

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
APRIL 1, 2015**

**\*\* NOT APPROVED \*\***

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

**Others Present:** M. Alger, L. Ballengee, H. Budinger, L. Edwards, M. Evans, D. Fanton, K. Graves, G. Green, C. Ivers, B. Kelley, C. Knapp, J. Luckey, K. Monroe, J. Nelson, B. Riehle, C. Santora, K. Slep, R. Starks, R. Swarthout, D. Vespucci, R. Whitney

**Media Present:** 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.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried to approve the Public Safety Committee minutes of March 4, 2015.

**Public Defender  
Monthly Report**

Public Defender Barbara Kelley noted that there had been a slight slowdown last month, but that she doesn't expect that to last. She said that she had received notice that the Allegany County Public Defender's Office had been notified that it was approved for Distribution 5 from the State. She said the timing is good because it will allow the Assistant Public Defender whose funding would have run out at the end of May to continue without interruption. When asked about the State Budget's impact on her office, Ms. Kelley noted that ILS asked for more money than it got, but to the best of her knowledge, the funding was kept the same as last year. It was also noted that the issue of space needs in the Public Defender's Office would be addressed at that afternoon's Facilities & Communications meeting.

**Emergency Management and Fire  
Monthly Report**

Emergency Management and Fire Services Director Jeffrey Luckey highlighted some items from his pre-filed monthly report, including the following: Mr. Luckey attended and reported at the County Hazard Mitigation Meeting. He noted that August 16 is the due date for the County-wide Haz Mat Plan. Last year, he said, he applied for a grant to help offset the costs of updating this 800-page document. Noting that he had requested \$120,000, he also noted that he had not heard anything to date about an award. However, he said, only three applications were received, and there is more than enough money to award all three grants. Part of the cost of this update is the use of a consultant to help with the Plan. He added that he worked with Mike Hennessy and the Veterans' Office producing ID cards for veterans. On March 9, Bonnie VanHousen joined the Office of Emergency Services and Fire as the new Account Clerk/Typist. Mid-month, Bonnie and Mike worked on consolidating, and cleaning everything in our storeroom adjacent to offices. This space has been allocated to 911 for the CONXX broadband and public safety radio upgrades. Most of our equipment, office supplies, and outreach supplies have been temporarily relocated on the third floor of the County Office Building, and at Crossroads. Finally, Mr. Luckey explained the document he distributed from Homeland Security and Emergency Services regarding an Intrastate Mutual Aid Program (IMAP) which will allow all

counties, municipalities, and school districts to become a part of state-wide mutual aid program. This is an opt-out program, but Mr. Luckey highly recommends that all entities remain participants; to that end, he and Superintendent of Public Works Guy James are drafting a letter to endorse the program and encourage the towns, villages, etc. to remain participants.

### **STOP-DWI**

#### **Monthly Report**

STOP-DWI Coordinator Linda Edwards noted the following from her pre-filed monthly report. On March 6, she met with Cattaraugus County District Attorney Lori Rieman, Cattaraugus County DA Victim Advocate, and Allegany County Victim Services Coordinator Shannon Ozzella and provided forms and letters and discussed procedures to assist in establishing a Victim Impact Panel in Cattaraugus County. Additionally, Intern Lexi Cooper and Ms. Edwards met with the Magistrates' Association to update them about the Fine Collection Project. They also discussed procedures for cases from Justices. STOP-DWI hosted Jacy Good and her husband Steve Johnson in mid-March for Distracted Driving presentations in local schools. Presentations were held in Cuba-Rushford, Genesee Valley, Bolivar-Richburg, and Friendship Central Schools; discussion was held about having Jacy and Steve return to the County next year to complete presentations in County schools and have an evening presentation for parents and the public. Ms. Edwards said that the Top Cop Dinner had been held on March 26 with about 50 in attendance. She distributed copies of the program from that event. Finally, Ms. Edwards said she has applied for the Bicycle and Crackdown Grants, but she won't receive word about awards until September.

### **District Attorney**

#### **Monthly Report**

District Attorney Keith Slep entertained questions/comments on his pre-filed monthly report, saying there was nothing new to add to what had been submitted. There being no questions or comments, the report was accepted as submitted.

### **Probation**

#### **Monthly Report**

Probation Director Robert Starks corrected a typo on his pre-filed monthly report, then entertained questions and comments. Receiving none, he went on to say that the numbers will be different next month, as they will see a few more kids coming through the door. He also noted that the T.R.A.U.M.A. Seminar he'd attended which was directed at law enforcement regarding how to proceed when a staff member dies, whether in the line of duty or suicide; burial, family issues, etc., had been very helpful, although he hopes he doesn't need to use that information.

### **Weights & Measures**

#### **Monthly Report**

Weights & Measures Director Gilbert Green noted, that in addition to the items on his pre-filed monthly report, which included: checking pharmacies, calibrating a metering system for Saputo Dairies, calibrating several bulk tanks in March mostly for Amish; attending an organizational meeting for New York State Weights & Measures School and Conference to be held June 8-12, 2015, in Syracuse, NY; and collecting petroleum samples for testing, he would be traveling to Albany to have some of his equipment calibrated, an event which occurs every five years.

### **Sheriff's Office** **Monthly Report**

Sheriff Rick Whitney entertained questions/comments on his pre-filed monthly report. Hearing none, he went on to his action items.

