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**CITY OF DEER LODGE**

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**Public Health & Safety  
COMMITTEE**

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**AGENDA**

**August 11, 2022 – 5:00 P.M. | Council Chambers, City Hall**

**1. Call Meeting to Order:**

- a. Assign a Chairperson - Jordan

**2. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. Regular Meeting: June 9, 2022. No meeting in July 2022

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

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

**5. New Business:**

- a. Department Reports: (Accept reports as presented)
  - i. PD Report - Chief Smith
  - ii. Code Enforcement Report – Jordan
  - iii. FD Report – Chief Pierson
  - iv. County Health Report – Ida Miller
- b. Police Department Mechanical Tire Deflators – Chief Smith
- c. Designated Parade Routes – John Henderson

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

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

- a. September 8, 2022, at 5:00 PM.

**8. Adjournment:**

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**Public Health & Safety Committee**

**Members**

Rob Kersch | Joseph Callahan | Curt Fjelstad

# Public Health & Safety Committee

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# MINUTES

June 9, 2022, at 5:00pm | Council Chambers

**Members Present:** Robert Kersch, John Skibsrud, & Curt Fjelstad  
**Members Absent:** None  
**Mayor:** James Jess  
**CAO:** Jordan Green  
**Staff:** None  
**Guests:** Ida Miller

**1. Call Meeting to Order:**

Chairperson Skibsrud called meeting to order at 5pm

**2. Approval of Minutes for**

a. May 12, 2022 – Member Kersch motioned to approve minutes as amended (5b name correction Chad Lanes). Member Fjelstad seconded the motion. 3 Ayes, 0 Nos. Motion passed.

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

a. None

**4. Old Business:**

a. Hotel Deer Lodge – Jordan

Jordan provided an update about the structure of the building. Wood was removed from front Main Street windows. Jordan is looking into a Brownfield Asbestos Grant so and asbestos inspection can be done. Basement room under the alley way will be further inspected by PW Supervisor. Only visited the first floor and shows to be very sound structure by a visual and without a structure engineer report. Building interior does show a complete remodel will need to be done. Discussion only.

b. Junk Vehicle Update – Jordan

Draft lease agreement was presented and reviewed by the committee as Chad Lanes is ready to move forward with the Junk Vehicle Program. Jordan will get a letter from Mr. McQueary releasing previous lease agreement with the City.

Member Kersch motioned to approve the Junk Vehicle Lease Agreement and forward to City Council. Member Fjelstad seconded the motion. 3 Ayes, 0 Nos. Motion passed.

c. Street Maintenance Resolution Referendum Discussion – Jordan

Last month’s Public Health & Safety meeting never had a formal vote on the subject so it has been brought back to the committee should they wish to make a formal vote and/or a recommendation to Public Works similar to what the Finance Committee did. We have already heard from the first responders from this request.

Member Skibsrud asked: what was the decision of the Finance Committee? Jordan stated they decided not to recommend this to Public Works vote 2-1 absent.

Member Kersch motioned to continue the Street Maintenance Program as it currently is. Member Fjelstad seconded the motion. 2 Ayes, 1 No. Motion passed.

Jordan stated, this will be presented in the Public Works meeting the 28<sup>th</sup> of June.

**5. New Business:**

a. Department Reports: Accepted as presented.

1. Police ..... Police Chief Smith

Police Chief Smith report summarized recent department activities for May based upon 161 calls for service and 23 citations.

2. Code Enforcement..... Jordan

Jordan provided recent department updates for hiring a new code enforcement officer.

3. Fire..... Fire Chief Pierson

Fire Chief Pierson’s report summarized department activities for May based on 0 calls for service. We completed our ISO (Insurance Service Office) survey, and we feel it went very well. Won’t know what our rating is for a couple of months. We will be lining up some more training going into June with MSU fire.

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

Powell County Public Health will offer Child Safety Seat inspections on June 11, 2022, from 11 am to 1 pm at Deer Lodge Medical Center. They also have some child safety seats available on a sliding scale fee basis.

**Home test kits** are available thru Powell County Public Health. Call if you need one, they are good until October 2022. If used and positive, there are directions included on how to report the test or call Public Health staff for assistance. 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.

**Vaccinations** are still available, and the CDC is recommending another booster for anyone age 50 and over if you have received the recommended previous vaccinations. Powell County ranks ninth in state for fully vaccinated eligible Montanans.

**Testing** and contact tracing for Coronavirus continues in Powell County. In May, there were 14 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 low. The main variant tested in Montana now is BA.2.12.1.

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

**Powell County Public Health Officer:** Dr. Paul Rees

**Dog bites:** 3 bites in May

**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:** There has been one human infection in Colorado. There are flocks and wild bird infections in Montana. This virus is extremely infectious and fatal to poultry and some species of wild birds. Although 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.

