



AGENDA
JUDICIAL & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, April 8, 2020
Live Streamed

CALL TO ORDER: By Hon. Andy Dennison, Chair

MEMBERS: Legislators Keith Batman, Elane Daly, Michael Didio, Heidi Nightengale, Hans Pecher (Vice Chair), and Tucker Whitman

MINUTES TO APPROVE: March 11, 2020

APPOINTMENTS: None

DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:

- **Denise Spingler (911) –**
 - COVID-19 Update – continuing to screen callers; working on a finalized contingency plan should we experience internal illnesses
 - Connectivity to Oswego – working on final stages of connectivity for Oswego 911 to back Cayuga 911 up if staff can't manage call volumes
 - In discussions with phone vendor to secure VPN laptops allowing staff to potentially work from home if the center reaches critical staffing levels
 - National Telecommunicators Week April 5-11
 - Unfortunately we have to delay our festivities this year
- **Lloyd Hoskins (Assigned Counsel/Stop DWI) – No updates**
- **Dr. Adam Duckett (Coroner) – No updates**
- **Jon Budelmann (District Attorney) –**

We are very busy, but are doing fine. We welcomed our new Discovery Confidential Secretary Sarah Sears last Monday. My Executive Assistant handled the onboarding process here, with the help of IT, HR, and others. Sarah has been training (since she began last week) on the Prosecutors Case Management System (database) program and her role in assisting the Office with discovery.

The two Sr. ADA's /and two Assistant District Attorneys have taken home files and are working remotely on their laptops/Surface Pro tablets.

My Chief ADA has been working here, but is expecting to work remotely (at least part of the time) as soon as he gets a Surface Pro or Laptop to utilize from home.

The support staff are splitting mornings and afternoons (halving their presence). They too are awaiting the new supply of Surface Pros (in the hopes that some of what they are doing can also be done remotely).

DA Office safety and security

We have closed our office to the public and have tried to minimize police presence in the Office as well. We have installed a mail box/chute so materials can be dropped off securely from the outer lobby (without face to face contact).

We have installed a video doorbell system so we can know when someone is outside the lobby in need of assistance (24/7).

Personally

I have been working here every day, first and foremost on securing the office and health/safety of our employees.

I have been working on getting my resolutions (that passed Judicial and Public Safety in March) passed by the whole Legislature.

This Office needs to refill the two vacant positions–Sr. ADA and Conf. Investigator.

We also need create more assistance to deal with the new criminal discovery statute, and are seeking to create a new Discovery ADA position.

Overall

The support staff is keeping on top of notices, correspondence and motions/discovery as it comes in, uploading it for the ADA's.

The attorneys are preparing discovery and drafting/sending out offer letters on cases.

We are generally trying to prepare for the time when the Courts reopen (and likely crush us with trials and discovery obligations).

- **Amy Russett (Fire/EMO) –**

COVID-19 Related:

PPE ordering, receiving, distribution – to Hospital, Fire/EMS/Law, Nursing Homes, Adult Care Facilities, Health Department
Hand Sanitizer ordering, receiving, distribution– to Hospital, Fire/EMS/Law, Nursing Homes, Adult Care Facilities, Health Department, any other community facility

Communications - Disinfectant Spray – Auburn Water Plant available for pickup

Communications – State Guidance pass through to all first responders: fire/rescue, law enforcement, EMS transports, hospital personnel, health dept.

Communications with Coroner regarding: coroner support from EMO with PPE and Funeral Director communications (Mass Fatality Planning)

Communications with Human Services group – trying to assist with resources

Communications with Towns/Villages regarding PA (public assistance) from FEMA, answering questions, sending documentation

Taking part in the weekly NYS EMS conference call (Wednesdays)

Conducting twice/week calls with all First Responders in the county (Tuesdays and Fridays) – giving any updates

Communications with NYS EOC personnel regarding tickets we have placed and sending them all information they are requesting

Summarizing daily tasks on official NYS paperwork to prepare for PA requests in the future

Taking part in daily NYS Watch Center calls for PPE updates

Organizing donations coming into EMO and distribution of all donations back out to the communities.

