



**MINUTES**  
**JUDICIAL & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**Wednesday, July 10, 2019, Chambers – to follow Planning**

**CALL TO ORDER:** By Hon. Christopher Petrus at 6:16 p.m.

**MEMBERS:** Legislators Keith Batman, Joseph Bennett, Michael Didio, Timothy Latimore (Vice Chair), Paul Pinckney, and Ben Vitale

**EXCUSED:**

**OTHERS:** Legislators Charlie Ripley, Elane Daly, County Attorney Christopher Palermo, Lloyd Hoskins, Director Youth Bureau and Assigned Counsel, Cayuga County 9-1-1 Administrator Denise Spingler, Sheriff Brian Schenck, Detective Lt. Frederick Cornelius, District Attorney Jon Budelmann, Planning and Economic Development Stephen Lynch, Director, Suzanne Gauthier, Administrative Assistant, Mark Strong, Moravia Fire Department, Renee Strong, Locke Fire Department

**MINUTES TO APPROVE: June 12, 2019**

Joseph Bennett motioned to approve the minutes of June 12, 2019, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Michael Didio. All members present voted in favor, passed

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**Policy Review & Oversight Committee (PROC)**

Angelo Messina, 110 Eastwood Ave., Auburn, NY 13021, Term – 1/1/16 to 12/31/20 (Re-appointment)

Patrick Burns, 10 Ketchell St., Auburn, NY 13021, Term – 1/1/16 to 12/31/20 (Re-appointment)

Motioned by Joseph Bennett to approve the appointments and present to the Legislature for approval, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Michael Didio. All in favor, passed

**DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:**

• **Jon Budelmann (District Attorney) – No updates**

• Additional Updates:

- Online Traffic Reduction Revenue – DA Budelmann updated the committee on an upcoming proposed resolution requesting to allocate this additional revenue to be used as an expense to pay an increase in hours to a half time Assistant DA. Legislator Batman's concern in general on the proposal is to setting a precedent when additional revenue is created and the department allocates the additional revenue to a new expense. Legislator Vitale confirmed the new revenue should go into the County's revenue with a specific account to track the new revenue. The Legislature would be able to examine how the new revenue can be distributed. Legislator Latimore wants to be sure the DA has the appropriate tools to do the job at the office.

DA Budelmann further explained the revenue generated from the Online Traffic Reduction program would be used for the lawyer working on the traffic reduction, freeing the time other DAs are spending on evening night traffic courts. Currently the CARP grant will provide funding for a part time Assistant DA and these additional revenue could supplement those hours to be able to offer a prospective employee a possible full time position using both the revenue from the CARP grant and from the Online Traffic Reduction program.

The committee continued discussion on the best use of additional revenue and whether should be addressed currently or at budget time. The District Attorney will prepare a proposed resolution to be reviewed at next month's meeting.

• **Denise Spingler (911) –**

**Policy Matters for Committee - 911**

- PROC APPOINTMENTS
  - Two additional appointments – CCAES appointments
- New training class – started July 1<sup>st</sup> – 3 employees
- Quarterly Grant reporting in process
- Article 245 – 911 recordings for DA's Office – *January 2020*

All 911 telephone calls made or received in connection related to incident must be provided w/in fifteen days of trial or pre-trial. **Will require additional staff – we do not have manpower to manage this requirement**

## **RESOLUTIONS:**

### **911:**

**7-19-JP-1** Authorizing the Chairperson of the Legislature to sign a three year contract renewal with Falso Heating and Air Conditioning for the HVAC System at the back up E-911 Center. Legislator Batman whether this resolution should go through Buildings Department as being a HVAC contract. Attorney Palermo stated this agreement covers the proprietary equipment in the 9-1-1 center and this HVAC vendor is recommended by the manufacturer of the equipment.

Joseph Bennett motioned to approve and move resolution 7-19-JP-1, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Pinckney. All members present voted in favor, passed.

**7-19-JP-2** Authorizing the Chairperson of the Legislature to sign a two year contract with Voiance to provide language translation services at the E-911 Center

Joseph Bennett motioned to approve and move resolution 7-19-JP-1, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Keith Batman. All members present voted in favor, passed.

- Additional Updates:

- Director Spingler updated the committee on the new proposed Article 245 which will require all 911 telephone call made or received to be reported in 15 days. Director Spingler stated this new law may require additional personnel to fulfill the requirements of the law.

### **Vacant (Fire/EMO) –**

#### **(Spingler Update on EMO)**

#### **Policy Matters for Committee – EMO**

- Current grant projects
  - Tetra Tech – CEMP update meeting – July 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Equipment purchases
- Quarterly Grant reporting in process
- Continuing to work with Fire/EMS agencies w/regards to radio distribution
- 911 staff finished updating municipal binders in the EMO office

- Additional Updates:

- EMO Grant Reporting- Staff will be closing out a few of the grants at the end of August.
- Staff will be preparing for an Emergency Operations Center tabletop event in September. The walk through event will depict the processes and details if the EOC was activated during an emergency event. New York State will facilitate the event and will involve all pertinent departments. A checklist will be developed for each agency as to their assigned roles in such as event. NYS will inform the County of any gaps in coverage and what improvements could be made in the process.
- Fire Training Center – NYS grants are available for up to 50% for upgrades to the Fire Training Center. Director Spingler suggests the panels need to be replaced and the proposed grant funding and unused salary expenses could be used for funding the upgrades.

- Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) reported Lake Ontario lake levels are going down and should be down up 10 inches by mid-August.

