

Criminal Justice, Public Safety and Emergency Communications Committee

*Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2022*

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

ALSO: County Administrator Mark Scimone
District Attorney William Gabor
First Assistant County Attorney Jeff Aumell (via Zoom)
County Attorney Intern Hannah Tulchinsky
Sheriff Todd Hood
Undersheriff Bill Wilcox
Probation Supervisor Stacey Eckler
Director of Emergency Management Dan Degear
EMS Coordinator Jenna Rosky
Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis
Treasurer Cindy Edick
Director of Finance Lou Anne Randall
Public Information Officer Samantha Field
Confidential Secretary to Board of Supervisors Kristin Guinto
Clerk to the Board Emily Burns
Corporate Compliance Officer Christina Kennedy (via Zoom)
MORE Coordinator Rachel Copland
Member of Public Gene Drought
Member of Public Dan Olivadoti
Member of Public Gerda Mortelette
Member of Public Tennille Kochanowski

ABSENT: Supervisor Cliff Moses

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

Minutes:

The minutes of the July 27, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved on the motion of Vice Chairman Rex Vosburg and second of Supervisor Bill Zupan.

Probation:

Probation Supervisor Stacey Eckler provided the following update to the Committee:

- Review of proposed 2023 budget. Not too many changes. Biggest change is the polygraph changes. The cost of testing went up and the polygrapher's general liability insurance doubled. Did look for alternative polygrapher but were unable to find one. Overall, looking at around a \$5,000 increase.

District Attorney:

District Attorney William Gabor provided the following updates to the Committee:

- Would like to hire a new Assistant District Attorney from an adjoining DA's office that interned with us years ago to replace Brad Moses. Looking to start him at \$88,600 and hopefully will be here a long time. Will propose to GOC. Would be thinking about starting him on October 3rd.
- Need someone to cover Brad Moses' assigned coroner times for the next four months. Requesting that we prorate the balance of coroner money effective September 1st. Mary Beth Albro is an assistant coroner and has offered to do it.
- Committee unanimously approved moving forward with the above requests and moving them to GOC.
- Been down an ADA since August 1; another has gone out on family leave for three months. Been down 20% of prosecutors for the last four months.
- Jim Roman retired. Moving up a new ADA from an experienced ADA. Hired a new Administrative Assistant who's working out very well. Sam Rodgers is starting a trial next week and Jane Raven is starting trials after Labor Day.
- Review of proposed 2023 budget. Not a big difference other than personnel. Discovery made it so we have to prepare and distribute transcripts to defense attorney's every time we go to grand jury which are very expensive. For 2022, budgeted \$40,000 and as of mid-July we are at \$35,000 so we will be asking to increase this by \$15,000. Appeals was budgeted at \$20,000 for 2022 and we have spent it. Getting a lot of new appeals; looking to double that to \$40,000. Looks like we will get a State grant for discovery in the amount of \$230,000. Traffic diversion will bring in well over \$300,000 again. Will be asking for a victim advocate to be in house. Have targeted someone for part-time who used to work for the County.

Assigned Counsel:

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

Authorizing the Modification of the 2022 Adopted County Budget (1171 Public Defender)

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into a Lease Agreement with Gorman Foundation Community Center, LLC on Behalf of the Madison County Assigned Counsel Program

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

Assigned Counsel Administrator David DeSantis provided the following updates:

- Review of proposed 2023 budget. Minimal changes. Bumped up the Criminal Court AC Disbursements to \$35,000 to account for travel and mileage for the attorneys. Increased Assigned Counsel Plan to \$620,000. Personnel services is a big chunk of the budget; most will be grant reimbursable. Projecting \$450,000 for next year.
- Vice Chairman Rex Vosburg stated that the program has gone very well for the County.

Sheriff's Office:

Undersheriff Bill Wilcox presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with the New York State Canal Corporation and Modifying the 2022 Adopted County Budget

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

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

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

Undersheriff Bill Wilcox provided the following update:

- It was explained that when a deputy retires, they are allowed the option of purchasing their weapon if they choose with their own money. It was recently asked by someone who had retired if they could use their uniform allowance balance to pay for their weapon. It was the consensus of the Committee to keep the policy the same as it has been and stated that this would be a decision of GOC.

Emergency Management:

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter Into an Agreement with North Shore Volunteer Emergency Squad, Inc. for the Use of Madison County's Interoperable Communications System

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Submit a New York State Department of Transportation Highway Work Permit Application

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

Authorizing the Modification of the 2022 Adopted County Budget (3097 Public Safety)

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

Director of Emergency Management Dan Degear provided the following updates:

- A handout was provided to the Committee with the 2023 proposed budget. Proposing a \$207,000 increase which includes the reallocation for 911 employees, funding for all 911 positions, rehabilitation to the burn building and CAD system maintenance. It was noted that a \$25,000 PSAP grant had been lost.
- EMS Coordinator Jenna Rosky provided a handout to the Committee with all calls the fly car had responded to or been dispatched to by town or village. It was stated that the fly car had been on the road for six months and they had been responding to a good mix of ALS and BLS calls. In the last six months, the fly car has responded to 111 calls, 11 of which have been ALS links.
- Last week had meeting with SOMAC, Madison and SEVAC regarding weekend coverage which is not good for SOMAC and Madison for ALS coverage. Will make adjustment to the

fly car schedule and do some overnight shifts on weekends for September and see how that goes.

- Chairman Pete Walrod asked if Degear had made it to Lebanon to talk about their needs. Degear said he had a conversation with the town supervisor and they would invite him to a special meeting with the town board.

Other Committee Business:

Madison County Opportunities for Re-entry & Employment (MORE) Coordinator Rachel Copland, along with guests Gene Drought, Prime Materials Recovery Manager; Dan Olivadoti, Parent Support Program Coordinator, Gerda Mortelette, NYS Insurance Navigator and Tennille Kochanowski, Community Services Coordinator with CAP, joined the meeting and discussed how the program was going. Copland was grateful to the Sheriff's Office for supporting their work in the correctional facility and shared that the program was on the front page of the Daily Dispatch. Copland reported that they had five members that had secured employment but were now down to one. Copland said that information and word had been getting out on the program and they had been able to help people secure jobs quickly upon release from jail. The program has assisted 18 individuals since March. Rachel stated that she was doing well with the program, which provides ten week curriculum in the correctional facility and provides case management on the outside. Sheriff Hood thanked them all for doing what they do.

Chairman Pete Walrod presented the following resolution to the Committee:

Authorizing the Modification of the 2022 Adopted County Budget (1169 DA Prosecution)

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

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. All resolutions were voted on and approved by the Committee.

Adjournment:

The Committee adjourned at 10:27 a.m. on the motion of Zupan and second of Vosburg.

Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, September 28, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

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