**6. Staff Comments or Concerns:**

- a. Chairperson Skibsrud asked about the shack that was unsafe.

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

- a. July 14, 2022, at 5:00pm

**8. Adjournment:**

- a. Meeting was adjourned at 5:45PM.

Prepared by: Cyndi Thompson, City Clerk

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**Public Health & Safety Committee  
Members**

John Skibsrud (Chair) | Rob Kersch | Curt Fjelstad



## Deer Lodge Police Department

July 2022

### **Police CFS= Total 289**

Alarm  
Alarm - Medical  
Alarm - Non Residential  
Assault  
Break-in - Attempted  
Burglar Alarm  
Child Abuse  
Civil Standby  
Courtesy Ride  
Criminal Mischief  
Disturbance  
Domestics  
DUI  
Electrical Hazard  
Elder Abuse  
Fire  
Gas Leak  
Hit and Run  
Medical Alarm  
Noise Complaint  
Parking Complaint  
Partner Family Member Assault  
Probation Officer Check  
Property Stolen  
Public Safety  
Reckless Driving  
Request Ambulance  
Request Officer  
Request to Speak to Officer  
Sexual Assault  
Suicidal Adult - Female

Suspicious Activity  
Suspicious Person(s)  
Suspicious Vehicle(s)  
Theft  
Traffic Accidents  
Traffic - Hazard  
Traffic Stop  
Traffic - Stranded Motorist  
TRO Violation  
Unattended Juvenile(s)  
Unwanted Person(s)  
VIN Inspection  
Walk Through/Security Check  
Weapon(s) Brandished  
Weapon(s) Discharged  
Welfare Check

### **Code CFS= 14**

Animal Calls  
Fireworks Complaint  
Fireworks Violation  
Recreational Fire Complaint

**Citations Issued = 28**

**Out of Town Calls= 6** none more than 5 miles out



# FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

JULY 2022

## HIGHLIGHTS

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### **8 Calls for Service:**

- 1 small wild land caused by lightning in a hay field. Residents had it contained mostly before we arrived.
- 1 fire at the landfill in a rubbish pile. Fire was on the surface of the pile. We had it contained that night and shuffled water to it a few times the next day to make sure nothing re-ignited.
- 2 arching power line calls. Both of which Northwestern Energy took over and handled.
- 1 call to help reset industrial fire alarm.
- 1 call to protect a fuel spill. We used floor dry to dam the spread and detergent to mask the fire hazard. Hazmat spill from Hanser's Towing took over upon arrival.
- 1 electrical fire in a cooking stove. Resident had it out upon our arrival.
- 1 car accident extrication assist. We helped stabilize the car and remove victim.

## INTEREST ITEMS FOR CITY COUNCIL

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### **Department Happenings**

- Just completed Traffic Incident Management System training to help teach crews how to set up protection on roadways for fires and accidents. Some crew members from Racetrack Valley Dept joined.
- Annual hose testing will be completed by the end of August. All hose on all trucks.

## Powell County Public Health

July 2022

**Child Safety:** Powell County Public Health received 5 Child Safety Seats from a grant out of Missoula with Buckle Up for Life. These seats are available for distribution. They also have some child safety seats available on a sliding scale fee basis.

**Animal bites:** 1 dog bite, 1 cat bite, 1 bat bite, and 1 pack rat bite

**Rabies:** Our bat bite resulted in the patient receiving the post-exposure prophylaxis. The bat was seen lying on the ground within the city limits and was picked up at which time the bat bit the person and then flew away. Because the bat bite was known and the bat was not available for testing, the person is receiving treatment. It is not recommended to handle sick animals without taken proper precautions especially bats and skunks.

### COVID-19

**Home test kits:** These are available thru Powell County Public Health. Call if you need one at (406) 491-3681, they are good until October 2022. If used and positive, there are directions included on how to report the test or call Public Health staff for assistance. 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 surgery.

**Vaccinations** are still available, and the CDC is recommending another booster for anyone age 50 and over if you have received the recommended previous vaccinations. Powell County has 65.9% of eligible persons fully vaccinated.

**Testing and contact tracing** for Coronavirus continues in Powell County. In May, there were 14 positive cases, in June there were 56 positive cases, and in July there were 108 positive cases. We had 6 prison employees reported as positive and several offenders in July. There were 4 hospitalizations in July. We have had two deaths in Powell County.

### Important Public Health concerns other than coronavirus:

**Powell County Public Health Officer:** Dr. Paul Rees

**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:** Outbuildings and other enclosed spaces 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 has not been detected in Powell County. There are flocks and wild bird infections in Montana. This virus is extremely infectious and fatal to poultry and some species of wild birds. Although 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 to their veterinarian or public health at 406-691-0242.

**Monkey Pox:** There are no reported cases of monkeypox in Montana. However, Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services is prepared to investigate if Montana gets a case.

