

CITIZENS AUXILIARY ADVISORY SHERIFF'S MEETING

DATE: February 1, 2024 LOCATION: Spencer Lake Bar and Grill

A historical first-time event occurred at this meeting. Historically the swearing in of new officers has previously occurred within the designated Sheriff's Office. However, Sheriff Spurling wanted the General Public to witness this very important event, so the Citizens Auxiliary Advisory Meeting was the Sheriff's choice for the event. The restaurant was more than packed with almost the entire Mason County Sheriffs, special guests of the two new officers and the usual attendees of the meetings. The new officers are Officer Dean Johnson and Officer Jessie Ogden. Both are previous officers of Mason County. The new pay scale brought them back as they have both been very partial to our County. While pinning on the special badge which was designed by the previous Sheriff Casey, the Sheriff described the significance of the 5 core values. Accountability for actions, done with respect, and using integrity professionalism and partnership. Each new officer gave a personal speech and thanked all attending families, fellow officers and general public.

Commissioner Shutty was there and addressed general county issues. He said that he occasionally rides around with Sheriff Spurling and has gained unlimited respect for the officers within Mason County. Some of his talking points were about the 911 lifeline proposed tax increase, mental health and recovery services, designated mental health professionals to accompany officers on calls, the local increase in drug use and death, public safety is a top priority, By-Pass meeting scheduled on February 13 and North Mason High School. He was asked by an attendee if the By-Pass could connect with Highway 101? Answer No. Also asked if the By-Pass could be 4 lanes? He is working on acquiring grants and prefers to not wait for donations to fund needed projects. Belfair is the most populated in all of Mason County.

Bill Hyatt reported that the Command Vehicle was 100% financed by the generosity of the community. The Command Vehicle and the new Swat Vehicle will be at the Grand Opening of the new Sheriff's facility in Belfair tomorrow 2/2/23.