



Price County Sheriff's Office
PO Box B • 164 Cherry Street • Phillips, WI 54555
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Press Release

5/13/2025

On May 7, 2025, the Price County Highway and Transportation Committee met for a regularly scheduled meeting at 9 a.m. This meeting was publicly accessible. During the meeting, a user labeled as "James' iPhone" joined from an IP address, which traced back to a Linode datacenter in Ontario, Canada-an American cloud provider known for hosting virtual machines. This user entered approximately 13 minutes into the meeting and displayed explicit content on the Price County video screen/streaming service. Price County employees took immediate action to stop this video feed.

A joint investigation was conducted by the service contractor Heartland Business Systems, the Price County IT Department, and the Price County Sheriff's Office. This investigation concluded that the explicit materials shown during the Price County Highway and Transportation Committee meeting did not originate from electronic items owned by Price County. In addition, this investigation concluded no Price County employees were responsible for displaying the explicit material.

Price County realizes that securing virtual meetings is essential to maintaining a safe and professional environment for all participants. The recent incident underscores the risks of unrestricted content sharing. Price County has implemented recommended setting changes and has taken steps to significantly reduce the likelihood of future disruptions. Nothing further will be released at this time.

Price County Sheriff Brian Schmidt

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