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this policy is to establish use and reporting guidelines for the utilization of the Mechanical tire deflators.

**POLICY:**

Vehicular pursuit of fleeing suspects presents a danger to the lives of the public, officers and suspects involved in the pursuit. It is the policy of this Department to protect all persons' lives to the extent possible when enforcing the law. In addition, it is the responsibility of the Department to assist members in the safe performance of their duties.

To affect these obligations, it shall be the policy of the Department to regulate the way the use of a Mechanical tire deflators is undertaken and performed.

**DEFINITIONS:**

Mechanical tire deflators: a tire-puncturing apparatus which can be placed on a road surface in front of a moving vehicle such as an automobile. A special spike is used to first penetrate the tire's surface and then embed a hollow quill in the tread of the tire such that the tire will deflate at a controlled rate, rather than causing a blowout and subsequent loss of control of the vehicle.

**DEPLOYMENT GUIDELINES:**

The deployment of a Mechanical tire deflators on a moving vehicle during a pursuit is considered a use of force and shall be used in accordance with the

Department's Use of Force Policy and pursuit policy.

A mechanical tire deflator will be deployed only with the approval of a supervisor. Supervisory approval may be given via 9-1-1 Emergency Dispatch personnel.

The supervisor must consider all available information and authorize

the use of the mechanical tire deflators only when in his/her opinion the use of the mechanical tire deflators is necessary to bring a pursuit to an end.

A. No officer, or other department employee shall deploy a mechanical tire deflator unless the following criteria are met:

1) The officer has received the designated training for deployment of the Mechanical tire deflators established by the department.

2) A sergeant or higher-ranking officer has authorized the deployment of the mechanical tire deflators. Exceptions from a sergeant or higher-ranking officer's approval is justified when in the totality of the situation or the circumstances surrounding the pursuit presents additional risks that clearly outweigh prior approval of the deployment of a mechanical tire deflator.

3) The officer deploying the mechanical tire deflators must advise pursuing vehicles, by radio, that a mechanical tire deflator will be used, where the mechanical tire deflators will be used, and any officer-controlled lane restrictions established.

B. A mechanical tire deflators may be deployed in stationary vehicle situations for the following purposes:

1) To prevent a vehicle(s) from being moved by a suspect attempting to flee a scene.

2) To prevent movement of a vehicle that is, or possibly will be evidence.

C. When and where Mechanical tire deflators **SHOULD NOT** be deployed.

- 1) To terminate pursuits involving motorcycles, other two-wheel vehicles, three wheeled vehicles, ATVs or UTVs. or any vehicle transporting flammable or hazardous materials.
- 2) Roadways bounded by steep descending embankments.
- 3) Areas of special events or activities.
- 4) Curves or locations where the safety of oncoming traffic cannot be ensured (blind hills and curves).
- 5) Construction zones
- 6) Pedestrians in the immediate area.

*D. Requests by outside agencies for the use or deployment will be at the discretion of the supervisor.*

#### **DEPLOYMENT PROCESS:**

- The mechanical tire deflators will be maintained as per instructions and secured within the trunk
- as designed.
- After removal from the trunk the spike will be deployed and secured in
- accordance with training and manufacturer's instructions.
- Remove the mechanical tire deflators immediately after it has been run over to allow police
- vehicles to proceed.
- Mechanical tire deflators are not waterproof and must be wiped dry before they are returned
- to their storage rack.
- The damaged portion of a mechanical tire deflators used to successfully stop a vehicle involved
- in a pursuit should be placed in evidence. The undamaged portion(s) of a mechanical tire deflators may be returned to service.

#### **REPORTING REQUIRED:**

The deployment of the mechanical tire deflators must be documented with an Incident Report by the deploying officers.

In the event the deployment of a mechanical tire deflators results in a fatality, the mechanical tire deflators will be turned over to the investigating agency in any ensuing investigation.

**REPLACEMENT:**

All damaged mechanical tire deflators must be taken out of service and given to a department supervisor. If the mechanical tire deflators were used in a pursuit, it will be preserved as evidence.

**OFFICER SAFETY CONSIDERATION:**

Officers must use discretion in the proper positioning of the police vehicle to ensure their safety.

- A. Whenever possible, officers should place their police vehicles out of sight of the approaching suspect vehicle in order to reduce the chance of mechanical tire deflators avoidance by the suspect vehicle.
- B. The positioning of the police vehicle(s) must allow for a lane of traffic to remain open, across which the mechanical tire deflators may be deployed.
- C. An officer shall remain outside his/her police vehicle when deploying a mechanical tire deflators
- D. After preparing the mechanical tire deflators for deployment, the officer must take a safe cover position away from the point of contact between the suspect vehicles and the mechanical tire deflators. Remember. officer safety is a priority.
- E. The officer should get a safe distance away from the mechanical tire deflators, and when possible the cover position should be behind a fixed object and something other than a police vehicle.