1st Quarter Grant Reporting

SHSP2020 Grant Application in progress

- **Jay DeWispelaere (Probation) –**

COVID-19 update;

- 13 of 16 probation staff are working remotely. I am also working remotely this week and will rotate back into the office April 6, 2020. Three staff are scheduled in the office each day; one Supervisor, one Sr. Probation Officer and one clerical staff member. The office is working in three teams, rotating one week on, two weeks off. The on duty supervisor has discretion to send staff home, depending on work load.
- At this point, staff understandably are stressed. Some more than others. Working remotely is new for most of our people, but they have all remarked how productive then are able to be. IT has been great to work with and most staff are now fully integrated into the county network. Staff have also been very adaptable when it comes to changing work flow procedures and inventing new ways to do business.
- Probation Officers continue to work in the community, making limited contacts with individuals sentenced to probation. Officers have adapted their usual procedures to enhance their safety and to remain well outside of social distance. All department vehicles are equipped with first aid kits that include masks, gloves and disinfectant.
- Administrative staff remain in contact using the video conferencing application in the new 8x8 phone system. Friday, April 3, 2020, our administrative unit will have the second weekly conference. We'll have weekly unit meetings until all staff are cleared to return to the office.
- 8x8; the new phone system has been a significant improvement and staff have been quick to explore and make use of its features. Great work to Paul and his IT staff. Probation would not be function at the current level without the support of these individuals. Thanks very much!
- All in all, difficult, but not impossible circumstances. The staff have been up to the task even though most are learning on the fly. Contact with all of our peer agencies in the criminal justice system (DA, CCSO, County, City & local Courts, etc) has been excellent. While the system is working at a reduced level, there continues to be effective cooperation and communication.

• **Brian Schenck (Sheriff) –**

- Numerous temporary changes have been implemented at the Cayuga County Jail to combat the spread of illness and Covid-19. Jail visitation, programming, and education have been suspended. There is very limited access to our lobby and facility by the public. An isolation Pod has been established and equipped should we need to isolate inmates. Additional food and supplies is on hand should the need arise to lock down the facility.
- At the time of this report we have one member out of work recovering from illness after testing positive for Covid-19. Nine additional essential members are also working from home on a temporary voluntary quarantine that did have immediate contact with the individual. The Cayuga County Health Department was consulted and did provide guidance with this situation.
- Our Patrol Division continues to answer emergency calls for service. For calls that do not require an in person response, complainants are being interviewed via telephone. Patrol members have been advised to limit their exposure to the public as much as possible while still providing public safety services.
- At the time of this report we are housing 119 inmates in our jail with 43 of those inmates being Federal board-ins. We are maintaining 6 open (budgeted) staff positions in the jail. The Sheriff did advise that he would likely ask to fill 2-3 of these positions in April at the March Public Safety Meeting due to a large volume of Centralized Arraignment Detainees that we had seen in the month of February and early March; however, with the current health situation we have seen a significant drop in pre-arraignment detainees and volume in the Centralized Arraignment Part. At this time we do not want to seek to fill these positions until we recover from the current health pandemic and reassess the need for any additional staff.

RESOLUTIONS:

SHERIFF:

4-20-JP-1

Authorize the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature and the Sheriff of Cayuga County to enter into an agreement with Global Tel*Link Corporation for the management, operation, and maintenance of the inmate telephone system at the Cayuga County Jail as well as add electronic tablets.

PROBATION:

4-20-JP-2

Authorizing the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature to Enter into an agreement with Cayuga Counseling for Pretrial Diversion Services for the term January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

4-20-JP-3

Authorizing the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature to Enter into an agreement with Cayuga Counseling for the Alternative Sentencing Program for the Term January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

ADJOURNMENT: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 to follow Planning

If you have a disability and need accommodations, please call the Clerk of the Legislature's office at 253-1308 at least 48 hours before the scheduled meeting to advise what accommodations will be necessary.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

4/28/20

SHR Agmnt GTL

AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR OF THE CAYUGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE AND THE SHERIFF OF CAYUGA COUNTY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GLOBAL TEL*LINK CORPORATION FOR THE MANAGEMENT, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE INMATE TELEPHONE SYSTEM AT THE CAYUGA COUNTY JAIL AS WELL AS ADD ELECTRONIC TABLETS

