



MINUTES
JUDICIAL & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, June 13, 2023 to follow Public Works
Live Stream Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XICWAQjNKm8>

CALL TO ORDER: By Hon. Mark Strong, Chair at **6:16 PM**

MEMBERS: Legislators Elane Daly, Andy Dennison, Michael Didio, Aileen McNabb-Coleman, Heidi Nightengale, and Chris Petrus

EXCUSED: Legislator Elane Daly

OTHERS: Chairman David Gould, Legislators Hans Pecher, Bob Shea, and Lydia Patti Ruffini, District Attorney Brittany Antonacci, 911 Administrator Denise Spingler, Assigned Counsel Director Lloyd Hoskins, Supervising Attorney John Price, Probation Director Jay DeWispelaere, Sheriff Brian Schenck, EMO Director Riley Shurtleff, Assistant County Attorney Rich Graham, and Secretary to the Chairperson Sarah Blowers

MINUTES TO APPROVE: May 9, 2023

Motion by Petrus, 2nd by McNabb-Coleman, all in favor.

APPOINTMENTS:

Cayuga County Fire Advisory Board

William Whittaker, 519 Indian Cove, PO Box 109, Moravia, NY 13118, Term – 1/1/23 to 12/31/23

Dan Baldwin, 3331 Baldwin Rd, Cato, NY 13033, Term – 1/1/23 to 12/31/23

David James, 2687 Bell St., PO Box 749, Weedsport, NY 13166, Term 1/1/23 to 12/31/23

Larry Dygert, 10484 Jordan Rd., PO Box 279, Jordan, NY 13080, Term – 1/1/23 to 12/31/23

Douglas LaFave, 1179 Genoa Locke Townline Rd, Locke, NY 13092, Term – 1/1/23 to 12/31/23

George Seemann Jr., 3359 White Rd, Moravia, NY 13118, Term – 1/1/23 to 12/31/23

Sean Toole, F22 Southfield Apts, Auburn, NY 13021, Term – 1/1/23 to 12/31/23

DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:

- **Denise Spingler (911) –**
 - **Policy Matters for Committee**
 - **Staffing update**
 - 2 dispatcher vacancies
 - Existing Canvass resulted in 1 name on eligible list
 - Working with Civil Service to apply for HELP program
 - Civil Service Commission will review / approve NPDS at meeting on 20th
 - New test – 8 passed; awaiting performance test results
 - Contract approved – begin to work on staff upgrades / compression issues that weren't addressed in contract negotiations.
 - 5 people retiring in the next 5 years
 - **Backup Operations** – equipment improvements needed to backup center
 - Two desks / lamps no longer working (from primary center)
 - Lacks sufficient space for staff.
 - Shortage of positions
 - Real estate shortage for monitors
 - Temperature improvements needed – working with vendor
 - Equipment in close proximity of call center floor
 - **Emergency Communications System**
 - Motorola is conducting PM's this month
 - Roof project complete at PSB – antennas reinstalled
 - Maintenance team will begin PM's in July

- **Lloyd Hoskins (Assigned Counsel) –**

- There were **69** arraignments at the Centralized Arraignment Program for the month of May. The Assigned Counsel office calendared thirteen attorneys to cover the 7am and 7pm arraignments. The attorney cost associated with CAP for May was \$10,700.00. *These expenses were paid from an ILS (Indigent Legal Services) grant.* Of the 69 arraignments, **14** (21%) were for town/village courts, **54** (78%) for Auburn City Court and **1** (1%) for Family Court. **37** (54%) defendants were released (ROR), and **32** (46%) defendants were held on bail or held for other reasons. Of the 69 arraignments, 38 (55%) were brought in on arrest/bench warrants. 18 Orders of Protection were issued.
- There were **63** Counsel at First Appearance for Auburn City Court and **17** Counsel at First Appearance in town/village courts. The Assigned Counsel office calendared fourteen attorneys to cover the “on-call” arraignments. The attorney cost associated with Counsel at First Appearance for May was \$8,600.00. *These expenses were paid from an ILS (Indigent Legal Services) grant.*
- The Assigned Counsel office made attorney assignments to **72** defendants in Auburn City Court and **35** defendants in justice courts for May. A total of **47** assignments were made in Family Court.
- Legal Counsel Expenses:
 - January - \$82,694.92
 - February - \$88,744.96
 - March - \$92,850.30
 - April - \$101,443.08
 - May - \$179,928.82

