



MINUTES
JUDICIAL & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, May 8, 2019, Cayuga County Chambers

CALL TO ORDER: By Hon. Christopher Petrus at 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS: Legislators Christopher Petrus, Keith Batman, Joseph Bennett, Paul Pinckney, and Ben Vitale

EXCUSED: Legislators Michael Didio, Timothy Latimore (Vice Chair)

OTHERS: Chairman Tucker Whitman, Legislators Aileen McNabb-Coleman, Joseph DeForest, Charlie Ripley, Elane Daly, Patrick Mahunik, Ryan Foley, County Administrator Justin J. Woods, County Attorney Christopher Palermo, Cayuga County 9-1-1 Administrator Denise Spingler, Sheriff Brian Schenck, Detective Lt. Frederick Cornelius, Human Resources, Michael Russell, Planning and Economic Development Director Stephen Lynch, Director, Administrative Assistant, Suzanne Gauthier, Auburn, Mark Strong, Moravia Fire Department, Renee Strong, Locke Fire Department, Tricia Kerr, Ryan Franklin, The Citizen

MINUTES TO APPROVE: Joseph Bennett motioned to approve the minutes of April 10, 2019, 2nd by Ben Vitale. All members present voted in favor, passed.

APPOINTMENTS: None

DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:

- **Denise Spingler (911) –**

Reported Updates:

- 911 Saves Act – reclassification of dispatchers from clerks to first responders
 - Bill in House H.R.1629 / Senate S.1015
 - Several counties passing resolution in support
 - Will change dynamic in how dispatchers are recognized

Administrator Woods continued that this is a Federal law job classification. The retirement classification would be the probable next step through the State retirement system.

- Interviewing new candidates – three vacancies
- Quarterly grant reporting complete
- Core / Master site upgrade complete

(Spingler Update on EMO)

- Quarterly grant reporting complete
 - 8 grants (approximately 685k)
- Working on three new grants – All have or will be submitted by the end of May
 - 2019-2020 HMGP Hazard Mitigation Grant was submitted, SASG grant and the PHMAS Hazard Materials grants are due at the end of the month. These grants total approximately \$200,000.
- Current grant projects
 - Tetra Tech – EM plan updates
 - Equipment purchases
 - Training approvals for staff
- Continuing to work with Fire/EMS agencies w/regards to radio distribution

Additional Updates:

- ❖ Staff will be working on putting together municipal binders to include the response plans for all of the departments' responsibilities to assist the new director. A kick off meeting to update the County's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan will be held in the near future.
- **Vacant (Fire/EMO) – (Lynch Update on EMO)**

Additional Updates:

- ❖ Fire Coordinators' meeting will be held this evening.
- ❖ Legislator Bennett inquired about the search for the EMO department head. Administrator Woods commented that the search committee, after interviewing several candidates, has designated a preferred candidate for the position. A stakeholder meeting will be held with broader selection of EMS / fire personnel and others to meet the candidate to discuss his vision and approach he would bring to the office. Administrator Woods stated after that meeting, would hope to bring a resolution and appointment recommendation to the Legislature. Legislator Foley inquired whether there was a consensus of the search committee for the preferred choice. Administrator Woods stated the consensus of the board was to now discuss with this candidate whether the terms and conditions of the position would be acceptable to the candidate and the Legislature.

Reported updates:

- Representative Fire/EMS personnel have been invited to join the established Search Committee for an orientation meeting on April 24th at the County Office Building. The search process will be detailed and the list of candidate applicants reviewed. The meeting will also provide an opportunity to discuss preferred qualifications and skill sets the County should be looking for in selecting candidate applicants to interview.
 - EMO Coordinators, Planning Staff and local officials in Fair Haven and Sterling have been monitoring rising lake levels in Lake Ontario for shoreline and flooding impacts. As conditions continue to change, the County is in close contact with State DHSES regarding lake levels, preparatory actions, any potential needs, planning timelines/triggers, etc. Based on last week's report, lake levels are at 246.46 ft. and expected to increase an additional 11 inches over the next 3-4 weeks. A standing bi-weekly call between State and local partners has been established.
 - Following the Conditions Assessment of the Fire Training Tower, a priority list of repairs/upgrades and associated costs is being finalized.
 - New fit testing equipment has been ordered. Upon receipt, County ES Coordinators will contact and schedule fit-testing for Fire Department members.
 - ES Coordinator Meetings were held twice in April (2nd & 16th). In addition to routine coordination matters, EMO event planning for Emerson Park July 3rd Fireworks and Symphony was initiated. Additional event planning for the Great Race (8/11) and the Cayuga Lake Bass Pro Fishing Tournament (8/22 – 8/25) will soon begin.
 - Grant modification was submitted to purchase the aquatic rescue craft for Fairhaven
 - Applied for NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) FY2018 Hazmat Grant Program Regional Grant and NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) FY2018 Technical Rescue & Urban Search and Rescue Program Grant, which have no local match
- **Lloyd Hoskins (Assigned Counsel/Stop DWI)**

