

Criminal Justice, Public Safety and Emergency Communications Committee

*Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2025*

PRESENT: Chairman Rex Vosburg
Vice-Chairman Loren Corbin
Supervisor Michelle Kinville
Supervisor Joe Wicks
Supervisor Greg Reuter (via Zoom)

ALSO: Board Chairman James Cunningham
County Administrator Mark Scimone
Chief Assistant District Attorney Robert Mascari
District Attorney Intern Jacob DeJesus
First Assistant County Attorney Jeff Aumell
Probation Director Joanne Miller
Lieutenant Kevin Feola
Captain Shawn Burbidge
Director of Administrative Services (Sheriff's) Stephen Laureti
Director of Emergency Management Dan Degear
Deputy Director of Emergency Management Mike Sudol
Director of EMS Jenna Illingworth
Fire Coordinator Doug Shattuck
Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis
Treasurer Cindy Edick
Clerk to the Board Emily Burns
Confidential Secretary to Board of Supervisors Jennifer Keville
Public Information Specialist Ryan Coe
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)

ABSENT: Supervisor Pete Walrod

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

Minutes:

The minutes of the November 25, 2024 meeting were unanimously approved on the motion of Supervisor Joe Wicks and second of Supervisor Michelle Kinville.

Assigned Counsel:

Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis provided the following updates:

- Budget modifications going to Finance, Ways & Means include: 2nd Hurrell-Harring Grant, ILS Distribution #13, ILS Distribution #14, 3rd Family Defense Grant and 4th CAFA Grant.

- Created an indigent ride share program with Uber Business. If there is a situation with Family Court, Criminal Court or Probation where a client or defendant can't get to court, we can provide those services. Just thought it was important to make everyone aware of this service.

District Attorney:

Chief Assistant District Attorney Robert Mascari presented the following resolution to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with Diversion Management, LLC

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

Chief Assistant District Attorney Robert Mascari provided the following updates:

- Have established a good working relationship with the Assigned Counsel Program. We have come to an agreement for Assigned Counsel Attorney's and us to do service by email which will be helpful.
- A problem we have with the body worn cameras is how we get all the information to us in an efficient way. Our computers are too slow and some are falling apart. The issue was brought up in September on what we needed for computer replacements, and we had a direct request for quotes in November and are still waiting on the quotes now in January.
- We have a part-time employee who is looking for full-time and is turning down opportunities to make more money at other places. We will have a specific proposal for the Committee to consider by the next Committee meeting for this person.
- Have designated our Confidential Secretary, Mary Beth Albro, to be the office manager so complaints will start with her now.
- Would like to make everyone aware that Larry Brown with the Defense Bar Association passed away yesterday. He was a wonderful man and will be sorely missed.

Sheriff's Office:

Director of Administrative Services Stephen Laureti presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

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

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement for Jail Physician Services

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

Director of Administrative Services Stephen Laureti provided the following updates:

- The 4th Quarter STOP DWI Outreach Program report was provided for review.
- Have a budget modification for the CAC going to Finance, Ways & Means.
- Have two automatic renewal contracts: Psychological Resources which administers and grades psychological evaluations on potential employees (\$150 per exam) and NYS Division of Criminal Justice which is an escrow account for fingerprinting.
- We are eating up storage quickly on our Axon body camera storage as we are including audio

from 911 calls and are over on the allotted storage. Working on getting prices for unlimited storage; last quote I got was \$57K. Trying to look at different solutions with the IT department to maybe house some of that media on the network. Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis said they received a Block Grant for Discovery and that maybe they could use some of that for a shared service agreement. It was agreed that this will be discussed further.

Lieutenant Kevin Feola provided the following information:

- There is 47 acres on Roberts Road in the Town of Eaton that was previously on the tax role of the County. We are interested in trying to keep it so we can look into building a range for the Sheriff's Office. We have around 130 deputies that have to qualify every year for handguns and rifles. We are now bouncing between two to three different ranges trying to find range time to get everyone in. First Assistant County Attorney Jeff Aumell noted that there is a legal issue with the land that they are looking into. Treasurer Cindy Edick said that they would keep everyone updated as things progress on the legal side.

