Garrison FD and Racetrack FD for help because of lack of a water source in the area. Things went well considering.
- 1 call for car accident with injury. A large moving truck left the roadway about Mile Marker 192 coming to rest on and blocking Sager Lane. There were multiple victims in the accident so Captain Wade Johnson drove the ambulance back to the hospital so that both EMTs could tend to patients.

## **INTEREST ITEMS FOR CITY COUNCIL**

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- We received information back from Northwestern Energy about doing a training burn on the old cabin by JC Park. Unfortunately, due to having both electric and communication lines running above it, it's just not feasible. We are exploring another option on a different house and will update later.
- We received 2 grants this month. The Montana Elks Association awarded us \$900, and we also received a rural grant for \$3,800. Both grants will be going towards new handheld radios that are P25 compliant with NFPA standards. Ideally, we are working towards 30 total new radios over the next few years so that every firefighter has their own.

## Powell County Public Health

February 2022

Powell County Public Health continues to offer Child Safety Seat inspections. They also have some child safety seats available on a sliding scale fee basis.

Home test kits are available thru Powell County Public Health. Public Health is handing them out on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11am to 1pm. If used and positive, there are directions included on how to report the test.

Testing and contact tracing for Coronavirus continues in Powell County. In February, there were 73 positive cases in Powell County that were reported thru the State network. Home testing has been very active but reporting of home tests has been very small. Over the month of February, there were 7 hospitalizations due to Covid-19.

The advantage of using and reporting of home test results is that there is a verified record of the positive case and then if a positive test result is received in the next 90 days it does not delay further events such as travel or surgery. Canada has released new guidelines for entry into the country.

Vaccinations are still available, and we have not received any information about receiving another booster.

Montana State Prison has not reported a positive case of Covid in staff or offenders since February 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Important Public Health concerns other than coronavirus:**

**Influenza:** There have been 8 confirmed cases of influenza in Powell County. Deer Lodge Medical Center and Safeway have vaccines for influenza available. Influenza and Covid-19 have similar symptoms and can occur at the same time. Only a lab test can determine if you have influenza, Covid-19, or both.

**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.

**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.

The rabies virus infects the central nervous system. If a person does not receive the appropriate medical care after a potential rabies exposure, the virus can cause disease in the brain, ultimately resulting in death. Rabies can be prevented by vaccinating pets, staying away from wildlife, and seeking medical care after potential exposures before symptoms start.

**Ticks:** Every bug is coming back now because all insects are emerging. From the bees to the mosquitoes, spring brings new life and that includes bugs.

However, people need to be wary of insects that can carry disease.

Ticks will be active as soon as it is 50 degrees out, so if it's over 50 degrees you can get a tick any time of year.

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.