

**MINUTES  
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**July 17, 2017**

**4:00 P.M.**

**CONFERENCE ROOM D - COUNTY SQUARE**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting date, time, place and agenda was posted on the bulletin board at the entrance of the Council Office and mailed to the newspapers, radio stations and television stations.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairman Lynn Ballard  
Vice Chairman Xanthene Norris  
Councilor Mike Barnes  
Councilor Fred Payne (4:25 pm)  
Councilor Bob Taylor

**COMMITTEE MEMBER(S) ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

B. Parks Evans, Jr., Greenville County Coroner  
Jeffrey D. Wile, Assistant County Attorney  
John E. Vandermosten, Assistant County Administrator  
Debbie Templeton, Administrative Coordinator  
Helen E. Wood, Clerk to Public Safety Committee

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Lynn Ballard  
Chairman

**INVOCATION:**

Bob Taylor  
Councilor

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Vice Chairman Norris moved to approve the minutes of the Committee on Public Safety and Human Services' meeting of June 20, 2017. Motion carried unanimously by all Council members present.

## OVERVIEW OF THE CORONER'S OFFICE

Parks Evans, Jr., Greenville County Coroner, presented an overview of the Greenville County Coroner's Office.

The number of violent deaths within Greenville County is relatively the same compared to this time last year. There has been an overall decrease in the number of deaths related to overdose. This is directly related to the availability of Narcan. Narcan is an opiate antidote. Each first responding unit has received 2 doses of Narcan to utilize in the event of an overdose call.

The numbers Greenville County is currently recording for homicide, suicide, traffic, and overdose deaths are proportionate to numbers in the bordering regions. Should the number of deaths in a specific area or type increase; the regions will meet to complete an analysis in an attempt to find a cause and a manner in which to decrease those numbers.

The Coroner's Office provides intervention by offering programs and services to civic groups and organizations. An example of one such program is suicide prevention in youth. The Coroner's Office also presents drug, alcohol, and traffic programs to local elementary, middle, and high schools. This office also provides identification and notification to family members. This necessitates empathy and counseling.

The Greenville County Coroner's Office is the only one in the Southeast with a Forensic Pathologist performing every autopsy. The office utilizes autopsy results, social media output, and information obtained from family, friends, and school staff to make a determination to the type of death. The Coroner's Office offers its staff and expertise to bordering agencies as needed.

Parks Evans, Jr. thanked the committee and Greenville County for all they have done to support the Coroner's Office.

Chairman Ballard recognized the multiple aspects and hard work involved in the operation of the Coroner's Office.

## ADJOURNMENT

**ACTION:** Vice Chairman Norris moved to adjourn the meeting of the Committee on Public Safety and Human Services. Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Debra S. Templeton, Administrative Coordinator