

Criminal Justice, Public Safety and Emergency Communications Committee

*Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2024*

PRESENT: Chairman Rex Vosburg
Vice-Chairman Loren Corbin
Supervisor Pete Walrod
Supervisor Joe Wicks
Supervisor Greg Reuter

ALSO: Board Chairman James Cunningham
County Administrator Mark Scimone
Chief Assistant District Attorney Robert Mascari
First Assistant County Attorney Jeff Aumell
Probation Director Joanne Miller
Sheriff Todd Hood
Corrections Captain Neal Schneider
Director of Administrative Services Stephen Laureti
Director of Emergency Management Dan Degear
Director of EMS Jenna Illingworth
Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis
Treasurer Cindy Edick
Director of Finance Lou Anne Randall
Office Assistant II Shellie English
Public Information Specialist Ryan Coe
Clerk to the Board Emily Burns
City of Oneida Supervisor Mary Cavanagh
Town of Sullivan Supervisor Tom Daviau
Town of Lenox Supervisor Joseph John Pinard
Town of Lincoln Supervisor Melissa During (via Zoom)
Town of Lincoln Board Member Peggy LeClair

ABSENT: Supervisor Michelle Kinville

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rex Vosburg at 9:02 a.m. in the Chambers.

Minutes:

The minutes of the July 24, 2024 meeting were unanimously approved on the motion of Supervisor Pete Walrod and second of Supervisor Joe Wicks.

Assigned Counsel:

Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis presented the following resolution to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Extension Agreement with New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services for a Three-Year Distribution 2022-2024 (Distribution #12)

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

Reuter.

Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis provided the following update:

- Have two budget modifications going to Finance, Ways & Means; Aid to Defense for Discovery Reform and 3rd Family Defense Grant.

District Attorney:

Chief Assistant District Attorney Robert Mascari provided the following updates:

- Glad to be fully staffed.
- Have a Court of Appeals case coming up that Sam Rodgers will be arguing.
- Have a couple of sexual assault cases coming up.
- Trial calendar is full.
- Solved retention problem but looking at a potential recruitment problem. In the next six months will be losing three or four staff members to retirement.
- Thank you again to the Committee for addressing the attorney issue and supporting the office.

Probation:

Probation Director Joanne Miller provided the following updates:

- Have one OAI position vacant and two probation officer positions vacant with a third one as of October 4. The probation officer list is exhausted. A test was given in June that three people took but no one on the list will be a candidate. HR has applied to the State HELP program for the probation officer titles to hopefully recruit some people without taking the Civil Service exam. OAI interviews are scheduled for next week.
- Currently have 283 adults under supervision, 41 juveniles and 58 open investigations. These numbers are average for us. The caseload per officer is around 50's to mid-60's and that is high; is usually high 40's.
- Juvenile officer continues to do a great job. She has gone to a lot of trainings and is certified as a trainer in some topics. She will continue to be in the Oneida and Canastota schools.
- Have another officer who will attend an instructor development course with the Sheriff's. This is a two week course that starts next week. Also have two Supervisors that are certified trainers in pepper spray and firearms. Have someone who is able to take care of all weapons and maintain them in house.
- DWI officer continues to collaborate with the Sheriff's office and STOP DWI program.
- Reviewed the 2025 proposed budget with the Committee. Budget is stable, and there is not much changing.

Sheriff's Office:

Sheriff Todd Hood presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

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 Vosburg and second of Wicks.

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

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with Spectrum Enterprise

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

Director of Administrative Services Stephen Laureti provided the following update:

- Reviewed the 2025 proposed budget with the Committee. Kept everything flat for the jail and road side except for salaries.
- Have budget modification going to Finance, Ways & Means for OCFS funds.

Sheriff Todd Hood provided the following update:

- They are taking the school they closed in Oneida on North Broad and turning it into a special needs school through BOCES. Some people are wondering if they will have a SPO. Haven't heard anything about it but will take care of it with BOCES and talk to them later. Just want the Committee to be aware of it.

Emergency Management:

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into a Modification Agreement with the Town of Georgetown for Emergency Medical Services

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Reuter and second of Wicks.

Authorizing a Transfer Agreement with the Southern Madison County Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc. and Colgate University

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Wicks and second of Reuter.

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with Motorola Solutions, Inc. for Maintenance of Communications System

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

Director of Emergency Management Dan Degear provided the following updates:

- Reviewed the proposed 2025 budget with the Committee. Overall, about a 1.5% increase over 2024.
- HELP program was a huge help for 911. Currently have two open positions we are getting ready to fill within the next month. Thank you to HR for pushing it through and everything they have been doing.
- OSHA/PESH presentation was canceled last night due to communication error and will be rescheduled in September.
- Working with Teisha in Mental Health on creating a County disaster/mental health team.
- Will have a meet and greet tomorrow with a BOCES student who will be an intern with EMS and 911 for the upcoming school year.

Director of EMS Jenna Illingworth provided the following updates:

- Still in the 94-96% call handled rate in Sullivan and 99% call handled rate in Hamilton.
- Doing a good amount of inter-facility and mutual aid into Chenango County and more mutual

aid in Sullivan and Onondaga County.

- Have done 207 total calls so far for the month of August.
- Colgate students are back on campus and excited to come back to the station.

Other Committee Business:

- The Committee reviewed and discussed proposed changes or corrections to the Committee Description. Some items mentioned were EMS is not included, Office of Emergency Management should have all of the pieces encompassed in it in parenthesis and what to do with legal aid and judiciary. Emily will send the description to all the department heads to review and put in any changes/recommendations and requested everyone get it back to her this afternoon so she can get it ready for GOC discussion tomorrow, and once they are finalized on it will send it out to the Committee.

Executive Session:

A motion was made by Chairman Rex Vosburg to enter into executive session at 10:07 a.m. to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation. Supervisor Greg Reuter seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Pete Walrod to exit executive session at 10:39 a.m. Vice-Chairman Loren Corbin seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

Preferred Agenda:

It was the consensus of the Committee to allow any eligible resolution from today's meeting to be added to the Preferred Agenda.

Adjournment:

The Committee adjourned at 10:39 a.m. on the motion of Corbin and second of Reuter.

Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tricia Wiley on behalf of Chairman Rex Vosburg.