



MINUTES
JUDICIAL & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 5:30PM
Live Stream Link: <https://youtu.be/1z6y-93zFyk>

CALL TO ORDER: By Hon. Ben Vitale, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:32PM

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

EXCUSED: Keith Batman and Tim Lattimore

OTHERS: Legislators Tricia Kerr, Chief Assistant County Attorney Rich Graham, Sheriff Brian Schenck, 911 Administrator Denise Spingler, Youth Bureau Director Lloyd Hoskins, Probation Director Jay DeWispelaere, Computer Systems Technician Dan Lovell, and Deputy Clerk of the Legislature Amanda Morgan

MINUTES TO APPROVE: July 14, 2021, Motion by Daly, 2nd by Nightengale, all in favor.

APPOINTMENTS: None

DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:

- **Denise Spingler (911) –**
 - **Policy Matters for Committee**
 - **Discovery**
 - Working through hiring process
 - **Quality Assurance**
 - Reviews
 - 15 QA audits
 - 21 EMD reviews
 - Call Processing – July
 - 96.13% answer rate
 - NENA (National Emergency Number Association) standard is 95% of all 911 calls are answered ≤15 seconds
 - **Grants**
 - SIEC 18 – closed out
 - SIEC 20 – awaiting award announcement
 - **Emergency Communications System**
 - Aging equipment - Continuing to have equipment issues
 - Osborne Street Tower – antenna replacement
 - Recently used 65K in grant funding to absorb issues with batteries at 2 sites;
 - 10 more sites to address – information sent to Lynn & Aileen for Stimulus funding
- **Lloyd Hoskins (Assigned Counsel/Stop DWI) –**
 - There were **62** “in person” arraignments at the Centralized Arraignment Program for the month of July. The Assigned Counsel office calendared seventeen attorneys to cover the 7am and 7pm arraignments. The attorney cost associated with CAP for July was \$9,325.00. *These expenses were paid from an ILS (Indigent Legal Services) grant.* Of the 62 arraignments, 19 (31%) were for town/village courts, 43 (69%) were for Auburn City Court. 31 (50%) defendants were released (ROR) and 31 (50%) defendants were held on bail or held for other reasons.
 - There were **44** Counsel at First Appearance for Auburn City Court and **8** 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 July was \$7,050.00. *These expenses were paid from an ILS (Indigent Legal Services) grant.*
 - The Assigned Counsel Program made attorney assignments to **60** defendants in Auburn City Court and **21** defendants in justice courts for July. A total of **32** assignments were made in Family Court.

- The July 2021 assigned counsel payments for legal and professional services was \$98,961.74. The assigned counsel payments for parole revocations and appeals was \$4,628.82.

- **Dr. Adam Duckett (Coroner) – No updates**
- **Jon Budelmann (District Attorney) – No updates**
- **Dale Currier (Fire/EMO) –**

HIGHEST PRIORITY

EMS TRAINING

- a. A NYS EMT-B Refresher class has been scheduled to begin on August 23rd and will run until December 16th. Classes are every Monday and Wednesday with a number of Saturday sessions. The number of students we can accommodate, many of whom we expect are nearing the end of their certification extension allowed during the COVID-19 pandemic, may be impacted by the uptick in COVID infections as our training space is very limited. NOTE: The EMT-B Course Final Written Exams are now done online which create extra work for EMO in getting reimbursement from NYS for the training. Reimbursement is only available for those who successfully complete the training and pass the Practical Skills and Final Written testing for certification as a EMT- Basic.
- b. EMO is looking at filing an application to sponsor an Original EMT-B course in early 2022. Our goal is to try to get new people certified as EMTs to help alleviate the continued nationwide shortage of EMS personnel.
- c. CPR classes are being conducted for some County employees and outside groups by EMO Deputy Fire Coordinators.