Probation:

Probation Director Joanne Miller provided the following updates:

- Administrative area is fully staffed. Hired an OAH and the most recent hire will be taking over restitution duties as soon as she is trained.
- Still have three Officer vacancies but do have some promising candidates.
- Roger LaTour, who was working as a part-time Probation Officer, left in the fall. Hoping to eliminate that position and add a Probation Assistant position. We have a grant from the State that we can use to pay for some of their salary. This would be a new position to the County.

Emergency Management:

Fire Coordinator Doug Shattuck provided the following updates:

- Training Center Usage 6/2024-12/2024: BOCES for 6.5 hours a day, 80 school days. There are nine school districts with 19 students (3 in the EMT class and 16 in the firefighting class). State Fire Training which includes Apparatus Operator Pump (10 students), Basic Exterior Fire Operations (16 students), NYS Instructor Authorization (21 instructors), School Bus Rescue (30 students) and Oneida Fire Department Live Fire Training (14 firefighters). Law Enforcement Training including Reality Based Training, Boater Safety Course, School Resource Officer Training and MCSO SWAT Training. EMS Training which includes County EMS Emergency Vehicle Operator Training. County Agency Meetings including the Multi-Disciplinary Team Meeting.
- Status of OSHA Emergency Response Standard Proposal: Public comment concludes January 31, public employee and health will adjust the standard based on feedback for proposal to Congress, the effect on volunteer fire department staffing. Major items of concern are: Increased cost of firefighter physicals and exposure follow-up, increased training demand for firefighters, required training for all fire officers, fire department operational costs.
- Fire Department Status: Many fire departments are struggling with having adequate staffing to respond to calls, recruitment options are not being utilized and the local fire station culture is affecting moral and firefighter retention.
- Fire Investigations: 36 investigations; 2 fatalities.
- County Seminar: April 10 at 7 pm at Stockbridge Valley Central School.
- Challenges facing the Madison County Fire Service include volunteer membership, leadership

and National Emergency Response Information System.

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with Cazenovia Area Volunteer Ambulance Corps (CAVAC)

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with Greater Lenox Ambulance Service, Inc. (GLAS)

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with the Village of Madison

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with Vineall Ambulance, Inc.

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with Chenango County

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

Approving Fees for Madison County Emergency Medical Services

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

Approving Updates to the Operating Policies for Madison County Emergency Medical Services

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services

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

Director of Emergency Management Dan Degear provided the following update:

- Agreements for automatic renewals include: MOU with Georgetown for Ambulance Use, American Tower for Rental of Georgetown Tower, IamResponding, Master Site Maintenance with Onondaga County 911 for the Communications System, MultiMed Billing Service for EMS Billing, Chittenango Central School and DeRuyter School for Ambulance Refueling and Image Trend for Patient Care Documentation.

Director of EMS Jenna Illingworth provided the following updates:

- In 2024, we were dispatched to 3,248 EMS calls; 311 handled with the fly car and 2,828 with the ambulances; 97% overall calls handled; 96% handled calls in Sullivan and 99.6% handled calls in Hamilton. Overall, we handled 1,200 more calls than in 2023.
- Have two rigs during the day in Sullivan and one at night and two rigs during the day in Hamilton and one at night.
- Handed out 415 CPR cards in 2024.
- Have done four EMT classes and continue to do more.

Other Committee Business:

Clerk to the Board Emily Burns explained to the Committee that there was a public comment about implementing cameras on school bus stop arms. A local law was passed in the Village of Chittenango recently and Oneida County as well in 2020. It was the consensus of the Committee that this needed to be explored further, and we need to find out how many districts are doing it.

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 Kinville and second of Corbin.

Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

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