

Meeting Minutes  
Wymore Police Department Advisory Committee  
April 20, 2023

The Wymore Police Department Advisory Committee met in open and public session on Thursday, April 20, 2023 in the Wymore Community Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Committee members Bryan Davidson, Kelly Garcia, Lisa Munstermann, Krystal Rutti, Tony Shepardson, Jeff Spier, Jeff VanWinkle, Neil Van Boening, and Interim Chief of Police Mark Meints. Absent was Jacques Borzekofski. Also present was Mayor Collin Meints, City Attorney Andrew Carothers and 5 members of the public.

**Collection of Member Email Addresses for City Office:** Committee members provided their email addresses for the City Office.

**Nomination & Election of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary:**

Jeff Spier nominated Bryan Davidson to be Chairman of the Committee; said nomination was seconded by Lisa Munstermann. There being no further nominations made, a vote was taken and the nomination was confirmed 8-0.

Bryan Davidson nominated Tony Shepardson to be Vice Chairman of the Committee; said nomination was seconded by Jeff Spier. There being no further nominations made, a vote was taken and the nomination was confirmed 8-0.

Jeff Spier nominated Lisa Munstermann to be Secretary of the Committee; said nomination was seconded by Tony Shepardson. There being no further nominations made, a vote was taken and the nomination was confirmed 8-0.

**Review Ordinance No. 673 & Discuss Purpose of Committee:**

Committee Member Van Boening read Ordinance No. 673 at the request of Chairman Davidson. The Committee identified the following three duties of the Committee as most pressing:

1. Section 2-210(2)(c)(iii) – Recruitment and retention of Police Department employees.
2. Section 2-210(d) – feasibility of maintaining a police department or other options of providing law enforcement services.
3. Section 2-210(a) – Police Department accreditation requirements under LB 51.

Chairman Davidson asked each Committee member to provide a two or three sentence statement as to what they believe the mission of the committee to be. At the next meeting of the Committee, the Committee will develop a mission statement so that the Committee can remain focused. Chairman Davidson also asked Committee to write down questions they might have.

Interim Chief of Police gave a quick update on the status of the Police Department: Lt. Schachtschabel will be resigning in the very near future and pursuing other employment options including completing a degree in accounting. Part-time Officer Jason Duff has resigned and turned in his gear.

Chairman Davidson asked each Committee member to state the reason they wanted to be on the Committee or the reason why they agreed to be on the Committee.

**Jeff VanWinke** – commented that this was his community and this is a very important issue to resolve.

**Jeff Spier** – it is important to have a law enforcement presence to deter criminal activity; Wymore has always had a Police Department and needs to continue to have a Police Department.

**Niel Van Boening** – commented that he has been discouraged about the direction the Department has been going in since LB 51 was passed; Committee needs to look at different options to provide the best for the community.

**Kelly Garcia** – commented that she has lived in the community for 4 years and believes it is crucial to have a Police Department to attract families and retired individuals.

**Lisa Munstermann** – commented that everything has looked different or changed since the COVID pandemic; every option needs to be considered; maybe law enforcement does not have to look like it did previously; she wants to be a part of the solution.

**Tony Shepardson** – commented that LB 51 changed everything and that a community really needs to be particular about who you hire.

**Krystal Rutti** – commented that as a business owner, it was nice to know that there is a presence in the community and that the Police Department was checking on business establishments during the night; she wants to be a part of the process that brings law enforcement back to the community.

Interim Chief of Police gave a summary to hiring differences between pre-LB 51 and post LB 51. In his opinion, the two largest issues making it difficult for Wymore to maintain a Police Department is LB 51 and the lack of available housing for Police Officers and their families. Interim Chief of Police also indicated that there are two communities of similar size to Wymore (Ceresco and Yutan) that have been able to maintain their Police Departments by utilizing part-time police officers and that the Committee should investigate how they staff their Police Departments.

**Agenda Items for Next Meeting:** The following agenda items will be discussed at the next meeting:

1. Discuss and adopt a mission statement for the committee.
2. Review and discussion of LB 51 and the requirements placed on Police Departments.
3. Police Department facilities and equipment review.
4. Discussion of questions from Committee members.
5. Preliminary review and discussion of budget for Police Department and other possible resources.

Mayor Collin Meints thanked all of the Committee members for their willingness to serve and to provide recommendations to the Governing Body.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting to the Wymore Police Department is Thursday, May 4, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wymore Community Center.

There being no further business before the Committee, Committee Member Garcia moved to adjourn; Committee Member VanWinkle seconded the motion. There being no objection to the motion, the Committee adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andrew K. Carothers  
Acting Secretary