

Criminal Justice, Public Safety and Emergency Communications Committee

*Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2022*

PRESENT: Chairman Pete Walrod
Vice Chairman Rex Vosburg
Supervisor Loren Corbin
Supervisor Cliff Moses
Supervisor Bill Zupan

ALSO: Board Chairman John Becker
County Administrator Mark Scimone
County Administrator Intern Dan Cummings
Chief Assistant District Attorney Robert Mascari
County Attorney Tina Wayland-Smith (via Zoom)
First Assistant County Attorney Jeff Aumell
County Attorney Intern Noah Devaney
County Attorney Intern Alexis Collins
Emergency Management Director Dan Degear
Emergency Management Intern Hunter Kowaleski
Fire Coordinator Doug Shattuck
Director of 911 Frank McFall (via Zoom)
Sheriff Todd Hood
Undersheriff Bill Wilcox
Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis
Assigned Counsel Executive Assistant Elizabeth Hungerford (via Zoom)
Director of Finance Lou Anne Randall
Assistant Director of Finance Keith Lummis
Public Information Officer Samantha Field
Public Information Intern Quinn Vanlone
Public Information Specialist Ryan Coe
Treasurer Cindy Edick (9:37 a.m.)
Town of Lincoln Supervisor Melissa During (via Zoom)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pete Walrod at 9:00 a.m. in the Chambers.

Minutes:

The minutes of the December 2, 2021 meeting and the December 30, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved on the motion of Supervisor Bill Zupan and second of Supervisor Loren Corbin.

Emergency Management:

Emergency Management Director Dan Degear presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

**Authorizing the Application and Acceptance of the Grant Funds From the New York
State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for Public Safety
Answering Point Operations**

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Zupan and second of Moses.

Authorizing the Application and Acceptance of the Grant Funds From the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for Statewide Interoperable Communications

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Corbin and second of Moses.

Authorizing the Memorandum of Understanding for Emergency First Responder Training for the Year 2022

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Corbin and second of Moses.

Fire Coordinator Doug Shattuck discussed the firefighting foam that is used saying that two years ago we identified class B foam that was used in the County that contained PFOAs (perfluorooctane acid) which was removed and disposed of by the DEC. Foam we purchased for foam trailer and that remained in the County was from a manufacturer that didn't use PFOAs. Recently, another contaminant was identified used in class B foams. The State and County have identified that all foams in the trailer and individual fire department inventories contain this contaminant. There is a significant amount of this foam we would like to replace in our inventory through grant funding. Shattuck said we would collect it and store it in totes (preferably at Solid Waste) until the DEC decides how they will dispose of it. County Attorney Tina Wayland-Smith said it is a huge issue with County Attorney's across the State so if we can limit the use of it in Madison County she is all for it. It was the consensus of the Committee to move forward and collect the contaminated foam.

Director of Emergency Management Dan Degear updated the Committee on the following items:

- Currently hiring people for ALSFR CON. Will be on the road in early February. Have five paramedics and four EMT's coming on board and doing training. February 2nd they will train on heart monitors in the EOC with a representative from ZOLL. Waiting on the State to come do inspection of vehicles and supply room.
- Purchase order is in for CAD/RMS; waiting on Spillman to give us a project manager.
- Mobile CAD – want to offer to local police and fire departments and EMS agencies who want it. Would like to set them up with the same equipment that is in Sheriff's cars. There are cyber security risks out there with each village, fire department, city having their own computer equipment connecting to our network. Would like to create a plan so we can lease that equipment to them so they will have County equipment with our IT department maintaining it. The Committee was in agreement to move forward with this plan.
- Portable radio replacements for local PD's are here; waiting on accessories which will ship today.
- Every five years we need to do a full review and update of the Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazard Mitigation Plan. The RFP was awarded to Barton & Loguidice. A kick-off meeting will be scheduled within the next couple of weeks. The project will require significant interaction with local municipalities.

- Agreements for automatic renewals include: Sharing of Master Site Maintenance with Onondaga County 911 for Communications System, American Tower for Georgetown Tower Rental Site and Motorola for Maintenance of Radio System.

District Attorney:

Chief Assistant District Attorney Bob Mascari provided the following updates:

- Mascari discussed the DA budget cumulative salary increases from 2020-2022 with the effects of revenue and Traffic Diversion spreadsheet he had prepared and emailed out to the Committee prior to the meeting. 2019 was used as the base year. Mascari looked at how much their salaries had increased for 2020-2022. Net increase in salaries had gone up significantly at almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million dollars but for the same period of time Traffic Diversion generated almost \$930K for the Counties' general fund share. Mascari said after paying all salary increases including fringes, Traffic Diversion put \$184K in the Counties' general fund.
- Been busy indicting home invasion robbery/attempted murder. Had trial and the person ended up pleading on the 2nd day. Both Sheriff cases were magnificently investigated.
- Trying to get better information regarding Coroner statistics. Discussed material sent to the Committee prior to the meeting that summarizes 2021. Added in notion of overdoses. Overdose cases account for 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ % and suicides account for about 5%. Natural death causes are consistent with about 70-75% of calls they take.
- Raise the Age continues to be a nightmare; not sure how to solve this. Former Sheriff Al Riley sent out a memo how we can house them at the jail maybe because they have no beds.
- Victim Advocate continues to be a nightmare as well. We are ok for youngsters who fall under the CAC or if it's a State Police case but we don't have one. It's an issue that needs to be addressed; struggling to find a solution that doesn't involve money.
- Trials are going again. Newer ADA Jane Raven just had a guilty verdict in a difficult sexual abuse case that she should be commended for.
- State police have started giving them body cam footage on every case that doesn't involved storage on County website. It is a link to evidence.com that can be looked at and downloaded if needed. Hoping Spillman has a similar function.
- Had an arrest made recently that required a special prosecutor for a former employee. Judge decided to appoint a private Madison County attorney. Will be receiving a bill for that which was money not anticipated.
- Haven't heard updates on Amish safety issues. Reached out to Sergeant Knapp. Chairman Walrod said his first conversation with the Village Supervisor of Lebanon involved this issue and that we would keep after it.
- Before end of year will lose three to five full time, experienced employees that will need to be replaced. Discovery is making jobs hard to fill; will be ongoing issue.
- DA Gabor decided to withdraw cost neutral salary proposals from consideration by the Committee. Issues raised in proposals will not go away.

