

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
January 7, 2015

**** NOT APPROVED ****

Committee Members Present: P. Curran, D. Healy, S. Burt, T. Hopkins, A. McGraw, C. Crandall (Absent: K. LaForge)

Others Present: M. Alger, L. Ballengee, H. Budinger, D. Decker, L. Edwards, D. Fanton, K. Graves, S. Grusendorf, D. Hanchett, R. Hollis, C. Ivers, B. Kelley, J. Luckey, T. Miner, K. Monroe, B. Riehle, T. Ross, C. Santora, K. Slep, R. Starks, R. Swarthout, R. Whitney

Media Present: D. Donohue, *Olean Times Herald*; B. Quinn, *Wellsville Daily Reporter*

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Public Safety Committee Chairman Phil Curran.

Prior to conducting the Committee's business, Legislator Curran thanked Chairman Crandall for appointing him as chair of the Public Safety Committee. He noted that he will rely on the Committee, especially Legislator Healy because of his background in public safety. Legislator Curran noted, however, that he has a background in people, so "we'll get things straightened out."

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator McGraw, and carried to approve the Public Safety Committee minutes of December 3, 2014.

Public Defender

Monthly Report

Public Defender Barbara Kelley entertained questions/comments on her pre-filed monthly report. Receiving none, she informed the Committee of another State grant, "Distribution #5," which is a three-year grant in the amount of \$211,000 over the three years. The proposal must be submitted by January 31, she said. She added that she would like to propose using half to extend the prior grant (Distribution #2 expires at the end of May) and half to have someone monitor and manage the grants. She noted that it's getting harder to manage the grants and their parameters, requirements, and restrictions. Ms. Kelley said she would be talking to the County Administrator and Personnel Officer soon to try to achieve this goal. She noted that she does not want to not apply. She will update the Committee at the next meeting.

Emergency Management and Fire

Monthly Report

Emergency Management and Fire Services Director Jeffrey Luckey also entertained questions and comments on his pre-filed report. Hearing none, he said that his area is very active with local high schools and will be through April. He went on to say that EMS training had begun the night before at the Crossroads and that his office is wrapping up Homeland Security grants. He said that his office has been busy with an increasing number of fires and that it has been monitoring the polar temperatures and that if it became necessary, would become involved in the opening of emergency shelters. There was some discussion regarding the "aging" of current responders and the necessity of recruiting new ones. However, it seems that the number of hours required for training contributes to the low numbers of recruits. Mr. Luckey added that Chautauqua County is conducting a study of how to fill this gap and will share the

information it gathers. Legislator Curran suggested that training be started as part of a high school curriculum. He agreed that determining how to fill that gap is a good focus. Mr. Luckey added that Allegany County is trying to make programs available for such things as paramedic training, but numbers are too low to host a training locally. Most interested potential trainees will need to travel to Olean. He also noted that there are limited job opportunities in Allegany County for people with paramedic training. Finally, Mr. Luckey said that there is a conference scheduled in Olean in the Spring and that Allegany County has the highest number of registrants.

STOP-DWI

Monthly Report

STOP-DWI Coordinator Linda Edwards told the Committee that the Annual Cookies and Wassail event for County employees and legislators was a grand success. She added that she had sent photos and a brief description to the state STOP-DWI and that information has been posted on the website: STOP-DWO.org. (Legislator Curran suggested having a donation box at the table.) Ms. Edwards went on to say that the STOP-DWI Plan was approved by NYS for 2015. She also noted that Jacy Good who spoke at the fall SADD Conference was such a hit that she will be back for February 12-13 to speak at Scio and Cuba-Rushford on Thursday and at Bolivar-Richburg and Genesee Valley on Friday. Ms. Edwards also noted that she will be working with an Alfred State intern during the spring semester to do DWI outstanding fine collecting.

