

Criminal Justice, Public Safety and Emergency Communications Committee

*Meeting Minutes
March 26, 2025*

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

ALSO: Board Chairman James Cunningham
County Administrator Mark Scimone
Chief Assistant District Attorney Robert Mascari
Second Assistant County Attorney Melissa Felton
County Attorney Intern Hannah Cere
Director of Probation Joanne Miller
Sheriff Todd Hood
Undersheriff James Quatrone
Director of Children's Advocacy Center Debra George
Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis
Director of Emergency Management Dan Degear
Director of EMS Jenna Illingworth
Treasurer Cindy Edick
Director of Finance Lou Anne Randall
Confidential Secretary to Board of Supervisors Jennifer Keville
Public Information Officer Samantha Field
Town of Sullivan Supervisor Tom Daviau
Town of Lenox Supervisor Joseph John Pinard
Town of Lincoln Supervisor Melissa During (via Zoom)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rex Vosburg at 9:01 a.m. in the Chambers.

Minutes:

The minutes of the February 19, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved on the motion of Supervisor Michelle Kinville and second of Supervisor Joe Wicks.

Assigned Counsel:

Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis provided the following update:

- There was a modification to the grant agreement with NYS for the 2nd Hurrell-Harring grant. We were awarded around \$160K which was used to pay for social workers, case workers, Uber ride sharing services and the balance was used to cover my salary and our Quality Enhancement Attorney's salary for the annual increase that wasn't accounted for after the attorney rate increases.

District Attorney:

Chief Assistant District Attorney Robert Mascari provided the following updates:

- Lori Storm will be retiring at the end of April and will work part-time for us. We have taken two full-time OAI positions and made them both into part-time.
- Thank you to everyone for the support to create a full-time investigator position.
- Axon is the standard as far as body worn cameras. The Sheriff's Office uses them and they are the complete digital evidence solution for law enforcement. They will make the Sheriff's job easier and David from Assigned Counsel will be linking into this to make his job a little easier. My suggestion is the ten year program which would be \$250K over ten years. Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis said the Premier Plus is an intensive case management system and that theirs would be paid for out of Discovery Grant funding. County Administrator Mark Scimone is in favor of moving forward with this especially since all three agencies can use the same software and work together.

Probation:

Probation Director Joanne Miller provided the following updates:

- We have two new Probation Officers who started on March 3rd; one is off in training and the other was not able to go on such short notice so we will register her for another session.
- We do have a third Probation Officer vacancy and have made a conditional offer.
- We have a Probation Officer leaving us to go to the Sheriff's Office as a deputy whose last day is Friday; they will be missed. During our last round of interviews we did find another candidate that we liked so we made a conditional offer to him.
- There is a budget modification going to Finance, Ways & Means to increase our training budget as we will have four Probation Officers going through training at \$8,000 each.
- Have a resolution going to GOC to convert a part-time P.O. position to a full-time P.O. Assistant position.

Sheriff's Office:

Sheriff Todd Hood presented the following resolution to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into a Memorandum of Understanding Between the United States Border Patrol, Buffalo Sector, and the Madison County Sheriff's Office

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

Sheriff Todd Hood provided the following updates:

- As far as Axon Body Cameras, our State is pro-criminal with all the legislation coming out of the Senate and Assembly. Body cameras protect us, the police and Madison County from lawsuits. There are a lot of benefits in having them.
- We hired a new Deputy Sheriff from Oneida County and if it's in three years with the Civil Service law we have to pay for their training, so we will have to pay Oneida County \$38K.

Director of the Children's Advocacy Center Debra George informed the Committee that they had received an extra grant from the Office of Children and Family Services that they will use to upgrade their recording system and that they had started a new position in February who is a forensic interviewer and community outreach person and that they were in need of a vehicle for that person. They looked into leasing but with the grant funds could only lease it through August so it was

suggested that they purchase a vehicle. She stated they had about \$24K to work with. It was suggested that they check and see what the County is turning in and to meet with Purchasing and the Finance Director to figure out what can be done.

Emergency Management:

Director of EMS Jenna Illingworth provided the following updates:

- March 10th we opened the DeRuyter ambulance station and added the 7th ambulance to the fleet. We added more full-time employees to cover that station. We are running 24/7 out of the DeRuyter Fire Station.
- Have done 14 calls in DeRuyter since March 10 which is a decrease in calls.
- We are at a 92% call handled rate overall for the entire agency including the fly car. We are at a 95% call handled rate in Sullivan, a 99% call handled rate in Hamilton and a 75% call handled rate with the fly car.
- Midstate EMS Regional Council is holding a golf outing fundraiser in August. Anyone who is interested or wants more details please let me know.

Executive Session:

A motion was made by Supervisor Michelle Kinville to enter into executive session at 10:04 a.m. for the advice of counsel. Vice-Chairman Loren Corbin seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Joe Wicks to exit executive session at 10:11 a.m. Supervisor Michelle Kinville 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 10:11 a.m. on the motion of Kinville and second of Walrod.

Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

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