

Criminal Justice, Public Safety and Emergency Communications Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 28, 2025

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

ALSO: Board Chairman James Cunningham
County Administrator Mark Scimone
Chief Assistant District Attorney Robert Mascari
First Assistant County Attorney Jeff Aumell
County Attorney Intern Michael Mariani
Undersheriff James Quatrone
Director of Administrative Services (Sheriff's) Stephen Laureti
Corrections Captain Neal Schneider
Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis
Director of Finance Lou Anne Randall
Director of Emergency Management Dan Degear
Emergency Management Deputy Director Mike Sudol
Director of EMS Jenna Illingworth
Emergency Management Associate Christa Gilkey
Public Safety Systems Coordinator Andy Harmon-Kimball
President of Madison-Oneida Amateur Radio Club Jeff Barlow
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 9:00 a.m. in the Chambers.

Minutes:

The minutes of the April 23, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved on the motion of Supervisor Michelle Kinville and second of Supervisor Joe Wicks.

(Added) District Attorney:

Chief Assistant District Attorney Robert Mascari provided the following updates:

- All new computers have been deployed in time for the implementation of Axon Premier Plus. Have the funds for the payment due this year.
- Have a person identified and hope to hire them to replace the ADA who left.

- Anticipate more changes coming shortly but will wait for a future date for announcements.

Assigned Counsel:

Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis provided the following updates:

- 4th UQI & CR grant budget modification going to Finance, Ways & Means.
- No resolution yet but have been considering hiring an in-house, full-time social worker. We are now using four or five contract social workers. Have been talking with ILS and looking at different areas of unused grant funding.

Sheriff's Office:

Undersheriff James Quatrone presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Inter-Municipal Agreement for Police Tactical Team Cooperation

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Rozin Technologies LLC

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with the Sherburne-Earlville Central School District for the Use of Special Patrol Officers

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

Discussion: It was addressed how it should be split as there is a lower population of Madison County students. This will be looked into and pulled if needed.

Undersheriff James Quatrone provided the following updates:

- There are still 2,000 or more State-ready inmates in the State; going to be a slow process. The rate that the State is taking them is around 100 a week. This will be a problem we will have for a while. Sheriff Hood has said that it costs us \$300 a day and the State will reimburse us \$100 a day, but we haven't seen any money yet.
- Sheriff Hood sent a letter to join the 287(g) which is an enforcement immigration law where it's illegal for local law enforcement agencies to help ICE by giving them any DMV information or anything. 287(g) is an agreement, and we would be trained and get some resources from ICE. Would be a couple of our deputies and then we could help with the enforcement locally. We are still waiting to hear back on this.
- There are some issues with bills coming from the State. One is focused on parole eligibility for older inmates where if you are 55 years old and have done 15 years in State prison, you are automatically eligible for parole. Another is the juvenile interrogation law where anyone under the age of 17 can't be interrogated no matter what crime they committed; there is an attorney attached automatically. These haven't passed yet but they are pushing for them.
- The Sheriff's Annual Awards Ceremony will be June 12th at the Hampton Inn in Cazenovia at 11 am.

Corrections Captain Neal Schneider provided the following update:

- The jail has proposed a reconfiguration. We had a training position held at a Corporal's level and a case worker position who took a promotion in another department so that position is open. The training coordinator was promoted to Lieutenant so that position is also open. What we proposed is taking the Corporal position that's open and have that person take over the case worker position which was a civilian position then take the training coordinator position and make that a Sergeant's high level supervisor position. The Corporal position was already existing and the Sergeant's position vs. the Corporal's position will be offset by the case worker's salary which comes down to around \$15K. We are already halfway through this year which would make it \$7,500. We still have seven positions open that we don't anticipate filling this year. 98% is already covered and the last little bit will have no impact on this year. This will be going to GOC.

Director of Administrative Services Stephen Laureti provided the following update:

- Budget modifications going to Finance, Ways & Means include: K-9 expense to increase revenue expense for a donation received, Forfeiture expense adjustment and one for the CAC to clean up some lines and move some money around.

Communications/E-911:

Public Safety Systems Coordinator Andy Harmon-Kimball provided the following information on the RACES/ARES Program:

- RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) is an organization of the FCC sponsored by FEMA comprised of trained amateur radio operators for the purpose of supplementing communications for the government in time of emergency.
- ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) is an organization of the amateur radio relay league, the national association for amateur radio of the US. Its services focus on public service events and serving non-government agencies during disasters such as the American Red Cross.
- If emergency communications fail or if our aging system should fail or the 911 center should be incapacitated for any length of time, the plan is to call on these volunteer operators who are being trained to assist in communications.
- I am currently working on standard operating procedures for Madison County and hope to bring them to the Committee. The NYS Office of Interoperable Emergency Communications just came out with a guideline for counties for RACES groups that I will use as well as information provided from other established RACES groups around the State. There are not currently any MOU's in place. I have spoken with RACES officers from Onondaga, Oneida and Chenango Counties and we plan on working together.
- Every year, licensed ham radio operators from around the country participate in field day which tests the skills and equipment of amateur radio operators. The event is open to the public and will take place at Oxbow Falls Park June 28 & 29 from Saturday at 2 pm until Sunday at 2 pm.

Emergency Management:

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Execute the First Amendment to the Billing Services Agreement with MultiMed Billing Service, Inc.

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding and Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services

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

Director of Emergency Management Dan Degear provided the following updates:

- Welcome to our new Emergency Management Associate Christa Gilkey.
- Director of 911 Frank McFall was going to talk about the new NYS standards for 911 but was unable to be here. Some of those changes include the need for psychological exams for dispatchers upon hire, making sure we have an officer in charge of shifts for the overnights and lots of new training. Would like to look at having training officers and also having a trainee rate for employees as they go through the training process before they receive their full rate when they become a dispatcher. Dispatchers are required to have a minimum of 240 hours of training. Dispatchers need 21 hours of in-service annual training that's required and if someone doesn't maintain that they are no longer eligible to do the job. This is something that will need to be put into the contract. The back-up center is inadequate; the new regulation says that the back-up centers need to meet the full needs of the County. We have to participate in the States GIS mapping program meaning we have to send in monthly updates. We have to document maintenance and inspections of all generators at all sites including towers.
- SOMAC ownership transition is in the final stages.
- Seeing an uptick in call volume through May 20; 13% increase over last year. CAVAC is 15% up over last year, Vineall is 1%, SEVAC 4% and GLAS 5%.
- Seeing an increase in overnight calls in Sullivan.
- Since we have taken over DeRuyter ambulance, have had 54 calls as of yesterday.

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 9:56 a.m. on the motion of Reuter and second of Walrod.

Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

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