- **Dr. Adam Duckett (Coroner) – No updates**

- **Brittany Antonacci (District Attorney) –**

- Felony Jury Trial Conviction: Charles Grefer
- 5th felony jury trial this year to date

- **Riley Shurtleff (Fire/EMO) –**

1. PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER IMPROVEMENTS – Following approval of the Bergmann Proposal for Schematic Designs and Construction Documents, ES Staff and State Fire Instructors met on June 12th to discuss the next steps and planned the 16 week process.
2. Action Planning for the July 4th Fireworks at Emerson Park occurred with a meeting between the Parks Department, ES Office, and Owasco Fire Department with Law Enforcement, EMS and supporting agencies on April 18th, with follow up on June 13th.
3. Staff attended a ceremony recognizing Jim Perkins, former Deputy County Coordinator and State Fire Instructor on June 5th, for his 50 years of service with the Scipio Volunteer Fire Company.
4. The Countywide Fire Mutual Aid Plan is currently undergoing its 5 year revision.
5. The Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial Ride is scheduled for July 15th for its 15th Anniversary Run. ES Staff are working with Local FDs for traffic control operations.

- Operations

1. ES Staff worked cooperatively with the Health Department and NYS OEM related to the Quebec Wildfire Smoke Situation. It is anticipated that smoke conditions will quiet for the immediate future, and the office will continue to monitor the situation.
 2. County Coordinators: Responded 17 times to assist Incident Command on Emergency scenes. This included response to confirmed or potential structure fires, a house explosion, and 2 water rescue situations.
 3. Fire Investigators: Responded 7 times to assist Incident Command with Cause and Origin of Fires.
 4. Rehab: Responded 5 times at fire scenes to assist in scene support efforts
- Training
1. A NYS BEFO class with blended learning began with 32 students on May 30th. Intentions are to run an Interior Firefighting Operations course following completion in August.
 2. Alternative Fueled Vehicles courses are scheduled on June 20th and 29th in Fair Haven and West Niles.
 3. Surface Water Rescue is scheduled for August 19th and 20th in Owasco.
 4. Fire Investigation for the Line Officer (Web-based) will be scheduled for an offering in September.
 5. 4 members of the County HAZMAT Team/Auburn Fire Department and 1 ES Staff attended the International Fire Chiefs Association HAZMAT Conference in Baltimore from 6/7-6/11.

In addition to the above, numerous calls and meetings with the State of New York OEM, OFPC, County Coordinators, County Agencies and other organizations were attended.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or to discuss any of the above in further detail.