Assigned Counsel:

Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis presented a powerpoint with an overview of the program for 2021.

- Program began in November 2020 staffed at the time by David part-time and Liz Hungerford. DeSantis said that Liz has done a ton for the program and they would not be where they are without her. Also had great help in the beginning from Mark Scimone, Tina Wayland-Smith, Jeff Aumell and Amy Barber.
- Initial challenges included finding attorneys for the panel to cover Madison County Indigent needs, ensuring attorney coverage for the multiple needs of Madison County Courts, had over 1,500 in process cases that needed to make sure continued, COVID concerns, cost considerations, state funding organization concerns, how to create program from the ground up and would the program be temporary.
- Biggest problem was ensuring we could get as many former Public Defenders as possible.
- First task was outreach and learning, second task was formulating the basis of the program, third task was staffing the program and fourth task was ensuring Madison County legal community support.
- For year one, had 2,410 cases assigned with 1,100 cases resolved. Completed six trials and resolved 238 felony cases.
- Had 21 attorneys on panel in the beginning and currently have 26. Have another ADA coming on board this week.
- Biggest success thanks to Finance is that we are one of the fastest voucher reimbursing counties. Liz and Barb process vouchers immediately.
- Justice courts and CAP courts are fully staffed and special appearance attorney needs are met.
- Administrator DeSantis will become full-time, have one full-time executive assistant, one administrative assistant and will have a third assistant joining the program soon.
- Financial results as of last week: had a \$672K budget for Assigned Counsel Program criminal defense, as of 1/19 had \$178K remaining balance in main account and \$63,555 balance in operating account. Had \$8,176 remaining balance from former ACP Program. Should have \$230K left in the 2021 budget.
- Will continue to expand the panel to include highly qualified counsel, create a digital hub, create an attorney leadership program, create a more unified program, continue to work with ILS, continue to coordinate with other regional ACP programs for development ideas.
- Mark Scimone, Chairman Walrod and County Attorney Tina Wayland-Smith commended Dave and said he has done a fantastic job with the program.

Sheriff's Office:

Undersheriff Bill Wilcox presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with Spectrum Enterprise

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Moses and second of Zupan.

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with the DeRuyter Central School District for the Use of Special Patrol Officers

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Corbin and second of Zupan.

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with Traffic Safety Research, LLC

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Zupan and second of Moses.

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with American Mobile Dental

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Moses and second of Walrod.

Authorizing the Chairman to Apply for a Small Rural Tribal Body Worn Camera Program Grant From the US Department of Justice

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Zupan and second of Moses.

Undersheriff Bill Wilcox noted that Bob Mascari had mentioned Raise the Age and the 16 year old they had in custody sleeping on the floor in the LEB because there were no secure beds available in the State. There is a piece of law that states they can be housed at the jail however that is not an option for us. Since Raise the Age has taken effect they have never approved a 16 year old female to be put in the jail. Part of the problem is the juveniles can't see an adult inmate and they can't hear an adult inmate. There is no place in the jail where they can do that.

Agreements for automatic renewals include: Chittenango Central School District, Psychological Resources, Onondaga County Sheriff's Livescan and NYS Division of Criminal Justice Prepaid Fingerprints. Approved on the motion of Becker and second of Moses.

Request for PT Corrections Officers rate increase was approved on the motion of Becker and second of Vosburg.

Sheriff Hood noted that the housing for juveniles is a problem that won't go away and needs a short-term or long-term solution. Cells built at court house would be acceptable; Commissioner of Corrections would need to come and give the ok. Another option would be to build an addition to the jail or a new room at the LEB that has bars on it. Chairman Walrod said to have Steve Laureti look into options for funding. Hood said Steve came up with the idea of POD's.

Other Committee Business:

Chairman Pete Walrod presented the following resolution to the Committee:

Re-Appointing a Supervisor to the Jury Board (Alexander Stepanski)

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Moses and second of Zupan.

Discussion: Chairman Becker suggested that they ask Alex if he would like to do that again.

Preferred Agenda:

The Committee unanimously approved including all resolutions in the Committee's Preferred Agenda on a motion of Moses and second of Zupan.

Adjournment:

The Committee adjourned at 10:20 a.m. on the motion of Moses and second of Zupan.

Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tricia Wiley on behalf of Chairman Paul H. Walrod.