Accept & Appropriate Bicycle Grant

STOP-DWI Coordinator Linda Edwards requested a resolution to accept a \$3,000 STEPS in Safety Grant (Safety on Wheels) from the Governor's Traffic Safety Program, October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015. In the 2015 Budget, \$2,800 of the \$3,000 was budgeted as follows:

Appropriations (\$2,800)

A3114.402	Mileage	\$ 200
A3114.408	General Supplies (Helmets)	\$1,400
A3114.421	Educational Materials	\$ 800
A3114.452	Public Info (Promotional Items)	<u>\$ 400</u>
Revenues		<u>\$2,800</u>

A4114.3389.00	STOP-DWI-STEPS in Safety	\$2,800
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We will need to appropriate the remaining \$200 as follows:

2015 Budget Adjustment (E) A3114.452	\$200
(R) A3114.3389.00	\$200

Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Accept & Appropriate Crackdown Grant

Ms. Edwards also requested a resolution to accept and appropriate a grant from the NYS STOP-DWI Foundation in the amount of \$52,802 for Crackdown Enforcement for the federal fiscal year of October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015. A sum of \$52,802 should be placed in Appropriations Account A3141.449 (Public Safety Contracts-Crackdown Enforcement) with a like sum placed in Revenue Account A3141.1589.CE (Public Safety

Contracts-Crackdown Enforcement). Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator McGraw, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

District Attorney **Monthly Report**

District Attorney Keith Slep told the Committee that the year-end numbers are up slightly for the year. He added that the Special Prosecutor numbers are down and should continue to decline as the cases work their way through the system. Mr. Slep added that his office had been informed of a grant award for Victim Services but there had been a timing mix-up because of the holidays. He added that his office is still on track with that grant. Mr. Slep's good news was an additional \$10 added to his 2014 budget. He added that expenses were up in 2014 because participation in the Diversion Programs was up, which is a good thing.

Probation **Monthly Report**

Probation Director Robert Starks noted that the year-to-date figures on his report may not be entirely accurate as there are usually three-four business days remaining after the report is submitted. Mr. Starks said that as he's noted throughout 2014, juvenile numbers seem to be going down which is why he included an executive summary from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services issued in October 2014 which seems to indicate that juvenile arrests, detention admissions, etc. were down in 2014. This, he said, seems to be the trend throughout the state.

Weights & Measures **Monthly Report**

Weights & Measures Director Gilbert Green was unable to attend the meeting.

Sheriff's Office **Monthly Report**

Sheriff Rick Whitney entertained questions/comments on his pre-filed report. He was asked for a "translation" of the following acronyms: VRT, SART, DART (Victim Response Team, Sexual Assault Response Team, and Domestic Assault Response Team, respectively) and PPAC (Partners for Prevention in Allegany County) and ACASA (Allegany Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse). Sheriff Whitney noted that there had been four critical (as defined by the State) incidents during the month of December (on hospital admission, one fight, one contraband, and one non-compliant). Finally, the Sheriff invited any of the Committee/Board members to the Jail for a tour.

Request to Fill PT Dispatcher Position

Sheriff Rick Whitney requested approval to fill one part-time E-911 Dispatcher position to replace a part-time Dispatcher who resigned. This position currently exists. Part-time E-911 Dispatchers are used to fill vacancies created when full-time Dispatchers use leave time or when other vacancies exist within the schedule. When part-time Dispatchers are not available, we have to use full-time Dispatchers to fill these vacancies. Part-time Dispatchers are paid at a lower hourly rate than full-time Dispatchers. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator McGraw, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Request to Fill One Deputy Sergeant Position

Sheriff Whitney also requested approval to fill one Deputy Sergeant position that became vacant when a Deputy Sergeant was promoted to Deputy Lieutenant and all subsequent positions that will become vacant as listed.

Corrections Officer to Deputy

Part-time Corrections Officer to Full-time Corrections Officer

During the discussion, Legislator Graves requested a monthly report on overtime generated by the Sheriff's Office. It was noted that overtime hours cannot be separated by divisions, e.g., Jail, Court, etc.). Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Approval of Contract for Prisoner Housing between Allegany & Chautauqua County, January 1, 2015-December 31, 2015

The Sheriff' requested that he and the Board Chairman be authorized to sign the contract for prisoner housing between the Allegany & Chautauqua County Jails for the period of January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015. This contract has been approved by the County Attorney and will show a per diem rate of \$90. (This is the exact same contract that was approved for Wyoming County in December 2014.) Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator McGraw, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Accept & Appropriate Public Safety Answering Points Sustainment Grant

