

## Minutes- Public Safety Committee

Wednesday, March 18, 2026, 5:00 p.m. 303C, Courthouse, Cambridge, IL

Members present: Natalie Hendryx, Bob Wachtel, Kippy Breeden, Mike Rabas, Crystal Strobe and Shannon Bumann. Absent: none Others present: Sheriff, Mat Schnepple, Rex Kiser

Chair Hendryx called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Member Wachtel moved to approve the amended agenda to move items B & C to new business, Member Breeden seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried.

There was no public comment.

Member moved to approve the minutes from February 12, 2026, Member seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried.

The February 2026 claims reports reviewed. Under

presentations:

Director Schnepple gave a report for the OEM report which included staffing, snow event, state training summit, lost access to planning database, and they sold trailer.

Sheriff gave a report which included staffing, K9, miller foundation grant for MDC equipment, storms, PS sales tax, and jail administrator training.

There was no report for the Office of Public Defender.

There was no report for the Office of States Attorney.

Under old business the committee reviewed the statement from the SA that the county has to be involved in the creation of a trap and release program but is not responsible for running them. The committee reviewed a statement from Linda Vanderleest regarding the impact of feral cat populations that are not spayed/neutered. The committee directed Administrator Knackstedt to draft an agreement that could be used for municipalities that wish to establish their own trap and release programs.

Under new business:

Member Wachtel moved to approve the squad car replacements, Member Bumann seconded, there was a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion carried. The committee reviewed the quotes for the new squads and discussed whether to purchase 3 or 4 squads. The Sheriff stated that surplus vehicles will be sold at auction.

Member Hendryx moved to approve the intergovernmental agreement with the emergency systems telephone board, Member Rabas seconded, there was a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion carried. The committee discussed the proposed salary for the office of emergency management position and the desire to partner with the ETSB to fund it. Director Schnepple reviewed the position and why the need to partner with the ETSB on some of the position functions. Member Wachtel moved to adjourn, Member Strobe seconded, all were in favor and the motion

carried.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Erin Knackstedt  
County Administrator