Additional updates:

- ❖ Director Hoskins stated the department will prepare and submit the accompanying resolutions to the June meetings to support the acceptance of the \$3.1 M grant for the Assigned Counsel Program, establishing the full time Assigned Counsel for the program, the establishment of a full time Assigned Counsel Administrator, bringing over the Senior Typist to the Assigned Counsel Program, the transfer of the Youth Bureau into HHS department and the directives for the DWI program.
- **Dr. Adam Duckett (Coroner) – No updates**

- **Jon Budelmann (District Attorney)**

Additional Updates:

- ❖ Administrator Woods stated he discussed with the District Attorney the need to review the CARP grant funded position and the necessity to bring the plan to the Legislature seeking the appropriation to use of those funds. Legislator Batman stated in principal, he objects to that approach to spend those funds for the position.

- **Jay DeWispelaere (Probation)**

Additional Update:

- ❖ Director DeWispelaere discussed with the committee the potential for the Probation Department to have their officers use three of the Sheriff's soon to be retired vehicles which will currently be replaced with the new leased fleet vehicles. Currently the officers are using their personnel vehicles on home visits, field work, etc. Administrator Woods stated three of the retired vehicles may be suitable for use for the Probation officers. Discussion continued as these vehicles would be used as a small pool for the officers; not assigned to individuals. A budget amendment would need to be presented to cover the cost of maintenance, fuel etc.; such funds would be reallocated from the department's current mileage budget.

The committee asked the department to provide total costs of this proposed change during the current and subsequent years for further evaluation.

- **SHERIFF: Brian Schenck**

RESOLUTIONS:

- 5-19-JP-1 Authorizing the Sheriff to fill one vacant Deputy Sheriff Position in the Law Enforcement Division of the Cayuga County Sheriff's Office.

Paul Pinckney motioned to approve and move resolution 5-19-JP-1, 2nd by Joseph Bennett. All members present voted in favor, passed.

- 5-19-JP-2 Authorize the Cayuga County Sheriff and the Chairman of the Cayuga County Legislature to enter into a contract with Galls, LLC to supply uniforms to Cayuga County Custody and Patrol Officers

Joseph Bennett motioned to approve and move resolution 5-19-JP-2, 2nd by Ryan Foley. All members present voted in favor, passed.

- 5-19-JP-3 Supporting the Human Resource/Civil Service Department and the Cayuga County Sheriff in efforts to facilitate the implementation of an SRO/SPO Program for school districts within the County

The committee has previously discussed the issues surrounding the implementation of a SRO/SPO program. Legislator Vitale stated there are school districts within the County which are interested in adding or keeping their SRO positions; this program would provide a method on how the districts would go about adding this security to their schools. The costs of the implementation of the program and the decisions to hire would be the responsibility of the school districts.

Keith Batman motioned to approve and move resolution 5-19-JP-3, 2nd by Joseph Bennett. All members present voted in favor, passed.

Reported Updates:

- Update on Enterprise Lease – All of the new Patrol vehicles that required decals have been decaled by Custom Sign Express of Auburn as originally planned and transferred to Nu-Look Collision in Rochester for completion. An inmate work crew is removing some of the old equipment from our current fleet that will be transferred to some of the new vehicles to cut down on costs. Six current Ford SUV's will be transferred to NU-Look to be decommissioned as all of the aftermarket equipment and radios from these six vehicles will be transferred to six new vehicles to reduce costs as well.
- Inmate Pharmaceuticals – We are working with MedWorld Acquisition to transfer prescription medication services in our Custody Division to Omnicare with a projected transfer date of May 8th.
- Inmate Board in Revenue - Revenue generated from inmate board-ins remains strong. We continue to have a steady population of Federal inmates along with local inmates from Cortland and Oswego Counties. The Sheriff has been working with the Cortland County Sheriff's Office to assist them as they continue to work on repairing their jail roof that has forced them to utilize our jail as well as others.
- Inmate Hair Cuts – Our contractor for providing inmate haircuts advised in April that he could no longer provide this service. We are actively accepting bids for a new contractor.

- Jail Transition Coordinator – Interviews of prospective candidates are complete and we hope to have a person hired in mid-May to begin providing transition services to our inmate population in an ongoing effort to reduce recidivism.

ADJOURNMENT:

Paul Pinckney motioned to adjourn the Judicial and Public Safety Committee meeting at 6:29 p.m., 2nd by Keith Batman. All members present voted in favor of the motion, passed.

Next Judicial and Public Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled for June 12, 2019 following Planning, at the Cayuga County Office Building, Sixth Floor County Chambers, 160 Genesee Street, Auburn, New York 13021

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Gauthier, Administrative Assistant
Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development