



MINUTES
JUDICIAL & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 5:30PM
Live Stream Link: <https://youtu.be/J9ddTI1Udew>

CALL TO ORDER: By Hon. Mark Strong, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30PM

MEMBERS: Legislators Elane Daly, Andy Dennison, Michael Didio, Tricia Kerr, Heidi Nightengale, and Chris Petrus (Vice Chair)

EXCUSED: Andy Dennison

OTHERS: Chairman David Gould, Legislators; Hans Pecher, Lydia Patti Ruffini, Jim Basile and Bob Shea, Sheriff Brian Schenck, District Attorney Brittany Antonacci, Operations Officer Shereen Androsko, Chief Assistant County Attorney Richard Graham, County Attorney Chris Palermo, County Coroner Adam Duckett, Probation 911 Administrator Denise Spingler, Probation Supervisor John Madden, Assigned Counsel Lloyd Hoskins, and Deputy Clerk of Legislature Amanda Morgan

MINUTES TO APPROVE: September 14, 2022, Motion by Petrus, 2nd by Nightengale, all in favor.

APPOINTMENTS: None

DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:

- **Denise Spingler (911) –**
 - **Policy Matters for Committee**
 - **Training Class**
 - All have transitioned to floor training
 - 12 week process (approximately)
 - **Emergency Communications System**
 - Continuing to work through coverage issues in Southern end (Lake Como / Summerhill areas) –
 - Awaiting quotes from Motorola
 - Checked in on 9/20/22; still working on quote

911:

- 10-22-JP-1 Authorizing the Chairman of the Cayuga County Legislature to sign an agreement with Red Creek School System to share tower space at the Sterling Tower Site to improve radio communications for buses in the Red Creek School District. **Motion by Petrus, 2nd by Daly, all in favor.**
- 10-22-JP-2 Authorizing the Chairperson of the Legislature to sign an MOA between the County of Cayuga and the CSEA for the purpose of a Weekend Overtime Incentive. **Motion by Daly, 2nd by Nightengale, all in favor.**
- 10-22-JP-3 Authorizing the Chairman of the Cayuga County Legislature to sign an agreement with Yates County to share tower space at the Ovid Tower Site to improve radio coverage for Yates County. **Motion by Petrus, 2nd by Daly, all in favor.**

- **Lloyd Hoskins (Assigned Counsel) –**
 - There were **64** arraignments at the Centralized Arraignment Program for the month of September. The Assigned Counsel office calendared fifteen attorneys to cover the 7am and 7pm arraignments. The attorney cost associated with CAP for September was \$10,570.00. *These expenses were paid from an ILS (Indigent Legal Services) grant.* Of the 64 arraignments, **29** (45%) were for town/village courts, **35** (55%) for Auburn City Court. **33** (52%) defendants were released (ROR), and **31** (48%) defendants were held on bail or held for other reasons. Of the 64 arraignments, 31 (48%) were brought in on arrest/bench warrants. 14 Orders of Protection were issued.
 - There were **79** Counsel at First Appearance for Auburn City Court and **13** 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 September was \$8,300.00. *These expenses were paid from an ILS (Indigent Legal Services) grant.*

- The Assigned Counsel office made attorney assignments to **96** defendants in Auburn City Court and **20** defendants in justice courts for September. A total of **72** assignments were made in Family Court.
- The Assigned Counsel Office received approval from NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services for \$131,049.00 under “Distribution 13”. This grant will be utilized by Cayuga County to be reimbursed for “complexed” criminal and family court cases.
- **Dr. Adam Duckett (Coroner) – No updates**
- **Brittany Antonacci (District Attorney) –**
 - 7th Judicial District Report;
 - Speedy Trial Time and COVID backlog;
 - New Deputy Chief hire started on October 3rd; office is now fully staffed.
 - Guilty verdict in September 28th Criminal Contempt Trial.
 - Animal Cruelty and Domestic Violence Seminar- October 25th.
- **Riley Shurtleff (Fire/EMO) – No updates**
- **Jay DeWispelaere (Probation) –**
 - **Alternatives to Incarceration Board;**
 - Last ATI board meeting was Sept. 28th; see attached minutes.
 - Next ATI board meeting; late December or early January; time and location TBD.
 - September 29th; county received notice from DCJS that a grant of \$134, 058.00 was approved to offset costs for Pre Trial Services; these funds were not anticipated and are related to the county’s certified pre trial services.
 - **Criminal Justice Advisory Board;**
 - During August DCJS held a state-wide webinar focusing on Criminal Justice Advisory Boards
 - These boards are distinctly different from an ATI Board, with a broader focus for policy formation.
 - Information was sent to ATI members to view the webinar.
 - See attached hand out provided by DCJS; this is provided for informational purposes.
 - **Staff Vacancies and Issues;**
 - A conditional offer was made to a candidate to fill the department’s vacant Probation Officer position. This offer had to be withdrawn after issues were discovered during the candidates back ground check. Another candidate has now been chosen and is scheduled to start November 7, 2022.
 - A member of the department’s clerical staff has returned medical leave. This staff member has found new employment and is awaiting a start date for the position. Once formal notice of separation from the county is received a resolution to fill will be submitted. Of the department’s four clerical positions, this will be the third departure since the end of 2020 (one retirement, two to better employment opportunities). The remaining clerical staff member has over 30 years of service with the county and is eligible for retirement; this individual has indicated they are not looking to retire any time soon.
 - Looking ahead; 2022 has been a year of significant change and turn over in the department, most of which was anticipated. Hopefully 2023 will be stable and allow the department to concentrate on training and returning to peak efficiency. 2024 will likely usher in another period of significant change; between February 2024 and Mach 2025 it is likely five officers will retire.
 - **COVID;**
 - No recent issues. Department continues re-opening to walk in business and in-office contacts.

PROBATION:

10-22-JP-4 Authorization to fill one (1) Part Time Clerk Typist title in the Cayuga County Probation Department.

Motion by Petrus, 2nd by Nightengale. Discussion.

Motion by Nightengale to table to November Judicial, 2nd by Kerr, all in favor.

- **Brian Schenck (Sheriff) –**
 - We are close to executing contracts with the Moravia and Union Springs School Districts for dedicated Special Patrol Officers to be assigned to each school. We also have identified individuals to hire for both locations.
 - At the time of this report we are holding 167 incarcerated individuals in the jail. This includes 38 Federal board ins, 3 Local board ins, 9 NY State Parolees detained for new charges and 4 Parolees detained for a violation of parole.

- Cayuga Counseling has hired and imbedded staff within our jail to focus on the reintegration of incarcerated individuals into our community upon release. This includes a mental health therapist to assist with treatment. Our partnership on this initiative utilizing Department of Justice grant funding is moving forward in a positive way.
- At the time of this report we have 7 current vacancies in the Custody Division (jail). There are also 3 vacant positions in the Road Patrol Division. Continually recruitment remains a priority.
- Our partnership with Cayuga County Mental Health and DSS in Threat Assessment and Management is working well. We have collaborated on a number of cases with our area schools since the start of the school year.
- We are currently working with Tetra Tech to begin our mandated planning to comply with Executive Order 18. An additional update should be available at the Judicial and Public Safety meeting.

SHERIFF:

Motion by Petrus to bundle JP 5 & 6, 2nd by Didio, all in favor.

10-22-JP-5 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Cayuga County Sheriff to accept a grant from the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

10-22-JP-6 Authorizing budget transfers for the Sheriff's Office

End of bundle

Motion by Petrus to adjourn at 6:27PM, 2nd by Didio, all in favor.