By: Mr. Andrew Dennison, Chair, Judicial & Public Safety Committee
Mr. Christopher Petrus, Chair, Ways & Means Committee

WHEREAS, Cayuga County formerly entered into an Agreement with Global Tel*Link Corporation to install, manage, operate and maintain inmate telephones, enclosures, and related equipment on February 12th, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Cayuga County Sheriff's Office is satisfied with the services provided by Global Tel*Link Corporation and together with Global Tel*Link Corporation desires to extend and amend said Agreement which is due to expire on February 12th of 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Cayuga County Sheriff's Office seeks to implement and add electronic tablets within the jail to provide a platform for additional inmate communication via electronic visitation with family and approved contacts as well as educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Cayuga County Sheriff's Office seeks to readjust inmate phone rates and commissions back to the county as well as set tablet use and commission rates that promote use of the services by the inmate population; and

WHEREAS, Global Tel*Link can provide, install, manage, and operate said tablet program within the Cayuga County Jail by amending said contract; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature and the Cayuga County Sheriff are hereby authorized to execute the necessary documents to amend and extend this agreement with said extension commencing on 2/12/2021 and ending on 2/12/2024.

Judicial & Public Safety

Ways & Means Committee

Andy Dennison, Chair

Christopher Petrus, Chair

Keith Batman

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Elane Daly

Elane Daly

Michael Didio

Andy Dennison

Heidi Nightengale

Ryan Foley

Hans Pecher

Benjamin Vitale

Tucker Whitman

Tucker Whitman

Co. Atty: _____

4-20-3P-2

RESOLUTION NO. _____ April 28, 2020

PRO Auth Pretrial Diversion

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR OF THE CAYUGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CAYUGA COUNSELING FOR PRETRIAL DIVERSION SERVICES FOR THE TERM JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020

BY: Hon. Andrew Dennison, Chair, Judicial & Public Safety Committee
Hon. Christopher Petrus, Chair, Ways & Means Committee

WHEREAS, the Pre-Trial Diversion program is a research based voluntary preventive rehabilitation program for first time offenders age 18-21. Participation in this program allows these first time offenders to have criminal charges dropped or reduced thus avoiding a conviction on their criminal record; participants receive counseling and support for achievement at school, home, and employment while returning volunteer service work to the community and making restitution to victims consistent with the national restorative justice model; and

WHEREAS, Cayuga Counseling has provided this service to Cayuga County previously and both the County and Cayuga Counseling Services wish to continue to provide this service into the future; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Chair is authorized to enter into an agreement with Cayuga Counseling Services for the term January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 for the provision of Pre-Trial Diversion services at an amount not to exceed \$11,000.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, funding is to be utilized from budget account A31404 54503, Probation – Pre-Trial Diversion.

Judicial & Public Safety

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Co. Atty: 

4-20-SP-3

RESOLUTION NO. _____ April 28, 2020

PRO Auth Alt. Sentencing

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR OF THE CAYUGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CAYUGA COUNSELING FOR THE ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING PROGRAM FOR THE TERM JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020

BY: Hon. Andrew Dennison, Chair, Judicial & Public Safety Committee
Hon. Christopher Petrus, Chair, Ways & Means Committee

WHEREAS, the Cayuga Counseling Services' Alternative Sentencing Program is an Alternative to Incarceration Program (ATI) that helps eligible and suitable (18 and up) non-violent defendants who have been convicted or who have pled out criminal cases; they are referred to perform community service in lieu of jail as a condition of a conditional discharge, or in lieu of a fine; this sentencing option allows defendants to remain employed and to preserve community ties; this provides positive community action and is a deterrent as powerful as incarceration; and

WHEREAS, Cayuga Counseling has provided this service to Cayuga County previously and both the County and Cayuga Counseling Services wish to continue to provide this service into the future; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Chair is authorized to enter into an agreement with Cayuga Counseling Services for the term January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 for the provision of Alternative Sentencing services at an amount not to exceed \$24,144.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, funding is to be utilized from budget account A31404 54504, Probation – Alternative Sentencing.

Judicial & Public Safety

Ways & Means Committee

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Co. Atty: 