PLANNING

- a. SPECIAL EVENT PLANNING – “INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS” and SYMPHONY EMO and the County Parks and Trails department coordinated services from twenty- three [23] County, state and local public safety agencies to support the County’s application for the NYS Department of Health Part – 18 Permit for the symphony and fireworks event on August 8, 2021. The permit was received on August 3, 2021.
- b. The updated FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan has now successfully passed the FEMA review and has been Approved Pending Approval. An attached Resolution requests the County Legislature approve the new plan.

FIRE OPERATIONS ACTIVITIES - Month of July, 2021:

Fire/EMS Coordinators – Dispatched 8 times to assist with incident command activities.

Fire Investigators – Dispatched 4 times to determine origin and cause of fires.

Technical Rescue Team – Dispatched 3 times to assist local agencies with technical rescue calls.

Rehabilitation Team – Dispatched once to assist a local department with on-scene rehab services.

- **Jay DeWispelaere (Probation) –**

- **Alternatives to Incarceration Board;**
 - No update at this time
 - Third quarter ATI meeting to be held in September. Date and format (remote or in person) TBD.
- **Vacant Sr. Typist position;**
 - Still interviewing.
- **2022 Budget;**
 - Equipment needs; car radios (3); EMO may be able to assist through a grant. Replacement batteries for hand held radios (5). Spare firearm(s)
 - Electronic Monitoring; department has not offered EM services in over 10 years. Costs and nature of re-engaging in this service need to be explored.
 - Three officers have announced their intention to retire in 2022 (no dates set). Fundamentals of Probation now costs approx. \$4,000.00 per officer; depending on timing, this will impact the department’s training budget for 2022 & 2023.
 - Psychological testing for new hires; common practice for Probation and law enforcement in NYS.
- **COVID;**
 - Department is operating in compliance with current guidelines.

- **Brian Schenck (Sheriff) –**

- K-9 Aron was recognized for his retirement in July. He and his handler, Sgt. Matt Sloan, were presented with a plaque in honor of their dedicated service on Friday July 16.
- The Centralized Arraignment Part (CAP) Court was utilized for 62 pre-arraignment detainees in July.
- At the time of this report we are housing 136 total inmates in our jail. Of those total inmates, 26 are Federal board-ins, 16 NY State Parole Violators that are facing new charges, and 3 Parolees that have been detained for violating their Parole.

- Three new members were hired in the month of July and assigned to our Custody Division. Two of the three were lateral transfers from another jail and came with experience and training in the field. The third member has begun basic training at an academy being hosted by the Seneca County Sheriff's Office.
- We continue to partner with Nick's Ride for Friends, the Cayuga County Drug Free Coalition, and the HEALing Communities Study to engage the public at local events to secure and dispose of dangerous unneeded prescription medication, provide drug prevention, treatment, and peer support information, and provide the opiate overdose reversal medication Naloxone. On Saturday July 24th we partnered with the Village of Union Springs and the Union Springs Fire Department to hold an event at the Union Springs Fire House. 35.5 pounds of prescription medication was collected for destruction.
- We have continued to see an uptick in drug overdoses. Recently we have again partnered with Nick's Ride 4 Friends to provide peer support in the field to those struggling with addiction. Following an overdose, a plain clothes member of our Sheriff's Office is partnering with a Peer Support Advocate from Nick's Ride and returning to meet the subject of the overdose to provide life-saving support and treatment options.
- We continue to work on staffing challenges within our Jail Medical Division. East Hill Medical has assisted us with nursing staff and we are supplementing our services with part time nurses as well. We have also contracted with a health care provider to bring on a full- time traveling registered nurse while we work on our recruiting efforts.

Discussion:

Schenck discusses body cameras. Vitale takes straw poll to see what the committee feels about having a resolution or presentation next committee and most are welcome to the idea.

RESOLUTIONS:

EMO:

8-21-JP-1 Adopting updated FEMA 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan for Cayuga County. **Motion by Daly, 2nd by Didio, all in favor.**

Motion by Didio to adjourn at 6:11PM, 2nd by Pecher, all in favor.