Sheriff Whitney requested the acceptance and appropriation of the FY 2014 Public Safety Answering Points Sustainment Grant PS14-1033-D00. Total Grant funds of \$165,914 should be placed in Revenue Account H3023.3097.00 and appropriated to H3023.200 (PSAP-911 FY12 PS12-1001-D00). This grant will be used for 911 personnel to attend in-service training and for hardware, software, and connectivity feed for Auto Vehicle Locater (AVL) connectivity between police vehicles and the County 911 Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Re-appropriation of Unspent Funds for the Literacy West Grant

The Sheriff requested a resolution re-appropriating the unspent funds for the Literacy West Grant. The funds were originally accepted and appropriated by Res. No. 86-14 (\$24,907) and 230-14 (\$11,993). Since funds were advanced in 2014 and not expended in 2014, the balance fell to Fund Balance on December 31, 2014. Therefore, the \$36,900 should be appropriated from A15.599.00 (Fund Balance) to account A3151.2705.LW (Jail-Educational Services-Gifts-Donations-Jail/Literacy West) to allow for the spending of the balance of this grant. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator McGraw, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Re-appropriation of Unspent Funds for the ACT II Batterers Program

The Sheriff's Office requested the re-appropriation of unspent funds for the ACT II Batterers Program. Since funds were advanced in 2014 and not expended in 2014, the balance fell to Fund Balance on December 31, 2014. Therefore, the \$15,491 should be appropriated from A15.599.00 (Fund Balance) to account A3117.4.49 (ACT II Batterers Program) to allow for the spending of the balance of this grant. It was noted that the amount on the original MOE was incorrect and should be \$12,991. Approval of the amended amount was granted on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Re-appropriation of Unspent Funds for the 2014 LETPP Homeland Security Grant

The Sheriff's Office requested re-appropriation of unspent funds for the 2014 LETPP Homeland Security Grant. The original resolution for this grant was #167-14. The sum of \$17,500 should be placed in appropriation account A3642.2.10 (FY2014 SLETPP) with a like sum placed in revenue account A3646.3306.SH14-(2014 LETPP #T969142-Homeland Security-

Sheriff). Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Re-appropriation of Unspent Funds for the 2013 LETPP Homeland Security Grant

The Sheriff's Office requested the re-appropriation of unspent funds for the 2013 LETPP Homeland Security Grant. The original resolution for this grant was #87-14. The sum of \$6,279.78 should be re-appropriated to account A3652.447 (FY2013 SLETPP) with a like sum placed in revenue account A3652.3306.SH13 (2013 LETPP #T969132-Homeland Security – Sheriff). Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Request to Create & Fill FT E-911 Dispatcher Position

The Sheriff's Office requested approval to create and fill one full-time E-911 Dispatcher (AFSCME Council 66, Step BASE) position. This position is partially funded by the Department of Social Services and will be used for DSS after-hours calls and to fill vacancies in the schedule that are currently being covered by both full-time overtime and part-time regular time and overtime. The DSS on-Call Services contract annual amount is \$17,420. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Old Business

911 Radio Project Update

Lt. Dan Hanchett noted that the project is going well. Vendors are finalizing the design. Additionally, the County will be able to pick up a half dozen towers from WNED for \$1 each, he said. Although two or three of the towers are absolutely necessary, he said, the others could be valuable in the future. Lt. Hanchett noted that as "we build towers, they will be equipped and ready for someone else to move right in. They will be built with four services on one tower—a basic design we've established—so we can lease space on the towers and draw revenue for the County." Legislator Healy asked about space needs for E-911. Lt. Hanchett indicated that the new equipment can fit in its space, but it will be very cramped. CONXX cannot fit any equipment in that room because it is too small. We are still waiting for the LaBella space study. Legislator Healy expressed his hope that we will consider not only E-911's short-term needs, but also its long-term needs.

New Business

Attached to the agendas was a letter from NYSAC Executive Director Stephen Acquario regarding a law signed by Governor Cuomo in November strengthening safety provision for the possession and use of dangerous fireworks. He also included a fact sheet and a sample local law. Because the meeting was running overtime, Legislator Curran asked Committee members to review the materials and come back with any recommendations.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m. following a motion by Legislator McGraw, seconded by Legislator Burt, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Santora, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board
Allegany County Board of Legislators