#### **(Lynch Update on EMO)**

- The County Planning Director continues to work closely with the E-911 Administrator, the temporary administrative assistant and the dedicated ES Coordinators to oversee the day-to-day operations at EMO.
- Following the Conditions Assessment of the County Fire Training Tower, a priority list of repairs/upgrades and associated costs is being finalized. The staff will be bringing a resolution through the August cycle to authorize the facility repairs. Without this work, the County Fire Tower cannot host live fire training.
- EMO event planning for Emerson Park July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks and Symphony has been finalized and ES Coordinators are working closely with Dough Dello Stritto at County Parks. Event planning for the Great Race (8/11) is well underway and communication and coordination with sponsors for the Cayuga Lake Bass Pro Fishing Tournament (8/22 – 8/25) has been established.

- ES Coordinator Evening Meetings were held twice in June (2<sup>nd</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>). The meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> focused primarily on EMO department structure options (including the preliminary proposal for unification under E-911). Twice-monthly meetings will continue in July (dates pending).
  - Additional Updates:
- NYS Homeland Security Emergency Services department suggests that EMO establish a 24/7 on call list of individuals to notify if an emergency arises.
- Emergency Management Certification and Training Tier 3 Refresher training (required Training for elected Local Public Officials, First Responder leadership and other Partners officials) is scheduled for August 21<sup>st</sup> –at BOCES at 6 p.m.
- Fire Marshall Evacuation training for the County Office Building was held in June

#### **RESOLUTION:**

**7-19-JP-3** Authorization to fill a vacant Administrative Officer (Emergency Services) Position in the Cayuga County Emergency Management Department.

Director Lynch presented the back ground on the Administrative Officer position.

Keith Batman motioned to approve and move resolution 7-19-JP-3, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ben Vitale,

Discussion on whether this position needs to be filled currently or can the position be filled later in the year.

Members voted in favor Vitale, Petrus, Batman, Didio; Members opposed: Pinckney, Bennett, Lattimore, Motion passed.

#### **OTHER DISCUSSION:**

- Legislator Pinckney inquired about the hiring of the EMO Director. Lynch stated the information he has is that the process is moving forward at this time.
- Continued discussion on the on-call list and chain of command for emergencies. Attorney Palermo stated the Chief Executive Office/ Chairman of the County would be the only one to declare a State of Emergency in the County.
- **Lloyd Hoskins (Assigned Counsel/Stop DWI) – No updates**
- Chief Judge will be coming to the County to review the Raise the Age program. The group will be reviewing what the impact will be on next year's budget.
- **Dr. Adam Duckett (Coroner) – No updates**
- **Jay DeWispelaere (Probation) – No updates**
- **Brian Schenck (Sheriff)**
- Partnering with Confidential Help for Alcohol and Drugs (CHAD) an addiction counselor and support peer advocate have begun working within the jail to provide treatment for those suffering from drug and alcohol addiction. The counselor and support peer advocate are working approximately 15 hours per week within the facility and utilizing funding that was supplied by NY State (OASAS).
- Our transition coordinator (Michelle Applebee) continues to work with staff and inmates in the jail to coordinate our new inmate transition program. She will be working closely with the peer support advocate provided by CHAD to coordinate inmate transition from the facility back into the community. Many other service providers in our community are and will be connected with inmates leaving custody by our transition coordinator and advocate.
- Our custody division is down 5 positions and we do have a few members out due to injury and illness. We are currently canvassing for new hires to fill these positions and will be hosting our own academy training for new recruits at our facility in September.
- On June 27th three of our patrol division recruits finished academy training at the Finger Lakes Academy and have begun their field training at the Sheriff's Office. We hope to have them released from field training in November.
- Recruiting is under way for our entry level patrol exam that will be given on September 14th. Much like the Auburn Police Department, New York State Police, and agencies throughout New York and beyond, we are facing challenges recruiting people for our custody and patrol positions. Fewer people are taking the exams and we are forced to tray and compete with neighboring agencies for as smaller pool of candidates. Active recruiting at local events and social media is becoming necessary to entice new people.
- Cortland County has reopened their jail and we have returned their inmates that have been boarded with us since January. Federal inmate numbers are down slightly; however, we appear to be on track to meet our budget estimates for revenue.

- Additional Updates:
- Sheriff Schenck updated the committee on the patrol vehicles from the lease are currently being delivered to the department.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

- 7-19-JP-4 Authorize the filling of one vacant Deputy Sheriff Sergeant Position and backfilling one Deputy Sheriff Patrol Position in the Law Enforcement Division of the Cayuga County Sheriff's Office
- 7-19-JP-5 Authorizing the filling of one Vacant Sheriff Custody Lieutenant position and any fill behinds in the Cayuga County Jail

Keith Batman motioned to approve and move resolutions 7-19-JP-4 and 7-19-JP-5, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Pinckney. Legislator Lattimore inquired about the number of officers scheduled for all shifts and if any known retirements are pending in the near future. Sheriff Schenck stated currently has three deputies whom just finished the academy training and two are currently in training in Onondaga to replace the open positions at this time. A meeting will be held with all partners to encourage minorities to take the exams to establish a diversified workforce.

All members present voted in favor, passed.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Keith Batman motioned to adjourn the Judicial and Public Safety Committee meeting at 7:20 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ben Vitale. All members present voted in favor of the motion, passed.

Next Judicial and Public Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2019 to follow Planning and Economic Development meeting, at the Cayuga County Office Building, Sixth Floor County Chambers, 160 Genesee Street, Auburn, New York 13021