- **Jay DeWispelaere (Probation) –**

- **Alternatives to Incarceration Board;**
 - No update at this time.
 - Next ATI meeting will be late June or early July.
- **2023-2024 DCJS Annual Plan and Aid Application**
 - Provided with this report for review.
- **Vehicles;**
 - 2023 Chevy Equinox is pending delivery; purchase has been finalized and dealership is awaiting delivery to their location.
 - EMO has provided trunk radios for two of Probation's current vehicles. These will be installed once the new vehicle is delivered.
 - EMO may also have surplus white strobe lights for Probation vehicles; these will enhance officer safety when Probation Officers are assisting other departments or are dispatched to emergency scenes.
 - Future vehicles purchased for Probation should be similar to those purchased for the Sheriff's Office in order to allow Probation to safely and appropriately carry out the department's law enforcement functions. Features should include; trunk radios, transport cage, non-emergency (white or yellow) strobes.
- **Budget Preview**
 - **Electronic Monitoring;** both County Court Judges have expressed an interest in expanding Electronic Monitoring for both juveniles and adults. Probation has not offered EM for adults since approx. 2009 due to cost and limited staffing. Money has been budgeted for EM, but there is no current contract with a provider for service. Staff turn over in 2022 limited the department's ability to implement new programming. There is no ability to provide one officer to oversee an EM specific caseload. The Chairman, County Attorney, Budget Director and others are reviewing legal questions related to the county providing EM services at this time; \$6,000.00
 - **Portable radios;** Probation's portable radios (13 total) are aging, but still functional. At some point, unless grants are available, funds will need to be available to upgrade equipment as the county updates its network; \$32,500.00
 - **Vehicles;** depending on programming needs, once the new vehicle is delivered, a decision may be made to surplus one of Probation's other vehicles (2011 Dodge Durango or 2014 Ford Explorer, both former CCSO vehicles). Funds will need to be identified at some point to replace the remaining vehicle. See recommendations for requirements above; \$45,000.00
In 2019-2020 it was felt that three vehicles would be appropriate for Probation. Usage since then has indicated that two vehicles is probably appropriate. However, if the department adopts a more intensive caseload (such as GIVE, or a specialized caseload for High Risk, domestic violence or mental health) a third vehicle would likely be necessary.
 - **Training;** In 2021 NYS doubled the length of time Probation Officers are required to attend training before gaining Peace Officer certification. The new Basic Course for Peace Officer and Fundamentals of Probation requirements now total nine weeks. Costs associated with these courses have also substantially increased. In 2019 the initial cost to train one Probation Officer was approximately \$2500.00. New training requirements have increased this cost to potentially double or triple that amount. I would recommend budgeting for three officers to attend BCPO and FPP in each of the next three years. This would be in addition to funds necessary for current staff to meet annual training requirements (approx. \$3000.00 annually); \$24,000.00
 - **Body Armor;** incoming staff will require new ballistic body armor. Each vest is currently approx. \$1,000.00. Yearly around three current staff will also need new vests due to required replacement. Grant funds may be available to meet some or all of these needs. However, to ensure timely replacement between grant periods, funds must be available; \$6,000.00.
- **Training**
 - Again this year the Probation Department engaged in two day of "Reality Based Training." This specific form of training engages officers in more realistic, scenario based modules to challenge their use of previously learned skills. RBT also forces officers to think and process as they would have to in incidents occurring during the course of their duties.
 - RBT is cooperative and engages the whole spectrum of officer's skills (firearms, less lethal force options, verbal skills, body positioning, radio communication, etc); students from the BOCES Criminal Justice Program participate as role players. Their participation also gives them insight into current law enforcement training methods.
 - For the first time this year use of officer's portable radios was integrated into training scenarios with a student "dispatcher" engage officers in standard radio communication.