### **Request to Fill One FT and Two PT Dispatcher Positions**

The Sheriff's Office requested approval to fill one full-time E-911 Dispatcher (AFSCME Council 66 Bargaining Unit) position and two part-time E-911 Dispatcher (non-union) positions. The full-time position vacancy is due to a termination; the part-time positions' vacancies are the result of a resignation and the anticipated promotion of a part-time individual to the vacant full-time position. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Hop[kins, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

### **Funding Transfer**

The Sheriff's Office requested a transfer of \$300,000 from the Contingency Account to establish a Jail Capital Project Account. The account will be used to purchase new computer hardware, servers, and upgrades to the intercom, security, and records management systems. Please see the Jail Capital Project Account proposal (below) for specific details. Thus, the sum of \$300,000 should be transferred as below:

From Account No.

A 1990.429 (Contingency) \$300,000

To Account No.

H XXXX.XXX (Jail Capital Project) \$300,000

TBD by the Treasurer's Department

Legislator Burt was concerned that this was a large amount of money to use from Contingency when repairs (or replacement) of the sewer system at the Jail will also soon become an expensive issue. He wasn't comfortable with two major projects being "active" at the same time. County Administrator Mitch Alger responded by saying that, first, when Ways & Means reviews the Sheriff's request, it might consider using Fund Balance as well as Contingency funds since we are still "early" in the Budget year. He went on to say, as regards the sewer issue, that some upgrades have been made, and that the cost of \$15,000 for pumping the system twice a year, have, so far, been sufficient to keep the major replacement issue at bay, particularly as it is a \$500,000 project. Additionally, the last proposal the County received from the Village adds a recurring cost of \$150,000 per year. Satisfied by this response, Legislator Burt indicated his willingness to support this request. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

### **Allegany County Sheriff's Office 2015 Jail Capital Project Proposal History**

The Jail is a facility that is unlike any other in that it is a high intensity facility that is open 24 hours a day 365 days year. To put this in perspective, the County Office Building and Court House are in use approximately 2,470 hours a year (assumes 10 hours per day for 247 days) while the jail is in use for 8,760 hours a year, just over 3.5 times the usage of the COB and Courthouse. The Allegany County Jail and Public Safety Facility opened in August of 2006 and while chronologically, it is nine years old, it has seen almost thirty-two years of use. Granted the facility was designed with this intense use in mind, but it still relies on several systems that were not designed to work 8760 hours per year. Every year since the opening, the jail administrative staff has made an effort to include in the proposed budgets, monies for security systems maintenance and upgrades as necessary, with relatively positive results.

We have spent a total of \$223,753.90 or \$24,861.54 per year since we occupied the jail. These dollar amounts include upgrades in equipment, replacing failed equipment, technical support, new cameras, replacement cameras, repair for the analog video switch, replacement of the digital video recorders, programming debugging and other services both on and off site.

### **Proposal**

While we were preparing our 2015 budget, we were informed that including these systems, equipment maintenance and upgrades in budget line items was inappropriate and that we should submit a capital project proposal. To continue our transition from an analog security system with computer interfaces to a more digital system, and to remain current and safe, we need to replace our intercom system and reprogram our current security system to run on the most current software and operation systems. (At installation all of our systems were running on Windows XP) The current quote for this system upgrade is \$230,000.

Additionally our record management system has been running since we have been in operation with little to no upgrade and maintenance and is nearing the end of its serviceable life. We have quote for \$30,000, not only to upgrade the records management system, but included in that quote, is a digital medical record as well as the ability to submit prescriptions electronically both of which are going to be required by law.

To complete our necessary upgrades we will also need new computer hardware and servers. Some of our computers have been running since 2007 and are in great need of replacing. We will also need a new server to run the new records management system. Total for this equipment would be \$25,000.

We are proposing that a \$300,000 capital project fund be set up. This would include a 5 percent overrun because several of our quotes are old, and we would need to have some money available for unforeseen circumstances.

The Sheriff's office has consistently returned money to the County for the past several years and has a good track record for being under budget. We need to keep our facility current and safe to ensure good service to the County through maintained revenue streams and managing our liability to the best of our ability.

### **Approval of Temporary Loan of Interoperable Communications Resources Agreement from DHSES**

The Sheriff's Office requested approval to participate in the DHSES Program to accept temporary loan of Interoperable Communications Resources. DHSES is providing the opportunity for each county to receive and use equipment, software, and/or Mutualink Edge Subscription Service (Hereinafter "Interoperable Communications Resources" which will allow counties to communicate on a common platform for emergency management and public safety planning and response purposes. These Resources are being provided on a loan basis and title to the Interoperable Communications Resources shall remain with the State at all times. The State has the right to recall the Interoperable Communications Resources at anytime, including the termination of the EDGE User Subscription Services. As such, any permanent granting of the Interoperable Communications Resources must be provided for in a separate written agreement signed by both parties. NYS will incur all acquisition, installation, and licensing costs for this initiative. The request to enter into this agreement and authorize Chairman Crandall to sign the agreement was approved on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. *Prepare Resolution*

### **Old Business**

#### **911 Radio Project Update-Sheriff's Office/Emergency Management & Fire**

Radio Technician Matt Evans told the Committee that CONXX has located additional tower locations for possible use by the County. CONXX will also help to survey a couple of

locations in the southern part of the County. The WNED towers look good so far, he said, adding that the County is waiting for the legal documents turning the towers over to us. There was some discussion about the Cuba Fire Service having some radio communication difficulty. Both the Sheriff's Office and Fire Service are aware of this, and offered some reasons why this is so, and also noted that the \$5.9 million grant is looking to resolve this type of issue.

**Good of the Order**

Legislator Burt noted that "American Pickers," a documentary series that explores the fascinating world of antique "picking" on the History Channel, will be coming to Allegany County in early May. He said he thought this would be a good opportunity for some positive publicity for the County.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m. following a motion by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried.

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