

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
October 5, 2016
NOT APPROVED

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

Others Present: R. Anderson, T. Boyde, L. Edwards, K. Francisco, K. Graves, G. Green, K. Hollis, R. Hollis, C. Ivers, C. Jessup, B. Kelley, S. Lanphier, J. Luckey, D. Marsh, K. Monroe, B. Riehle, K. Slep, R. Starks, R. Swarthout, M. Washer

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 Burt, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried to approve the Public Safety Committee minutes of September 7, 2016.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Public Defender Barbara Kelley attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report for review and stated their caseload continues to be steady.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND FIRE DIRECTOR

Emergency Management and Fire Director Jeff Luckey attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report for review. Legislator Hopkins questioned the timeframe for a decision on the Critical Care Program continuing in Allegany County. Mr. Luckey stated they should have an answer in March of 2017.

STOP- DWI

STOP-DWI Coordinator Linda Edwards submitted her monthly report for review and noted to the committee there is a SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving) conference coming up on October 21, 2016.

Approval of NYS STOP- DWI Plan

STOP DWI Coordinator Linda Edwards requested a resolution to approve the 2017 STOP-DWI Plan. The plan is outline follows:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Enforcement	\$ 25,000.00
Prosecution	\$ 3,000.00
Court Related	\$ 2,000.00
Probation	\$ 3,000.00
Rehabilitation	\$ 1,300.00

Public Information/Education	\$ 5,300.00
Administration	<u>\$ 43,674.00</u>
Total	\$ 83,274.00

Revenue Estimated for the 2017 Program Year **\$ 75,000.00**

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator McGraw, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

District Attorney Keith Slep attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report for review.

Assistant District Attorney Position

A motion was made by Legislator Burt, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried to table the discussion of the Assistant District Attorney position.

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Probation Director Robert Starks attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report for review. Mr. Starks noted that their adult supervision cases have increased compared to last year mainly from the influx of transfers from colleges and universities. Mr. Starks explained to the committee that any individual who has been sentenced to probation in a County other than Allegany County but attends college here, is offered adult supervision. Legislator Healy questioned if there is a particular area they see most of these individuals come from. Mr. Starks stated most are from Western New York.

Renewal of NYS Probation Block Grant

Probation Director Robert Starks requested a resolution to approve the renewal of the NYS Probation Block Grant. This grant will allow for continued partial funding from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services for this Department's Probation services. The funds should be appropriated as follows:

A3140.101 (Probation-Personnel)	\$151,101
Revenue: A3140.3310.00	\$151,101

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator LaForge, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES DIRECTOR, GILBERT GREEN

Director Gilbert Green attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report for review.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Undersheriff Kevin Monroe attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report for review.

Request to Fill Forensic Crisis Counselor Position

Sheriff Whitney requested a resolution to create and fill a Forensic Crisis Counselor (PEF, Grade 8, Step: Base) position within the Sheriff's Office. This position has previously been contracted through Allegany Rehabilitation Associates and for stability and more effective deployment; the Sheriff is seeking to create this position within his office. The Forensic Crisis Counselor will provide mental health services including crisis intervention, counseling, and case management to inmates at the Allegany County Jail. Legislator Graves questioned what happened to the contract that brought the Sheriff's office to this point of creating a new position within their office. Undersheriff Kevin Monroe stated that the current individual in this position has resigned. Undersheriff Monroe stated that keeping someone here is imperative and this is now the second Crisis Counselor to leave in his six years here, but the pay they were receiving wasn't at the level it should have been; therefore, he's moving on to a new position. Legislator Graves questioned if they have attempted to renegotiate the terms of the contract with Allegany Rehabilitation Associates. Undersheriff Monroe stated there wasn't a breakdown in the contract terms; there was a breakdown in keeping someone in the position due to the salary level. Community Services Director Dr. Robert Anderson stated this position is very important and to get someone to come in and grow into the position and develop, you have to offer them comparable pay to what other certified Crisis Counselors with similar certifications are receiving in other areas, and that task is going to be a lot easier to accomplish through the County. Dr. Anderson stated he understands what happens when you add a position to a County organization; however, this is one of those instances when bringing the position to the County will make it have more continuity. Legislator Graves questioned if there is any possibility of renegotiating the contract to the County's advantage. Dr. Anderson stated in talking with Michael Damiano, the Executive Director of Allegany Rehabilitation Associates, Mr. Damiano was hesitant about what would happen if we renegotiated the contract and stated we would have to get someone who is at a higher certification level such as a Social Worker or Psychologist which will be costly to the County. Public Safety Committee Chairman Phil Curran questioned if there enough certified Crisis Counselors within the County that we could have an open contract and when you need someone, you call and get whoever is available. Undersheriff Monroe stated one thing that makes this position valuable is when they are here eight hours a day, and, if needed, also come in on weekends. To move to an open contract, you're losing your on-site full-time Crisis Counselor which will be detrimental to the Jail. Legislator Graves questioned what the typical hours will be in a work week. Jail Administrator Chris Ivers stated the position would be a 40-hour work week and anything above and beyond that will be overtime according to the terms of the PEF Agreement. Legislator Burt questioned how much we currently pay for the yearly contract with Allegany Rehabilitation Associates. Undersheriff Monroe stated we currently pay \$68,000 which also includes fringe benefits. Legislator Burt raised the issue that this new position starts at \$59,000 with fringe benefits; however, that does not include the overtime we would need to cover for weekends and that amount could really add up. Legislator Burt went on to ask how often the current Crisis Counselor is needed on weekends. Jail Administrator Chris Ivers stated he is needed one or twice a month. Legislator Graves questioned Dr. Anderson if this position would have any future education costs. Dr. Anderson stated they would be expected to attend an annual forensic training that is put on by

the NYS Office of Mental Health; but the cost is minimal. Public Safety Committee Chairman Curran stated more exploration of the contract renewal with Allegany Rehabilitation Associates is in order before adding another employee to the County payroll. A motion was made by Legislator Burt, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried to table creating and filling the Forensic Crisis Counselor position pending further exploration of the contract renewal.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m. following a motion by Legislator Burt, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Meghan Washer, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board
Allegany County Board of Legislators