- The 2023 RBT was made possible by assistance from Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES CJ Program (Instructor Stacey Jones), Cayuga Co. Sheriff’s Office and Cayuga Co. E911. On behalf of Probation Dept. staff thank you!
- **Staff Vacancies;**
 - It is likely that the department will lose a Probation Officer soon due to a lateral transfer to another department.
 - Another vacancy is also possible before the end of the summer.
 - The Director of Probation anticipates retiring December 1, 2023; a succession plan is in place pending the outcome of exams scheduled for this month.
 - Probation is entering a generational shift that is beginning sooner than anticipated. In addition to two possible departures this year, two senior officers have indicated their intention to retire in 2024 (February and December). If reported intentions hold true, 2025 will see at least two additional retirements; by the end of 2025 it is very likely that the Director, one Probation Supervisor and two Senior Probation Officers will have retired. This would mean a transition for four of six leadership positions in the department (current staffing; 1 Director; 2 Probation Supervisors; 3 Senior Probation Officers)
- **Brian Schenck (Sheriff) –**
 - At the time of this report, we are holding 176 incarcerated individuals in the jail. This includes 25 Federal board ins, 3 Local board ins, 8 NY State Parolees detained for new charges and 3 Parolees detained for a violation of parole.
 - Our boats are back on the water and we are gearing up for the summer navigation season.
 - We continue to work on strategies to provide for the increased need for mental health treatment in the jail. This includes the anticipated addition of a part time mental health social worker, additional care coordination within the facility by providers, and mental health first aid training for staff.
 - Our School Threat Assessment Team, formed just prior to this school year, provided intervention in over 20 individual cases. This collaborative effort between our agency, Cayuga County Mental Health, DSS, our law enforcement partners, and others was highly successful. We plan to expand upon this initiative moving into the next school year and beyond.
 - We plan to attend a number of community outreach events this summer to focus on recruiting for all divisions and public outreach.
 - Road Patrol Stats for the year to date through May:

JAN FEB MAR APRIL MAY

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY
CALLS FOR SERVICE	1,536	1,336	1,466	1,524	1,670
TRAFFIC TICKETS	152	146	141	156	151
CIVIL PAPERS SERVED	154	161	156	159	204
CIVIL & WARRANT ATTEMPTS	182	188	210	184	296
TRAFFIC STOPS	469	374	413	424	394
MVA INJURY	16	10	15	18	23
MVA PROPERTY DAMAGE	37	47	35	16	17
ARRESTS	52	37	34	41	37
DWI	3	5	3	5	6

RESOLUTIONS:

ASSIGNED COUNSEL:

6-23-JP-1 Authorizing the creation and hiring of a Data Officer within the Assigned Counsel Program.

Motion by Petrus, 2nd by Dennison, all in favor.

EMO:

6-23-JP-2 Authorizing the Director of Emergency Services to create and fill an Assistant Director of Emergency Medical and Training Services.

Motion by Dennison, 2nd by Didio, all in favor.

SHERIFF:

6-23-JP-3 Authorize the Sheriff to fill one (1) vacant Licensed Practical Nurse Position in the Custody Division of the Cayuga County Sheriff's Office.

Motion by Dennison, 2nd by McNabb-Coleman, all in favor.

6-23-JP-4 Authorize the Sheriff to fill eight (8) vacant Sheriff Custody Officer Positions in the Custody Division of the Cayuga County Sheriff's Office.

Motion by Petrus, 2nd by Dennison, all in favor.

6-23-JP-5 Authorize the Sheriff to fill one vacant Cayuga County Corrections Facility Administrator position in the Custody Division of the Cayuga County Sheriff's Office.

Motion by Dennison, 2nd by Nightengale, all in favor.

6-23-JP-6 Authorizing the Sheriff's Office to accept funding through the 2021 SLETPP (State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program) Grant from the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services to support prevention and preparedness efforts and amend the 2023 Sheriff's grants budget to accept the 2021 funding.

Motion by Dennison to move JP 6 & 7 as a bundle, 2nd by Nightengale, all in favor.

6-23-JP-7 Authorizing the Sheriff's office to accept funding through the 2021 Operation Stonegarden Grant from the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services and amend the 2023 Sheriff's grants budget to accept the 2021 funding.

PROBATION:

6-23-JP-8 Authorizing the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature to enter into an agreement with Cayuga Counseling for the Alternative Sentencing Program for the term July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Motion by Dennison, 2nd by Nightengale, all in favor except Petrus abstained.

6-23-JP-9 Authorizing the Probation Department to enter into a contract with Cayuga Counseling to provide Pretrial Release Services.

Motion by Dennison, 2nd by McNabb-Coleman, all in favor except Petrus abstained.

Motion by Dennison to adjourn at 7:07 PM, 2nd by Petrus, all in favor.